



# ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 47

September 2021

Below is an update of a few of the larger public works projects on which the city currently is working.

**CDBG-DR** This is the \$10 mil grant the City received. It is divided into several projects. The Stapp/McCampbell work is underway. The contractor is working on the ditch portion along King Ave Right-of-Way. There are three rows of box culverts laid side-by-side. At the Wehring/Wheeler portion of this project, the contractor is cleaning, televising and prepping sanitary sewer lines during the week of August 23rd. Met with the County on the Highland storm water project and coordinating with them and TxDot. The Greenwood, Saunders, Deberry stormwater project is under design. The design should be complete in about two weeks.

**COLONIA GRANT PROJECT** City staff re-surveyed the area and received 13 more applications to tie into the sanitary sewer system. We are ready to go out for construction bids.

**THE EUCLID PUMP STATION** Work is underway for this high priority item. The goal is to repair this pump station so it more adequately drains the Euclid area of town. The City Council receives updates on this project during every regular Council meeting.

**MOTEL 6 UTILITIES** Work is underway. If weather cooperates, the utility hook-ups should be complete by late September.



**NEW BASKETBALL PAVILLION AND BALL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS** An RFQ for the engineering and architectural work is being produced. Design should begin in October.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN** This is the project that will be building water and sewer line extensions to several parts of town currently without those services. An engineer has been selected for the design of this work. The actual work should begin in September and be completed by late October.

**NEWBERRY PARK PERIMETER FENCING** The materials are ordered and have arrived. Work begins in September.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT—ELECTRICAL** Phase 2 has started and all power is now back up. This project is ahead of schedule and should be completed by the end of September.



## LARGE HISTORIC AP AERIAL PHOTO NOW BACK IN THE PUBLIC EYE

For decades a large aerial photo of Aransas Pass was displayed in the old Bank of America building on Commercial. When the bank closed several years ago, the 1950's era picture of AP was taken down and donated to City Hall. Since that time, it has remained out of public view in a hallway not normally used by the public. In early August two AP firemen took the time to hang the display in the front lobby of City Hall so it can be seen by anyone entering City Hall. The picture provides an insight into what AP looked like about 70 years ago. In the pic below, on the right is Matt Wilhelm. On the left is Noah Robinson.

## TCEQ BACKFLOW PREVENTION TRAINING HELD

On June 25th the City's water system had to be shut down because of a possible threat to the water supply. After research, the City discovered it was a problem dating back several years, if not decades, at a local shopping center. We wanted to make sure the problem didn't spread citywide, so it was necessary to shut down the entire water system for most of a weekend. During this whole episode the City was in contact with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Once the problem was isolated, we were able to lift the water ban. The problem was the lack of a backflow preventer at a local business that could have ejected an unacceptable chemical into the city water system. However, the trouble was located and resolved with no damage to our water. Backflow preventers are required in Aransas pass. After the emergency was over, the City agreed to sit down with TCEQ to make sure we are doing all that can be done in the area of Back Flow prevention. That day and a half session in mid-August was held at the civic center. In attendance for TCEQ were Kenneth Dykes, Alicia Riehl and Katherine McGlaughlin. Although the City learned much, we also were told that we seemed to be handling these backflow prevention issues well.





## Shrimping Season Is Underway and Going Strong

You may have noticed all of the shrimp boats at Conn Brown Harbor. That is because the shrimping season is here. It is our understanding that, so far, the “catch” is going quite well. The pic above is of several shrimp boats this week docked at the Harbor

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## Contact us

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## Coastal Bend Crossing Apartments Now Complete

On August 10th there was a special ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Coastal Bend Apartments on Wheeler. The apartments were built thanks in part to funds from the Hurricane Harvey CDBG-DR program. The City of Aransas Pass also assisted with the development of this project. Above is a picture of City Councilmember Jan Moore, who was requested to offer comments about the importance of attractive and affordable housing here in Aransas Pass. At the time of the ribbon cutting, the Coastal Bend Apartments were already at 100% occupancy. There are unrelated plans for additional housing here in AP. Many in-fill homes are being built at the sites where buildings have been demolished or destroyed by Hurricane Harvey. Hogan Homes, at the end of DeBerry, are selling as fast as they are built. Also, two large housing subdivisions are seriously considering building on Highway 35 here in AP. Plans have already been submitted for one of them.



# STATE *of the* CITY & APISD LUNCHEON IN ARANSAS PASS

*September 9th, 2021*

## GUEST SPEAKERS

GARY EDWARDS, ARANSAS PASS CITY MANAGER  
CARA COOKE, APISD SUPERINTENDENT

12:00 - 1:00 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30 AM

ARANSAS PASS CIVIC CENTER

700 W. WHEELER AVE. ARANSAS PASS, TX 78336

INDIVIDUAL SEATING

\$22 MEMBERS | \$25 FUTURE MEMBERS

SPONSORSHIP TABLE LEVELS | SEATING FOR 8

\$350 | \$500 | \$1000

