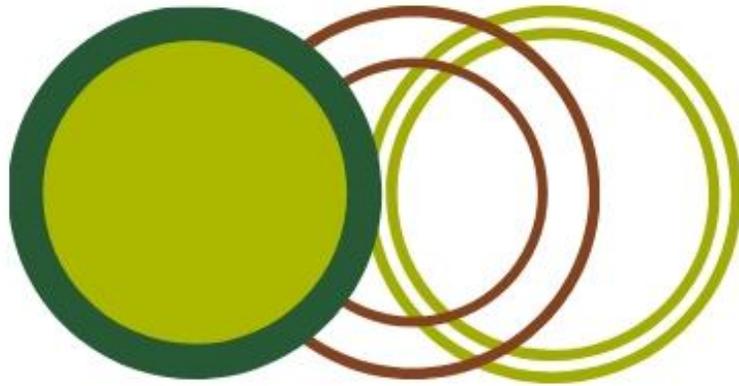

Cedar Park Quarterly Newsletter



October 2019

E-Newsletter from the City of Cedar Park

Cedar Park City Council adopts lowest tax rate since 1998 with new budget *‘Framing our Future’-themed budget focuses on essential services and infrastructure*

The Cedar Park City Council adopted *ad valorem* property tax rate of 44.7 cents for every \$100 of property valuation – representing a 2/10-cent decrease from last year’s 44.9 cents – at its September 26, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting. Combined with the new homestead exemption that City Council unanimously passed in 2018, the average Cedar Park homeowner may see roughly a \$4.50 monthly increase in his or her property taxes paid to the City of Cedar Park in 2020. Property taxes paid to the City represent only about 18 percent of the total tax bill; the rest goes to the school district, county and other taxing entities. This also marks the seventh consecutive year City Council has lowered the tax rate and it is the lowest Cedar Park has seen since 1998.

With the new tax rate City Council passed a \$58.1 million General Fund budget for FY 2020. The theme of the proposed budget is *Framing our Future*, focusing on managing the City’s ability to service and buy down as much as \$2.95 million in debt saving approximately \$1 million in interest payments and investing in essential services and infrastructure to meet the expectations of residents. It includes the third and final takedown of voter-approved General Obligation Bond funds from the 2015 Bond Program, as well as a significant investment in public safety. Half (50 percent) of the General Fund operational budget goes towards public safety, with \$348,523 funding two new Police positions and \$807,500 earmarked for Police and Fire additional compensation including an increase to their overall pay plans as well as tenure-based annual step increases based per their meet-and-confer agreements.

The majority of new capital projects in the FY 2020 budget are bond-funded, including \$8.6 million in transportation projects such as RM 1431 between Bagdad Road and

Anderson Mill Road, Brushy Creek Road from Arrowhead Trail to Ranch Trails and Lakeline Park roadway infrastructure; \$18.24 million for the future new library construction; and \$2.5 million in voter-approved bond funding for Parkland and Development.

Two cents of local sales tax for every dollar spent on shopping and dining within the City Limits of Cedar Park stay in Cedar Park and help offset the City's reliance upon property taxes to fund the budget: one cent supports the General Fund, a half cent goes to the Community Development (Type B) fund, 3/8 cent goes to the Economic Development (Type A) fund. An eighth of a cent goes towards Stormwater Drainage, approved by voters in 2018.

Community Development Capital Projects (\$5.17 million) include:

- Lakeline Park Phase I
- The Bell Boulevard Redevelopment Project
- Bell Boulevard Park planning
- A trail connection associated with the relocation of James Avery Artisan Jewelry's second headquarters
- Right turn lanes on Southbound Bell Boulevard at westbound Cypress Creek Road
- Additional improvements to the Cedar Bark Park at Veterans Memorial Park and
- Engineering of the Brushy Creek North Fork Trail

Cedar Park is the Central Texas next major job center, so Economic Development continues to be a major theme of the Cedar Park budget – through funding existing 380 agreements and building the Economic Development fund for future agreements. The FY 2020 budget also sees to the full implementation of the City's relatively new Stormwater Drainage Program, with capital projects that include the Block House Creek Park Channel, the lower area of Cluck Creek, Ranchettes 2 and 3 and Riviera East.

City Manager Brenda Eivens says, "This structurally balanced budget recognizes that the decisions made today in the management of the City's finances and assets, frame and guide the City's ability to provide exceptional service, safety, and infrastructure not only today, but into the future. As Cedar Park enters its 47th year as a city, we proudly reflect on how Cedar Park's steady growth over the years has transformed us into the vibrant community that we are today. This budget delivers value to our residents with continued public safety excellence and maintaining and enhancing our community assets that make Cedar Park the best place for families."

New FY 2020 budget information will be updated this week on **[the MyCedarParkBudget.com website](#)**, where you will be able to see highlights of the budget and gain a better understanding of the budget and what all your property tax dollars support. There you'll find animated illustrations, interactive explanations, and a property tax calculator – in which you can enter your home's assessed value and instantly see a chart that shows exactly where your property tax dollars go.

Veterans Ceremony

The City of Cedar Park
Parks and Recreation presents

Veterans Ceremony

November 9, 2019 | 10 a.m - 12:30 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Park
2525 W. New Hope Dr.

**Come honor our veterans
and show your patriotic pride.**

10 - 11 & 11:30 - 12:30

Enjoy visiting military vehicle displays, booths, a rock wall, and camo truck inflatable. Alzer's BBQ will be providing concessions (veterans receive 20% off order).

**11 - 11:30
Veterans Ceremony**

Booths include: Operation Gratitude care packages (while supplies last, must show military ID), Train a Dog – Save a Warrior, Lone Star Military Vehicle Preservation Association, Soldiers' Angels, Texas Veterans Leadership Program, Texas Veterans Land Board, VFW, Hounds for Heroes and more.

CedarParkTexas.gov/VeteransEvent
512-401-5500



Come honor our Veterans and show your patriotic pride.

Date: November 9, 2019

Event Time: 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Location: Veterans Memorial Park -
2525 W. New Hope Dr.

Schedule

10 a.m. - Military displays and booths

11 a.m. - Veterans Ceremony

11:30 p.m. - 12: 30 p.m. - Military displays
and booths

For information, contact 512-401-5500.

The Mayor's Monarch Pledge

The Mayor's Monarch Pledge is a tri-national initiative with the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.

Communities commit to:

- Creating a habitat for the monarch butterfly and other pollinators
- Educating residents about how they can make a difference at home and in their community

494 mayors have taken the pledge over the last 4 years, including our own!

THE CITY OF CEDAR PARK LOVES

Monarch Butterflies

The City of Cedar Park

is proud to participate in the National Wildlife Federation's Monarch Recovery Initiative.

HELP THE BUTTERFLIES!

What the City is doing & how YOU can help

limit(s) mowing where possible to avoid destroying milkweed

limit(s) the use of pesticides

plant(s) milkweed

Milkweed in Your Garden

Tropical Milkweed grows best in your home garden. It's easy to find locally at Hill Country Water Gardens & germinates easily from seed.

Pro tip
Plant milkweed in the fall for spring Monarchs!

Common Food Sources

Common Milkweed
Milkweed Flowers
Goldenrod

Cedar Park is part of the Monarch butterfly's migration pattern, as they make their way from Mexico to Canada each year.



This is milkweed. Monarch caterpillars ONLY eat milkweed.

Milkweed is rapidly disappearing due to the use of pesticides & land development.



 CEDAR PARK

Visit <https://www.cedarparktexas.gov/departments/parks-recreation/monarch-butterfly-preservation> for more information.

Halloween in the Hall

THE CITY OF CEDAR PARK PRESENTS

HALL WEEN *in the Hall*

Thursday, Oct. 31 | 3 - 5 p.m.
City Hall Campus: 450 Cypress Creek Rd.

Costumes welcomed and encouraged!

**Trick or Treat the entire City Hall,
a safe and fun event for all!**

Police car ✕ Fire engine ✕ Candy ✕ AND MORE!

www.CedarParkTexas.gov



Fire Department Reaccreditation



Please help us congratulate our Fire Department on earning Reaccreditation status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). They are the first fire department in Central Texas and one of only nine in the State of Texas to achieve this status. They are one of only 84 fire departments in the nation that are both ISO Class 1 and Accredited. Way to go CFPD!

Heads Up Cedar Park



Be sure your kids stay safe while trick-or-treating. Watch for vehicles when crossing the street, walk in groups or with a trusted adult and carry a light or use reflective tape on costumes.

There's more to safety than just obeying traffic laws. It's about how everyone – pedestrians, cyclists and drivers – looks out for one another. So have a Heads up, Cedar Park, for our friends, family members and neighbors, and help keep each other safe.

Go to www.headsupcedarpark.com to see videos, photos and get a downloadable/printable flyer with safety tips.

Smart 9-1-1



The graphic features a large orange location pin on the left, containing a green circle with a white padlock and an 'i' icon, surrounded by smaller icons for people, a wheelchair, a heart, a house, and a dog. To the right, the text reads 'Provide 9-1-1 Key Info in an Emergency' in blue, followed by 'Download the Smart911® App Today.' Below this are 'Download on the App Store' and 'GET IT ON Google Play' buttons. In the bottom right corner is the City of Cedar Park Police seal, which includes the text 'CITY OF CEDAR PARK', '1972', 'POLICE', and 'COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS • EXCELLENCE • INTEGRITY • ACCOUNTABILITY • SERVICE'.

Give 9-1-1 the information they need to help you fast. We have partnered with Smart 9-1-1, a critical resource that can help emergency responders get to you faster during an emergency. Have pets in your home? Have a cell phone number? Do you or a family member have an existing medical condition? Just providing a few simple details can save your life.

Create a free, private and secure profile today at www.smart911.com.

Trash and Recycling Holiday schedule



Trash and recycling remain on schedule for all holidays except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. If your pick-up falls on one of these three holidays, it will slide to be picked up the next day, including on Saturday. Go to <http://collectionschedule.cedarparktexas.gov/> to see your schedule.

Upcoming Events

City of Cedar Park | **PARKS AND RECREATION** presents:



FREE

CONCERT
IN THE PARK
MILBURN PARK - 1901 SUN CHASE BLVD.

live entertainment by:
Dysfunkshun Junkshun

OCTOBER 4
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Food concessions will be available.

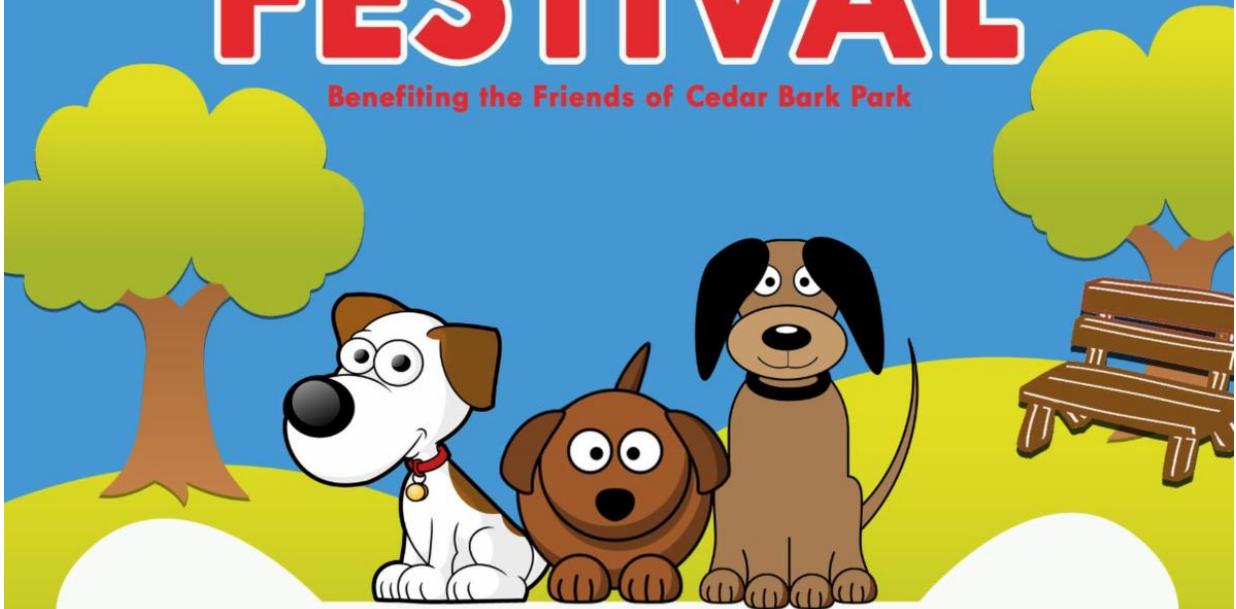
cedarparkparks.com 512-401-5500

 **CEDAR PARK**
PARKS & RECREATION

City of Cedar Park | PARKS AND RECREATION presents:

CEDAR BARK FESTIVAL

Benefiting the Friends of Cedar Bark Park



Saturday, October 12th

12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Cedar Bark Park - 2525 W. New Hope Dr.

COSTUME CONTESTS
PET/OWNER LOOK ALIKE CONTEST
FOOD CONCESSIONS DEMONSTRATIONS

Donations will be accepted for the Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter

cedarparkparks.com 512-401-5528



CEDAR PARK
PARKS & RECREATION

City of Cedar Park | PARKS AND RECREATION presents:

Cedar Park Free Admission

A **R** **T** **S**
& crafts
Festival

Saturday, October 19th

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Recreation Center

1435 Main Street

Arts • Crafts • Food Concessions

cedarparkparks.com 512-401-5528



CEDAR PARK
PARKS & RECREATION

Fable Fest



Join us for Fable Fest 2019! Fable Fest is a unique event that brings costumes, storytelling and live demonstrations to the Cedar Park community. Funds raised from the event will benefit the Cedar Park Public Library by paying for reading programs, advanced technologies and expanding the current library collections.

Date: 10/26/2019, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Elizabeth Milburn Park

For more information visit <https://cedarparkbooks.org/fable-fest>

Youth Scholarship Benefit Golf Tournament

Date: November 25, 2019

Time: Practice: 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Lunch: 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Shotgun start: 12 p.m.

Location: Twin Creeks Country

Club Fee: \$100 per person

Hole Sponsorship: \$150

Hole Sponsorship + Golf for four: \$500

A big thank you to:

Title Sponsor: **LJA**
LJA ENGINEERING

Sign Sponsor: **UniFirst** **U1st**

Cart Sponsor: **h**
HILL COUNTRY
BIBLE CHURCH

Other sponsorships are available

For information, contact tara.mcalister@cedarparktexas.gov or 512-401-5508.

The tournament includes golf, cart fees, lunch, contests, prizes and refreshments. Proceeds provide scholarships to Cedar Park area youth in need for recreational life-enhancement programs.

Tree Lighting & Santa's Workshop



Date: December 6, 2019

Time: 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

Location: Heritage Oak Park, 875 Quest Parkway

The Tree Lighting and Santa's Workshop will feature music, games & prizes, yule fire, face painting, inflatables, photos with Santa (bring your own camera) and arts & crafts projects.

The Cedar Park Police Department will be accepting new and unwrapped gifts for Blue Santa. Admission is free.

For additional information, please email hailey.harp@cedarparktexas.gov

Stay in touch!

Please let us know what you would like to hear more about in the next issues. Feel free to **email** with questions or suggestions. You can use the CP Connect 2.0 app "general questions" section as well!

Geniene Layne, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Community Affairs Department
geniene.layne@cedarparktx.gov

