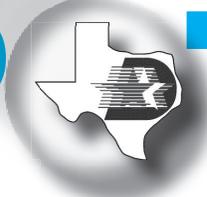


SPOTLIGHT



Duncanville

Issue 4 - September 2016

Don't Dump Your Grass

As part of the 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act (CWA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed new regulations regarding stormwater runoff and its potential impacts on U.S. water quality. These "Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System" (MS4) regulations fall under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and apply to cities, towns, universities, colleges, correctional facilities, hospitals, conservancy districts, homeowners' associations, and military bases located within mapped urbanized areas. The U.S. Census Bureau is in charge of delineating these areas. MS4 regulations are enforced on the federal level by the Environmental Protection Agency and at the state level by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The purpose of the MS4 permit is to improve urban stormwater quality and promote clean stormwater.

One way you can help minimize pollution in our stormwater runoff is by keeping your

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Fiscal Year 2016-17 Proposed Budget Overview

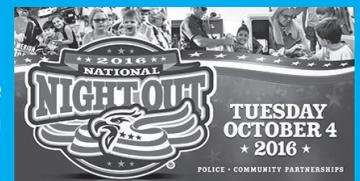
The City of Duncanville is in the process of adopting a new budget for the FY 2016-17. A proposed budget has been developed by staff with direction from City Council and input from citizens of Duncanville. The City Council will now consider the proposed budget at upcoming public hearings and may adopt the proposed budget with or without changes as they desire. The proposed budget focuses on three main goals:

1. Support the City Council's strategic priorities and ensure continuing and cost-effective, quality service delivery. The proposed budget is what will define the business of City staff for the next fiscal year and therefore, it is extremely important to align the available resources with the priorities established by City Council.
2. Utilize sound financial principles. The proposed budget has been constructed within the context of multi-year financial planning, analysis of the economic environment and trends, and adherence to recommended financial practices and principles such as fund reserve balances and cost accounting methods.
3. Maintain expenditures within expected revenues. The proposed budget is structurally balanced; meaning ongoing operating expenditures are held below expected, ongoing

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Take a Stand, Get Involved!

October is crime prevention month in Duncanville. The Duncanville Police Department invites everyone to attend this year's National Night Out event on Tuesday, October 4, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Duncanville Recreation Center.



Local organizations and City Departments will be on hand sharing crime prevention tips with the community. Events like National Night Out strengthen neighborhoods and generate support for anti-crime programs that sends a clear message to criminals. Crime prevention is the responsibility of the community as a whole, it takes a collaborative effort to combat crime. Contact Officer Doug Sisk at 972-780-5027 or dsisk@duncanvillepd.com for more information.

Proposed Budget

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revenues, and fund balance reserves are not used to fund ongoing operations. The proposed budget does not anticipate a tax rate increase and maintaining or lowering the tax rate is a priority consideration when developing the budget.

The City's budget must reflect the needs of the community. On January 12th of this year, a Town Hall meeting was held in the D.L. Hopkins Senior Center with more than fifty citizens in attendance. Following a budget overview presentation, attendees provided input on what they believed the City should spend more, less, or the same money on and prioritized their responses. The results were highly considered in the creation of the proposed budget and include:

- Less money spent on legal fees. The proposed budget has reduced legal fees by as much as 50% from the amounts spent in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.
- More Economic Development initiatives will be possible with an expected 174% increase in the Duncanville Community Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) Fund Balance achieved in part through cost savings in bond refinancing. These are funds then available for incentive opportunities.
- Construct more on-road and off-road walking and bicycle trails in Duncanville using a Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Trail Master Plan that will guide future priorities and budget efforts.
- Adequate funding for street maintenance to include an additional \$1,000,000 proposed to be set aside to "pre-fund" 2018 and subsequent years' maintenance needs.
- A continued safe and enjoyable 4th of July celebration at Armstrong Park in 2017.
- Increased average wages for Fire/Police Departments to be more competitive with our surrounding markets plus security enhancements for the Police Department.
- Enhanced branding for the Senior Center including a sign reflecting a new name along with interior renovations to the facility.

There is still time for Duncanville citizens to voice their opinion before City Council considers a vote on the proposed budget. A second of two Public Hearings will be held during the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 13th at the Duncanville City Council Chambers located at 203 E. Wheatland Road.

The Duncanville City Council will consider approval of the FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget during the Tuesday, September 20th City Council Meeting. For more information on the proposed budget visit the City's website at www.duncanville.com.

Don't Dump Your Grass -

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grass clippings out of the storm sewers. Remember, storm sewer inlets are not connected to the City's sanitary sewer system. Dumping or sweeping your grass clippings into the storm sewer system puts those clippings



directly into our creeks and streams. This will cause oxygen depletion in the receiving water body making it difficult for aquatic life to thrive. Not only that, but dumping grass clippings into storm sewers is illegal by City ordinance, and, if you are caught, you could be fined.

Fortunately, there are other ways to dispose of your grass clippings. It is against City ordinance to place clippings out with your trash pickup. However, you can contact Republic Services at (972) 225-5252 to purchase a sticker to place on bagged clippings so you may place them out for regular trash pick-up. Or, you may wish to collect them to create a compost pile. So, the next time you or your landscaping contractor are mowing your lawn, please think ahead to where you will need to dispose of your grass clippings and ensure they do not end up in our natural waterways.

Pavement Management Program: Street Condition Evaluation

The City has a limited budget, and it is essential that we spend funds wisely. One cost savings strategy is to preserve our existing pavement by creating a Pavement Management Program (PMP) system. The PMP is an ongoing preventative street maintenance program designed to alleviate daily wear due to use and age. The past year, we employed a DTS Mobile Asset Collection (MAC) vehicle to collect data on surface and sub-surface pavement conditions for every street and alley in the city. The van used sophisticated, high resolution



imaging and measuring equipment to gather information used to rate the pavement. The MAC vehicle takes downward facing

images and right-of-way images and records GIS data and profiles of the pavement surface. A Ground Penetrating Radar was used to detect voids beneath the pavement. Evaluations were made every 100 feet to get an overall Pavement Condition Index (PCI) value. These values will become the recommendation for a five-year pavement management outlook.

The PCI gives us a lot of information about the pavement structure:

- Surface Condition
- Years of useful life if nothing is done
- Most cost-effective preventative maintenance strategies
- Extension of useful life if treated

Using this data, we can choose the most cost-effective investment decisions based on available funding and life cycle of the pavement.

Funding has been included in the coming year's budget to put the Pavement Management Program into action.

CITY CALENDAR

September

- 3-5: USA National Floorball Tournament at the Duncanville Fieldhouse
- 8: DCEDC Regular Meeting
- 12: Blood Drive at the Public Library
- 13: City Council Regular Meeting/Tax Rate Public Hearing
- 17: Festival en Duncanville
- 17: Fall Clean-Out
- 20: City Council Regular Meeting

October

- 4: Remarks L. West Fall Basketball League at the Duncanville Fieldhouse
- 9-15: Fire Prevention Week
- 13: DCEDC Regular Meeting
- 18: City Council Regular Meeting
- 28: Boo Bash

November

- 1: City Council Regular Meeting
- 10: DCEDC Regular Meeting
- 11-12: DasCHE Basketball Tournament at the Duncanville Fieldhouse
- 15: City Council Regular Meeting

***** Duncanville Town Hall Meetings return this Fall with the first meeting scheduled for October. Be sure to visit duncanville.com for specific dates and locations.**



Safely dispose of your unneeded items at the City's annual Fall Clean Out on September 17th from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. taking place at the Public Library parking lot, located at 201 James Collins Blvd. This year's clean out event offers free E-waste recycling and paper shredding. There will also be a Goodwill Truck on site. So, clean out your closet and bring your gently used items.

For more information, including a list of recycling items accepted, visit duncanville.com or call 972-707-3830 for more information.



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Comprehensive Plan Kickoff



The Comprehensive Plan public engagement process is kicking off! Destination Duncanville is the City's first comprehensive plan and a critical part of plan development will be input from the entire community. There are multiple ways to get involved and to give input to the planning team.

Input Boards – There will be input boards in the foyer of City Hall, at the public library, the D.L. Hopkins, Jr. Senior Center and the Fieldhouse for citizens to write down their vision for the future of Duncanville. It is an opportunity to share where you see Duncanville in the next 10 to 20 years.

Destination Duncanville Website – As part of the plan development process, a website has been created to disseminate information, gather input and provide updates on the progress of the Comprehensive Plan. The website, DestinationDuncanville.com, will be the main source of information for those interested in keeping up on the status of the plan.

Community Survey – Visit the DestinationDuncanville.com website to complete the community survey, available in English and Spanish. The survey includes questions about the importance of various quality of life aspects of the City and where the City should focus its energy and resources. This survey is voluntary and all information recorded will be kept anonymous.

Community Wide Meeting – The first community wide meeting was held on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at the D.L. Hopkins, Jr. Senior Center. Details of the outcome of the meeting can be found on the DestinationDuncanville.com website. Future public meetings will be held throughout the planning process.

Visit the City of Duncanville website as well as the www.DestinationDuncanville.com website for updates on the progress of the plan and information on opportunities for public input.