

Happy New Year!

Richland Hills Review



CITY OF RICHLAND HILLS

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The City Council Wants Your Input

On January 24, 2012, the Richland Hills City Council will consider adopting an ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the City Code.

This ordinance would establish registration, inspection, insurance and building plan requirements for all vacant buildings in the City. A copy of the ordinance can be found on the city's website, www.richlandhills.com.



The year 2011 went by very fast and here we are at 2012. We experienced extreme weather last year with the cold weather during the Super Bowl and hot weather this past summer. Hopefully, 2012 will be a more normal weather year. We need to continue to conserve water until our lakes and rainfall regain normal averages.

Last year we saw flood control get underway in our city, with the completion of the retention pond located on Baker Boulevard. In 2012, two other retention ponds will be constructed south of Baker Boulevard to further help flood control in Richland Hills.

In 2011, construction began on the realignment of Burns Street with Trinity Boulevard, to help the traffic flow on Handley-Ederville, and provide more parking spaces for the Trinity Railroad Express train station. With this, we hope a commercial and residential district will eventually develop around the train station.

The problems with our waste water line have been identified and repaired. Other improvements are planned and will be implemented to help lower our water bills in the future. A ten percent reduction was applied this past budget year with an adjustment for Fort Worth's water rate increase.

Intersection improvements are being considered on both Boulevard 26 (Grapevine Highway) and Baker Boulevard that will improve the flow of traffic and appearance of the areas.

The city is looking forward to a good year in 2012 with improved citizens response, infrastructure and efficiency.

We wish you a Happy New Year. Mayor David Ragan

Business Improvement Grants

The City of Richland Hills is now accepting applications for its Storefront Improvement Program.

The program offers grants of up to \$5,000 to help businesses in Richland Hills renovate or

restore their exterior signage, lighting, or commercial building facades.

For more information on the Storefront Improvement Program contact Matt Shaffstall with the Richland Hills Economic Development Department at (817) 299-1845 or ecodev@richlandhills.com

Mark Your Calendars

The City's 2012 Special Events Calendar is starting to take shape. Be sure and save the date for these great, free, community events.

Special Event	Partner Organization	Location	Date
Masterworks Concert: Baby & the Geezers	Arts Council Northeast	Creek Trail Park	Tuesday, May 1, 2012
City Holiday Parade	City of Richland Hills	Route TBA	Wednesday, July 4, 2012
Family 4 th Fireworks Show	Northeast Chamber of Commerce	Wiley G. Coliseum	Wednesday, July 4, 2012
Masterworks Concert: Zack King	Arts Council Northeast	Rosebud Park	Saturday, August 11, 2012
Holiday Tree Lighting	City of Richland Hills	Richland Hills Community Center	Friday, December 7, 2012

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2012 is Leap Year

It happens every four years that the calendar includes one extra day and 2012 has the 366th day this year. Leap Day is Wednesday, February 29, 2012.

Richland Hills By The Numbers

- In 2011 the City of Richland Hills issued forty- three (43) Certificates of Occupancy
- Thirty-one (31) commercial businesses;
- Twelve (12) for rental property in the city
- In 2011 the City sales tax collections were up **15%** over 2010
- In 2011 the Richland Hills Police Department received 24,944 calls for service, with 13, 626 officer initiated calls, 3,088 calls to 9-1-1 calls, and 367 station walk-in.



Public Works Working For You

Below is a list of some of the projects the Public Works completed in 2011:

BFC-5 and 5-A Consultants completed a Design Analysis of streams of BFC-5 & 5-A to analyze the capacity of these streams to determine the size and location of drainage facilities needed to reduce flooding along these streams. Construction of the Baker Blvd. detention pond was completed in Nov. 2011, and the detention pond at Latham Dr. near Richland Elementary School is in the

Jail and Dispatch Shared Services

In early December, the Richland Hills Police Department began sharing jail service with Haltom City, Watauga, and North Richland Hills. All prisoners are now being taken to the North Richland Hills Jail and booked-in at that location. This has led to officers having more time on the streets instead of having to stay inside the jail booking-in prisoners, feeding time, and providing medical ser-

vice to them. Officers are able to drop-off a prisoner and leave to get back on patrol. This has also led to money savings to the taxpayer. The transition was made smoothly with very little difficulty.

The big change will come early 2012 when the Quad-Cities will begin sharing police/fire dispatch services. Residents will not notice a significant change

to services; however when they call for police or fire, those units will now be dispatched from the Communications Center at North Richland Hills. This not only leads to a large monetary savings to taxpayers, but allows a more efficient response to calls.

Residents are encouraged to contact the Richland Hills Police Department with any questions or concerns.

TxDOT GCAA Grant Project; Street Rehab Projects; Well Site Upgrades

Keep Richland Hills Beautiful was awarded the TxDOT Governors Community Achievement Award grant in the amount of \$75,000. The project will consist of landscaping and irrigation installation at the west end of Baker Blvd. Construction is expected to be completed by mid January 2012.

Street Rehab Projects completed road reconstruction projects on Richland Rd., Dover Ln., Faith Creek Dr., and Willman Ave.

Well Site Upgrades- Installed chlorinator cabinets with analyzers at all well sites to meet compliance with TCEQ Groundwater Rules.

design phase.

CDBG 36th Year- Completed the reconstruction of the 3100 block of Dogwood Park as part of the 36th year project. CDBG 37th Year- Council approved the 37th year CDBG in January 2011. This project consists of the reconstruction of the 6700 & 6800 blocks of Reeves Dr., and the 3400 block of Henry Dr. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2012. I&I (Inflow and In-

filtration) Study- A 5 year plan to reduce I&I was developed after a study was conducted by an outside consultant. Manholes throughout the city were inspected and sewer lines where smoke testing was completed to determine where repairs were needed. Public Works has bid the initial Sanitary Sewer Line Rehab project and construction is expected to begin in early 2012.