



ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 25

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STATE-OF-THE-CITY IS GOOD!

During the annual State-of-the-City Speech at an October 29th Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce luncheon, City Manager Gary Edwards (see picture on the right) said, “We now are two years after Category 4 Hurricane Harvey and the State-of-the-City is good. Edwards also pointed out to the large number of attendees that the signs for the future are very promising.

Edwards outlined the status of the various FEMA projects that are completed or underway, all of which are related to the hurricane recovery. He also presented to those in attendance the large number of grants for which the city has applied and has been approved. They total many millions of dollars. Other issues were discussed such as downtown development and the planned Public Improvement District; the need for infrastructure improvement, efforts now underway to acquire more housing; current work to clean-up the community; the new budget process; economic development and annexation.

In conclusion, Edwards said the State of the City is good because the recovery is progressing and economic development growth and opportunities are occurring and significantly more will be happening in the months and years ahead. “Finally, our continued goal is to have Aransas Pass come out stronger post-Harvey than it was before the Hurricane. We are successfully working toward that goal.” concluded the City Manager. This year the presentation was a joint program with School Superintendent Cara Cooke (see picture below - Lady on the left), who discussed the high quality state of education in Aransas Pass.





CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEE

Effective January 1, 2020 the City of Aransas Pass will begin charging a processing fee to customers who pay with a debit/credit card. The fee is \$3.00 per transaction of \$60.00 or greater for payments of municipal fees, court costs or other charges. This fee will help offset the City's merchant service fees that it pays for processing credit card transactions. Currently, the City pays an estimated \$21,300 per year in merchant fees.

INITIAL ANALYSIS OF DOWNTOWN PID COMPLETE

The City has hired Municap, a public finance company, to assist with the proposed Public Improvement District (PID) for downtown Aransas Pass. The preliminary analysis reveals that through the bonding process, the downtown district would produce \$1,379,306 in revenue. It might be possible to increase the amount of revenue up to about \$2 million. If it is decided to move forward with a downtown PID, revenue raised by the PID would be used exclusively for improvements to the downtown area. The initial analysis by Municap was just received at the newsletter publication time, so the City has not yet reviewed in detail.



YOU CAN GET INVOLVED WITH AP ISSUES

This is your opportunity to get involved. Residents interested in serving on a City board, commission or committee are encouraged to apply for an appointment. Applications are available in the City Secretary's office, 600 W. Cleveland, or on the City's website at

www.aransaspasstx.gov

For any questions, contact the City Secretary's office at (361) 758-5301.





SIGN-UP FOR REVERSE 9-1-1

If you are not signed up for the free Reverse 9-1-1 Emergency System you are encouraged to do so. This will allow you to be notified immediately in the event of a local emergency and such things as water boils or other urgent community announcements. Contact the Police Department for more information.

Contact Us

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gedwards@aransaspasstx.gov

600 W. Cleveland Blvd

Aransas Pass, Tx 78336

361-758-5301



WATER TOWER PROGRESS- ING RAPIDLY

The drone picture of the above Aransas Pass water tower, now under construction, was taken October 28th. The tower is scheduled to be substantially complete this coming January and totally complete by this Spring. The City logo soon will be painted on the tank portion, seen above, while it is resting at the bottom of the shaft. Then, when completed, the tank portion will be lifted by jacks to the top of the tower. The former Aransas Pass elevated water tower collapsed during the 2017 Hurricane Harvey. When it fell, a half-million gallons of water also cascaded to the ground. The majority of the funding for the tower is being provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The City's required match of 10% is being paid by the Rebuild Texas Fund.

Please plan to join us at our
6th Annual Fall Fest
FREE TURKEY DINNER
for Residents
of Aransas Pass



November 21st

6 to 8 pm

Aransas Pass Civic Center

for more information visit www.aransaspasstx.gov