



## ***Mayor's Letter***

March 15, 2021

**THE HUNT IS ON.** The Lakewood Village Easter Egg hunt will be on Saturday April 3rd. The hunt will start at 11 am and take place on the playground behind Town Hall. The event is sponsored by the LWV Municipal Development District. In accordance with our existing covid protocols, there will not be any events inside Town Hall, however the restrooms will be accessible. Because the event is outdoors, the choice to wear a mask is an individual decision. As with any town event, participation is up to each family.

**ROAD UPDATE.** Last week I approved Pay Application #10 from Ed Bell Construction. These are the monthly progress payments, so we are getting close to the end of the year-long project. For those of you keeping count, that email was the 924th one in my "concrete roads" email folder (received emails not the sent ones). So, like everyone else, I am ready for a break. According to our current projections, I expect that we will have about three more months to full completion.

I have approved the first of several Highridge detour plans. We will be closing Highridge between Lakecrest and Parkwood Drive. All north and southbound traffic will be detoured to Shoreline. All westbound traffic on Hillside, Peninsula, Lakecrest, and Parkwood will be detoured to Shoreline. The closure will allow Ed Bell to pave the two lanes quickly and more efficiently without traffic interruptions. While we excavate Highridge, paving crews will be working on Green Meadow. Once it has reached full strength, we will relocate the detour to that street and pave all of Highridge.

**FIELD OF DREAMS.** The Town Council unanimously approved the interlocal agreement with LEISD to lease the district's 15 acre property across from Town Hall. Councilmembers Eric Farage and Matt Bissonnette will be leading the project to build a new little league/softball field across from Town Hall. Ed Bell will help with the dirt infield (we have a lot of dirt coming off Highridge). The field will be fenced with benches but there will be no lights. Dark skies.

Work on clearing the trees will be starting immediately. The trees are mostly cedar, with some mesquite and a lot of black locust (the ones with long thorns). The work will be done by our neighbors at Golden Tree on the other side of Eldorado. We are going to give them some of our road millings and dirt and Mitch is going to do us right. It's really great when people step up and help us do things for the kids.

**SALES TAXES.** When it comes to financing our new roads, our two primary revenue streams are sales taxes and property taxes. So logically, the greater the sales tax collections the lower your property tax rate. Remember, you pay the sales tax, the only question is who gets it. Many of the delivery packages left at town hall have "Little Elm" addresses on them. You need to make sure to use Lakewood Village. We started collecting sales tax in 2010. In March 2010, our sales tax collections were **\$889.16**. Last month our sales taxes were **\$9,154.37**. It really matters. Make sure it stays here.

**We're continuing to move forward - we even moved the clocks ahead. There's never been a better time to be in Lakewood Village.**

**Dr. Mark E. Vargus**  
Mayor

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