

# CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

July 30, 2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Texas Shakespeare Festival continues.
- July 31<sup>st</sup> – Downtown Car Cruise 5pm-8pm
- August 6<sup>th</sup> – Open House at the Texan 6pm-8pm
- **August 10<sup>th</sup> – City Council Meeting 5:30pm**
- August 14<sup>th</sup> - Dive in Movie at the City Pool showing “Godzilla vs Kong” at 8 p.m. Admission is free.
- Oktober 16<sup>th</sup> – KILGORE OKTOBERFEST!!! 1 – 9 P.M. in Historic Downtown Kilgore

## HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

Over the past five years we have undertaken numerous transformational projects at the Historic Texan Theater. Funded with Historic Preservation funds from the Hotel Occupancy tax as well as numerous donations from generous individuals and Foundations, the Texan has slowly transformed into a viable community facility that has been used for weddings, proms, funerals and of course the Reel East Texas Film Festival. Looking back we are on the 10<sup>th</sup> phase of this project, and on August 6<sup>th</sup> we will co-host an open house at 6 p.m. As a bit of a teaser for what you might see, [click here to watch a recent story from KLTV showing some of the recent progress.](#)

## PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Streets and Drainage has been replacing a double 30” RCP culvert on Camp St. that had multiple failed joints and eventually would have caused sinkholes to form in the pavement.
- Facilities Maintenance will be starting on their new work order system soon utilizing Cityworks.
- We assisted with a sewer stop in Overton and repaired one on Dudley Rd.
- Chief Operator position for our water treatment plant division has been filled and he will start August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- We have three internal candidates for the Director of Parks and Facilities who will be interviewed in the coming weeks.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

- The Firefighters participated in all three days of Special Needs Vacation Bible School at First Christian Church.
- KFD has two part time Firefighters and two full time Firefighters in the last stage of the hiring process. We hope to have them all signed up and working by the middle of August.
- As an appreciation to all our Police Supervisors they were treated to a baseball game and meal in Arlington. The tickets were provided by a citizen and the transportation by Republic Services. Thanks to Gene Keenon for arranging transportation and personally driving them.
- KPD has received multiple letters and correspondence thanking our staff for the way they interact with our citizens. Several were impressed with how our Officers played football and games with the kids during some recent downtown events.
- For several months we saw a spike in crime and an increased call volume at a local hotel (assaults, stolen vehicles, burglary of vehicles, prostitution, and narcotics. KPD officials and Special Services Director, BJ Owen, met with the owner. We devised a plan to curtail problems. As a collaborative group, we’ve been successful at reducing calls and decreasing crime in the area by 90 percent.

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Kilgore CDC will meet on Tuesday, August 3 to discuss Remington North Subdivision and a potential new project in Downtown Kilgore.
- Special Services launched a “Contractor’s page” and “Terms to Know” page on the city website.
- A new animal control officer has been hired.
- Contractor’s code update meetings are scheduled for August.
- 40 permits have been issued for the month of July.

## LIBRARY

- Our last summer reading event, [Farm Day](#) was a success.
- We are seeking feedback from patrons about the Summer Reading Program with a [survey](#).

### Camp Street – Double Barrel Culvert Replacement



