



ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 30

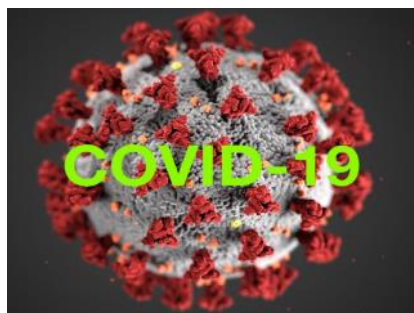
April 2020

COVID-19 STAY-AT-HOME ORDER ISSUED IN A.P.

On March 27th, the Aransas Pass City Council had an emergency meeting to adopt a “Stay at Home” Order. The purpose of the Order is to help stop the spread of the deadly CIVID-19 virus. We are in three counties, San Patricio, Nueces and Aransas. All three have had similar declarations, yet all three have their differences. The City of Aransas Pass had been planning to follow the lead of San Patricio. County. When San Patricio issued its declaration on March 27th., it was decided to tailor the Aransas Pass Stay-At-Home Order to our City. Some of the highlights of the Stay-At-Home Order are as follows:

- The order is in effect until April 8th. On April 6th the City Council will decide if the order should be extended.
- Beaches and Parks Remain Open for exercise and fishing. Kayaking,, boating, and fishing are OK.
- Camping in the flats (East of Dale Miller Bridge) is prohibited.
- Childcare and Adult care facilities will remain open
- Non-essential businesses and industries may request an exemption by contacting the Mayor’s office.
- Price gouging during a time of a disaster is illegal.

A list of essential services that are exempt from the order can be found in the Aransas Pass Stay-At-Home Document at the City Webpage. We ask for your patience as we work through these issues. This is new territory for all of us.



City Election Date Changed

In accordance with the March 18th Proclamation issued by Governor Greg Abbot, the Aransas Pass City Council voted to postpone the May 2nd election to November 3rd to ensure the health and safety of citizens in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Council Members Billy Ellis and Vickie Abrego abstained from voting and left the room during the vote. Their seats are up for re-election this year. According to the State of Texas, Council members Ellis and Abrego will continue to serve as Holdovers until November. Ingleside and Ingleside by the Bay also moved their elections to November. Other Cities may take similar action.



The City of Aransas Pass
 in coordination with
San Patricio County



Will be performing a reconstruction of Marshall Lane beginning
March 23, 2020

Road will be closed to thru traffic during construction. Limits of construction are from Avenue A to Highway 35 Bypass.



For more information please contact

Public Works Street Department @ 361-758-3111



City Council meetings Are Now On You Tube

With all the changes that are going on, some good things are happening. For example, our City Council meetings will continue to be broadcast live but with a new camera. Also, the Council meetings are on "You Tube" now instead of "Live Stream". The advantages of You Tube is that it is free to the City; whereas Live Stream cost us money. Also, You Tube is more accessible to many more people because it is so popular throughout this area and the nation.

Marshall Lane Reconstruction underway

A long-needed rebuild of Marshall Lane now is underway. This was made possible because of a partnership with San Patricio County. Work began on March 23rd. See notice above and photo below. The Stay-at-Home Order does not effect this construction project because transportation issues such as this are considered an essential service for public safety. With the new movie theater and the Butter Churn and other businesses in that area; as well as anticipated businesses, it was important to improve this long-neglected road. Other roads in town will be addressed as already approved grant dollars are received for infrastructure work such as water and sewer line replacements.



Contact Us

Aransas Pass City News is published by the City of Aransas Pass, Tx. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe contact::

gewards@aransaspasstx.gov

600 W. Cleveland Blvd.
Aransas Pass, Tx 78336

361-758-5301

MAYOR DOING DAILY REPORT DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

Mayor Ram Gomez has started doing a daily report on the latest developments related to the COVID-19 Emergency. It will be published late in the afternoon Monday through Friday. If the situation worsens, the frequency of the reports may increase. The reports can be found on Facebook and the City's Webpage.



A.P. City Council Gets Its First Look at Drainage Study Draft

The City of Aransas Pass finally has a draft of a very important Citywide Drainage study. The document was presented to the City Council during a March 23rd Work Session. See picture above: Shown Right to Left are Councilmembers Mayor Ram Gomez, Councilmember Jan Moore and Councilmember Vicki Abrego. Out of the range of the camera, but present, are Councilmembers Billy Ellis and Carrie Scruggs. The Study not only lists the high priority drainage problem areas in the City, it also prioritizes each one and provides a price estimate for each. Although this is only a draft study, the final product should be very similar. This study will help the City include drainage projects into the annual capital improvement budget. The City Council approved the creation of the study and will be asked to approve the final document.

Why Aren't The Problems At Stapp-McCampbell Repaired? There Is A Solution!

That's a question we often get here at City Hall. It's a good and fair question. It is an expensive project in urgent need of repair (see pics below). In fact, the estimate is that it will cost just under \$1 mil to repair. It is possible it could be over \$1 mil. To be blunt, we don't have a million dollars laying around that will allow us to begin this work. To grab those dollars from the budget regardless and start the project would damage a budget we are trying to rebuild. There is a rumor out there that this is a FEMA project. It is not. We are anticipating receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for this work. This damage was there prior to Hurricane Harvey, but it was made much worse by the Hurricane. We are the recipients of a \$10 mil dollar CDBG grant thanks to the work of the Mayor and City Councilmembers. This project is part of that grant. In other words, we received the grant and we were then asked to submit projects to be paid for with those dollars. Stapp-McCampbell was one of those projects. CDBG and the State are now reviewing this and the other projects. We are hopeful we very soon will get the approval to move forward, but the review process in Austin is going slowly. The concerns about the work taking too long are warranted.. But, it would be irresponsible of us to spend dollars from our budget to pay for the project when we anticipate funding soon will be available through CDBG. If we pay for this prior to getting the OK from CDBG, we will not get reimbursed. We just wish the State and the Feds would move more quickly.

