Sam Harless

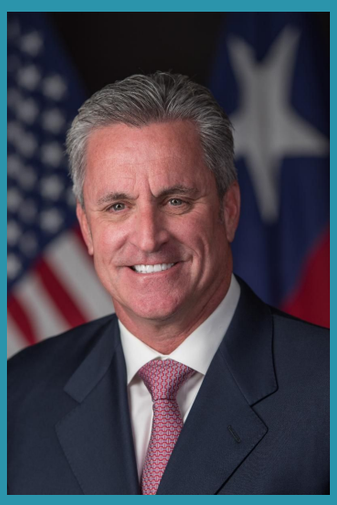
State Representative District 126

March 2023 Newsletter

Texas House of Representatives

Texas House District 126

News and Information



88th Session - Midpoint

We are about at the mid-point in this session and the pace of activity has definitely increased. Hearings are progressing in all of our committees and we are beginning to address some of the priority items for this session.

Property Taxes There are a number of bills addressing "property tax relief" in both chambers this session. On the 22nd of March, the Texas Senate's $16.5 billion Property Tax Relief Plan was voted out of the Senate unanimously. Senator Bettencourt's Senate Bill 3, Senate Bill 4, Senate Joint Resolution 3 and Senator Parker's Senate Bill 5 passed out of the Senate on a bipartisan vote. These measures raise the homestead property tax exemption to $70 thousand, affecting 5.72 million homes in Texas. SB 3 also increases the homestead exemption from $25 thousand to $40 thousand for all over 65 disabled homestead owners. Senate Bill 5 would cut $1.5 billion in business property taxes. All four of the bills were voted out and received by the House.

House Bill 2 offers a different approach and would provide for a $0.15 reduction in a public school district's maximum compressed tax rate for the 2023-2024 school year. If a district's maximum compressed tax rate after that reduction would be less than 90 percent of another district's maximum compressed tax rate, the district's maximum compressed tax rate is instead the value at which that rate would be equal to 90 percent of the other district's maximum compressed tax rate. HB 2 also makes the exemption applicable to any qualifying residential homestead. HB 2 would lower school property taxes an estimated 28% as well as reduce the limit on annual appraisal increases to 5%, limiting "surprise billing" kinds of tax bills. The House bill was voted out of committee and is on the way to a floor calendar.

School Safety

There are likewise a number of bills this session that address school safety, particularly in expanding mental health into our rural communities and limiting access to "assault style" weapons with large magazine capacity to young adults under the age of 21, or restricting the purchase of those magazines before that age. Among the bills being considered are:

House Bill 3 (Burrows) This is a bill to address the overall safety programs and associated funding, accompanied by safety audits, requirements for armed security officers, building standards and required coordination between local law enforcement and school police. Required to meet twice annually, the law enforcement groups are to discuss collaboration, limitations on capabilities, chain of command, and communications for interagency activities.

House Bill 165 (Johnson, A.) This bills seeks to create a specific offense for a "mass shooting" as a part of a an event where an attempt is made to kill or injure four or more people in a single incident.

House Bill 1760 (Hefner) This bill creates an offense for possession of a weapon on a school or post-secondary school facility or property owned, or controlled by the school.

House Bill 2454 (Guillen) HB 2454 creates a state offense for purchasing a weapon for someone prohibited by state or federal law from possessing one. (Straw purchase)

Border Security

Crime around and associated with the border remains a serious concern for many of the people in our area. The volume of weapons, illegal drugs, and violent crime continues to increase and there seems to be no immediate end in sight. The legislature is taking action to address this increase in crime through a number of different bills. Among the bills being considered in the House are:

House Bill 884 (Harless) There are dozens of different federal agencies that assist state and local law enforcement in a variety of roles. Federal agents of the FBI, Secret Service, and even ICE has the powers of a Texas Peace Officer to arrest and file criminal charges in this state, but the US Border patrol, a sister agency to ICE under the Homeland Security Administration does not have the authority to charge suspects who violate serious criminal offenses and have to call a local officer when they encounter drug couriers, human traffickers, or those with weapons. This bill would give peace officer status for Border Patrol to file charges for felony offenses.

House Bill 2883 (King) In order to address rampant importation of weapons and illegal drugs coming in through our Western border at new Mexico, Representative King proposes that the Texas DPS establish a border checkpoint program to monitor interdict the flow of narcotics on our highways coming from the West.

Committee Activity

Select Committee on Public Healthcare Reform

The Public Healthcare Reform Committee has met a few times and has heard several high profile bills. Some of them reflected priorities and recommendations from our committee report during the interim from last year. We currently have 68 bills assigned to this committee.

House Bill 12 ((Toni Rose) which deals with extending postpartum Medicaid coverage from 6 months to 12 months. This measure passed the House last session but was reduced to 6 months under budget considerations in the Senate. The bill has considerable support with a host of joint and co-authors and Representative Harless was proud to be a co-author on this important bill.

House Bill 1599 (Bucy) This bill was a recommendation from the committee report last year and is also joint authored by Representative Harless. it creates an express lane process for eligibility determination across Medicaid programs administered by the state. This bill was voted out of committee.

House Bill 617 (Frank) This bill creates a pilot project to establish telemedicine programs in rural parts of the state or in large less populated areas. This bill was voted out of committee.

Homeland Security & Public Safety

There are a wide variety of issues in the bills assigned to this committee, most deal with public safety and/or law enforcement. There are 152 bills currently assigned to this committee. Here are a few of the highlights.

House Bill 767 - (Harless) This is one of our bills that includes the offense of "stalking" in the list of offenses that require entry into the statewide law enforcement computer system when a defendant is released by a judge with a bond that has conditions. This improves the safety of the victim and law enforcement that have to respond to domestic disturbances. This bill was voted out of committee will go to the full House for a vote.

House Bill 1152 (Vo) This bill would allow for non-residents (not US citizens) who have honorably served in the US Military, to apply for peace officer positions in Texas. This does not assure employment but does remove the existing obstacle of US citizenship. This bill is still pending in committee.

House Bill 1275 (Plesa) This bill provides for holders of a Texas Driver's License who are 65 years of age, or older, to voluntarily surrender their license and replace it with a Texas Identification Card through an on-line process. This basically mirrors the portal used to renew a license on-line. This bill is still pending in committee.

Community Safety Committee (Select)

Speaker Dade Phelan created this committee in response to the school shooting last year in Uvalde and charged the committee with reviewing all legislation dealing with guns, ammunition, and gun magazines for this session. The committee is comprised primarily with most of the same members as the Homeland Security & Public Safety with the addition of a few others. Full committee membership here. The committee alternates hearings with Homeland Security and they currently have 135 bills assigned to this committee.

House Bill 165 (Johnson A) This bill creates a specific category of offense related to "mass shooting" events". The criminal charge could be filed in addition to any other related charged filed as a result of the offense and conviction of this offense would run concurrently. This bill is still pending in committee.

House Bill 636 (Patterson) This bill would allow for election judges to carry a handgun at a polling location at either early or election day voting. This bill is still pending in committee.

If you would like to follow or research bills or legislative actions, please use the tools available at www.Texas.Capitol.Gov You can search bill language, follow, and track progress of bills as they proceed through committees and see which ones don't.

Cypress Creek Drainage Improvement District

Progress Report

After months of work with representatives from the Cypress Creek Flooding Task Force and the Cypress Creek Flood Coalition and the Texas Legislative Council, we now have drafted language that is now filed as House Bill 5334. This effort began through an interest by the community to increase awareness on flood mitigation projects and increase involvement and input directly from our area.

Continued development in the Northwest parts of Harris County around Katy, Hockley, and Cypress will continue to exacerbate downstream flooding for years to come. Due to Harris County's changing prioritization for flood mitigation projects, the projects in the Cypress Creek Watershed have not received sufficient funding.

Our commitment to pursuing this effort has always been conditional in that the district would not have the authority to impose taxes or issue bonds. Our homeowners and seniors are already burdened with high property taxes and appraisals. The district must acquire funds through donations, grants, or appropriations of state or federal funds from other sources. Our Facebook poll on this subject remained active for over a week and had over 300 participants. Just over 72% of those supported the creation of a district under those conditions. The district would have four years to acquire sufficient funding to hold an election for a permanent board, or the district would be dissolved.

When compared to size, the Cypress Creek watershed is among Harris County's largest, containing 267 square miles and having 250 miles of waterways and tributaries. According to the watershed reference page published by the Flood Control District, the area has a population of 347,000. It extends from Waller County, Southeast along the 1960 area, across I-45, eventually reaching Lake Houston.

This area has been subjected to numerous extensive flood events over the last several years, the most recent floods brought by Hurricane Harvey in 2017 devastated much of this area, flooding homes, businesses, even assisted living centers. Of the 120,000 homes destroyed by Harvey, much of that damage was felt along the Cypress Creek Watershed.

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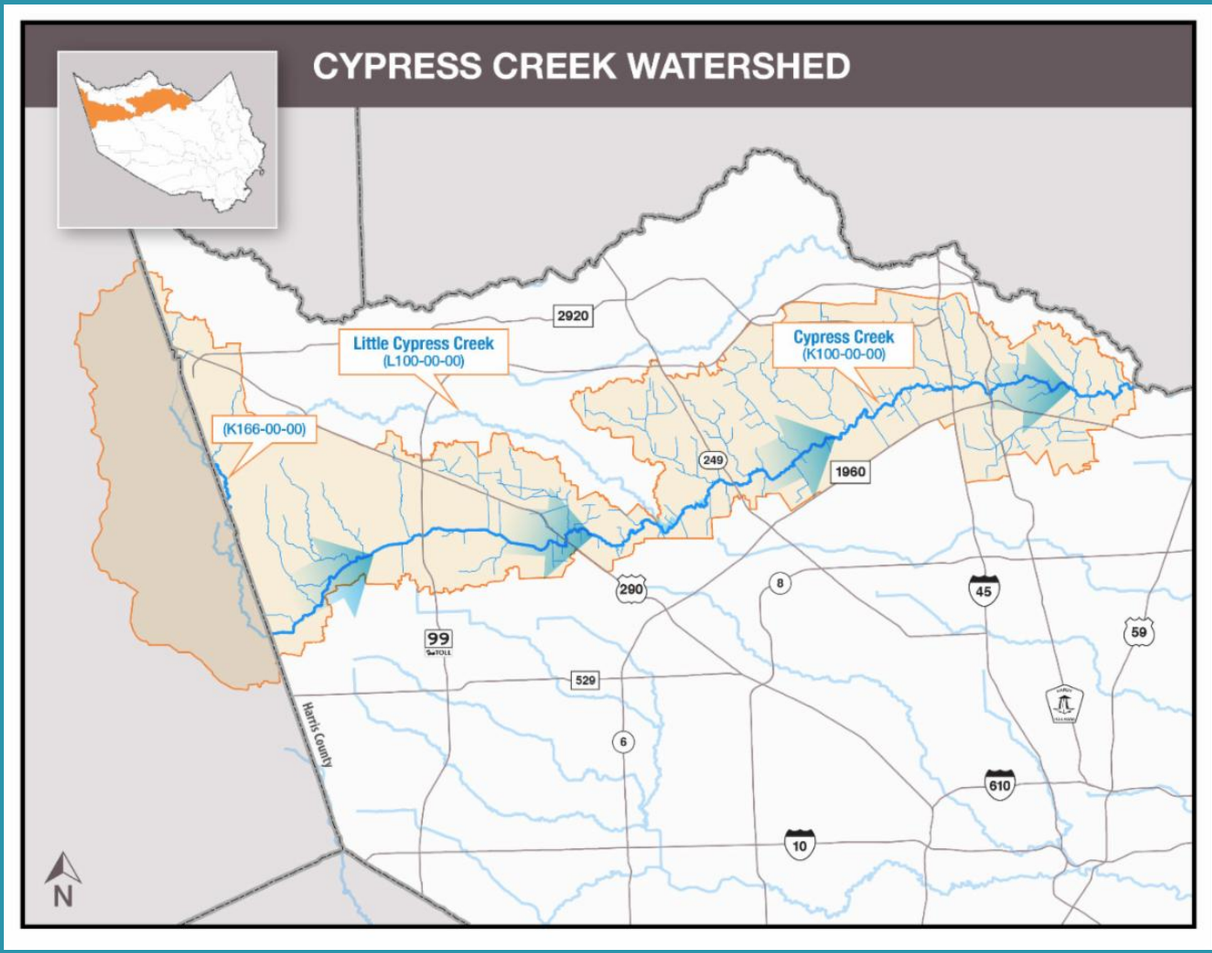
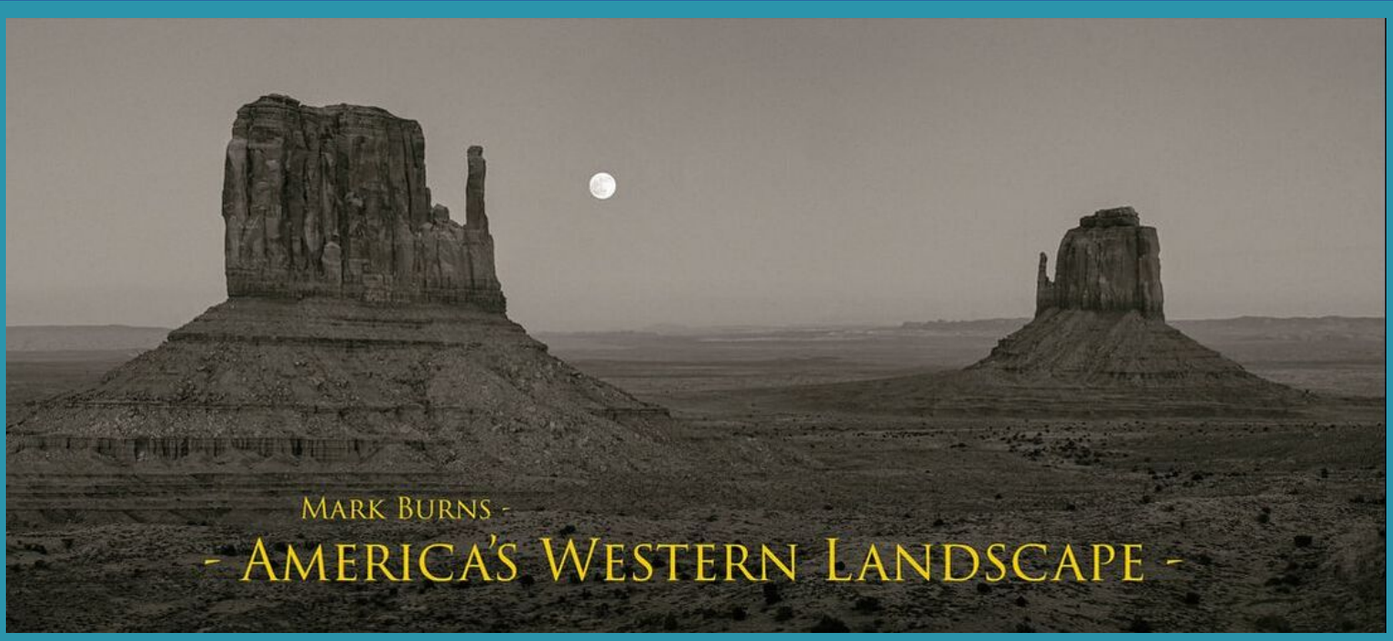
The bill was referred to the Natural Resources Committee on April 4th and we will be requesting a hearing in the coming days.



Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts



America's Western Landscape - By Mark Burns (Through May 13th)

Art Workshops

Art Workshops are designed for beginners, but all levels are welcome! Artist instructors offer a variety of workshops throughout the year exploring different media and techniques. Typically, one daytime or two evening sessions are offered for each workshop. Currently each workshop is limited to 15 participants. Age restrictions may apply, please check the details of the workshop prior.

For most workshops, all supplies necessary to complete the project are included with the workshop fee.

Any additional supplies required of participants will be noted in the workshop description.

Certain workshops may have a higher fee depending on the length of the workshop, instructor fees, and supply costs, but typical workshop fees range from $30-60. Contact Grace Mussell at gracepfmfa@gmail.com for questions and to request a Continuing Professional Education (CPE) certificate

gracepfmfa@gmail.com for questions and to request a Continuing Professional Education (CPE) certificate for educators.

Reservations for Art Workshops can be made online by clicking on the registration links listed below. For more information please contact Grace Mussell at gracepfmfa@gmail.com or 281-376-6322.

For more information or registration for adult classes go here: https://www.pearlmfa.org/schoolofart-adult.html

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YOUTH ART CLASSES

Wearing a mask in the museum is optional.

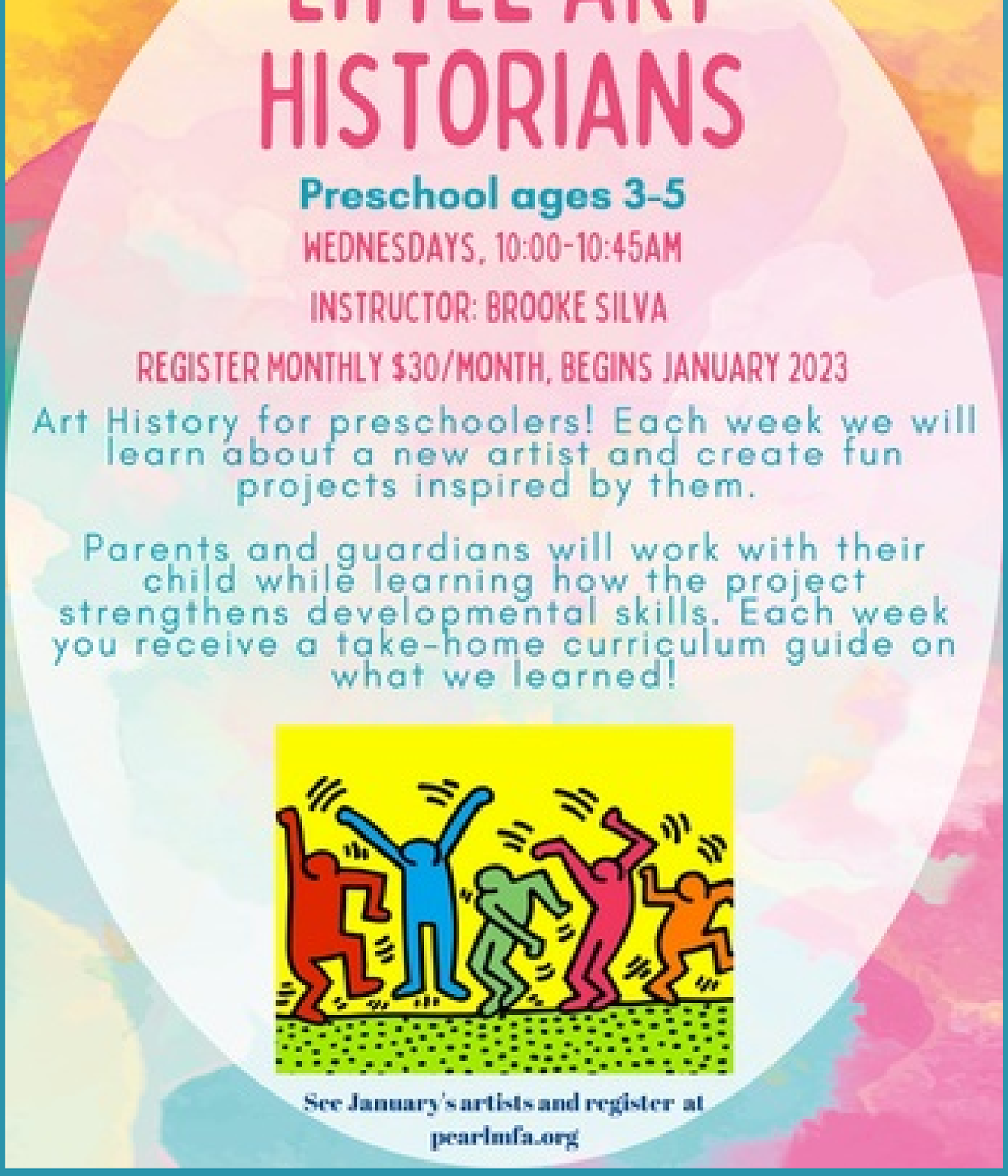
All classes are limited in size and offered in a socially distanced setting.

When children get a chance to express their creativity and dive into art, they develop confidence, increase their empathy, and discover how to look at the world from different perspectives. All those skills help prepare students to take on the world with passion and creativity.

Treat your child, grandchild, or friend to a gift of art!

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is free!

Register for Art Classes



Art History for Pre-Schoolers. Each we will learn about a new artist and create fun projects inspired by them.

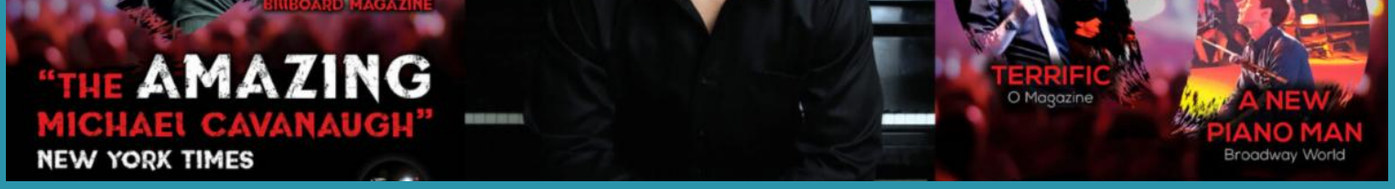
Parents and guardians will work with children and learn how they strengthen and develop their skills with these projects. Each week they get a project to take home with a designed curriculum guide on what they learned.

Ceramics Class Registration

Visit the Pearl Fincher Museum Website

Cypress Creek F.A.C.E.

Foundation for the Arts and Community Enrichment



Michael Cavanaugh Tickets

The Music of Billy Joel and Elton John features the greatest hits of these two great rock piano legends. Songs include: Piano Man, Rocket Man, Bennie and the Jets, Movin' Out, I'm Still Standing, My Life, and many more. Michael Cavanaugh was handpicked by Billy Joel to star in the hit Broadway musical Movin' Out. Michael received both Tony and Grammy nominations in the lead role. Billboard calls him the "New Voice of the American Rock and Roll Songbook", Broadway World referred to Cavanaugh as "The New Piano Man", Reuters named Cavanaugh Entertainer of the Year.

Performance Location: The Centrum, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, Texas 77379
Date & Time: 8:00 p.m., Saturday, May 20, 2023
Tickets: $45, $55, $65 & $75
Season Ticket Sales: On Sale Now
Single Ticket Sales: 9am, Monday, August 2, 2021

Star-Lit Series Concerts

Michael Cavanaugh -- The Music of Elton John and/or Billy Joel – 8pm, Saturday, May 20, 2023

Promenade Series Concerts

Monarch Chamber Players – April 11, 2023
Matthew Roitstein, flute – May 9, 2023

Star-Lit Series Season Ticket Order Form

Promenade Series Season Tickets

Texas Master Chorale

Master Chorale Webpage

Founded in 1986, the Texas Master Chorale is a mixed choral ensemble of 100 auditioned singers. Their sponsors and fundraisers support choir activities throughout the community. We strive for excellence in performing a variety of choral masterworks from classical to contemporary and from sacred to secular.

Packed Concert!
The performance of "FOR LOVE OF COUNTRY", on April 1st was a packed house and a professional presentation of patriotic music that had the audience on their feet.

Look for their next performance "Let's Fiesta" on May 5th.

ESD 9 Monthly News

March 2023
EMS - 2565
Fire - 600
Total = 3165

DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

The Cy-Fair Fire Department challenges EVERYONE to make a pledge to end distracted driving.

Texting while driving is 6 times as deadly than driving while drunk. 25% of car accidents are the result of cell phone usage. 11 teens die from texting and driving every day.

While cell phone usage while driving seems like the biggest culprit, it is not the only distraction while driving. Following are more causes for distraction that we need to avoid while driving:

1. Drinking while driving, not just alcohol
2. Adjusting climate control while driving
3. Having head phones/ear buds on
4. Eating while driving
5. Grooming yourself while driving
6. Distractions from kids or other passengers
7. Pets in the car
8. Talking on the phone
9. Adjusting your GPS
10. Playing with the radio
11. Rubbernecking when you see something on the road

12. Reading while driving
13. Texting while driving TEXTING (READING OR WRITING) WHILE DRIVING IN TEXAS IS AGAINST THE LAW!

Please do your part to end distracted driving. Avoiding an accident and possibly a deadly one, is more important than any text you are receiving or sending.

Eddie Cruz
Public Information Officer
Cy-Fair Fire Department

Cy-Fair Fire Department
281-656-3420 Office
346-306-6165 Cell
eddie.cruz@cyfairfd.org

ESD 9 - Cy-Fair Fire Dept

ESD 11 Monthly News

ESD 11 Update -
By Michelle Prescott,
Professional Development Manager

Michelle Prescott has been assigned the responsibilities for monthly updates for ESD 11.
Her Contact Information is :
Phone 281-524-7657
Email: michelle.prescott@esd11.com

Our response time performance remains exceptional and may be found with other critical information on our website at https://esd11.com/transparency/. The data is updated monthly after each regularly scheduled Board meeting, on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

ESD 11 Events In The Community

Gloria Marshall Elementary

We had an amazing time at the "Career on Wheels" event at Gloria Marshall Elementary School! ESD 11 had the opportunity to show students our ambulance and the tools we use to help during emergencies.

Klein Collins College and Career Extravaganza

Our medics recently attended the Klein Collins College and Career Extravaganza, where they had the opportunity to connect with students and share about the lifesaving work we do at Harris County ESD 11. We're proud to support events like this that help prepare young adults for their future after graduation.

National CPS Training
We are excited to announce that several team members at Harris County ESD 11 have recently become certified in National CPS Training. Our CPS technicians and instructors have undergone extensive training to provide you with the best education and hands-on assistance when it comes to child safety seat checks. We understand the importance of keeping our children safe while on the road. That's why we're dedicated to staying up to date with the latest technical information about child passenger safety through seminars and other continuing education opportunities. If you're in need of assistance with or have questions about child safety seats, please call us at 281-524-7660 or email info@esd11.com.

ESD 11 Website

ESD 13 Fire Service Monthly Update

Cypress Creek Fire Department

Julia Peterson
Public Information Officer

ESD 13 Website

ABOUT US: Cypress Creek Fire Department is the operating name for Harris County Emergency Services District 13, a political division of the State of Texas. Cypress Creek Fire Department provides fire suppression & rescue first response services to our 33 square mile district and to the greater FM1960

EMERGENCY RESPONSE:
February 2023:
Fire: 80
EMS: 81
Total: 161

Average Response Time: 05:46
2023 Year to Date:
Fire: 187
EMS: 184
Total: 371

Average Response Time: 05:51

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

Our Child Passenger Safety Technicians are located at Station 22 on Cypress N. Houston Rd. and are ready to help you ensure your child's safety by providing free Child Passenger Safety inspections.

CCFD offers free Home Safety Inspections to all residents in our territory. This includes a walk-through and assessment of your home. Our Firefighters will identify any potential fire hazards and give you a copy of their report so that you can correct these hazards before they become a serious problem.

For more information, please contact Julia Peterson at (281) 894-0151.

ESD 16 Fire Service Monthly News

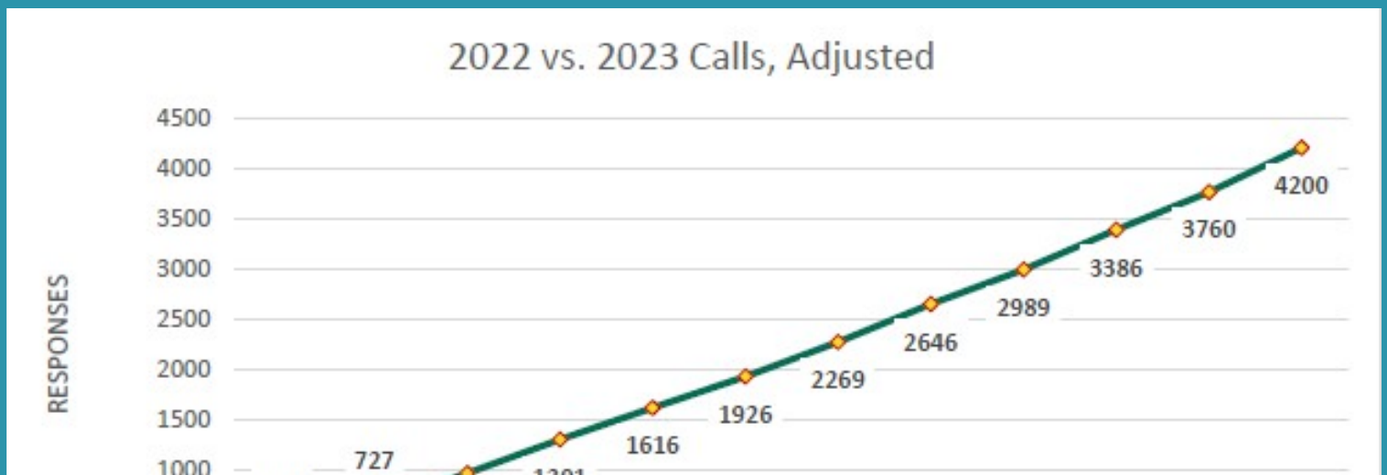
HARRIS ★ COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT

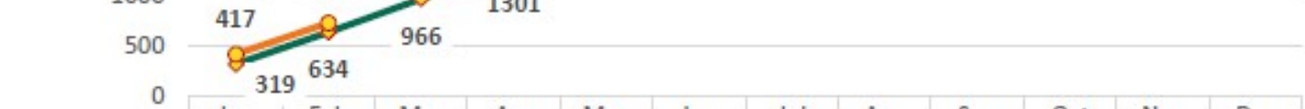
Harris County ESD 16 is the direct service provider for fire protection and rescue services in the Klein area, operating as Klein Fire Department.

Ja'Milla Lomas - Public Information Officer
Klein Fire Department - Email: jlomas@hcesd16.org

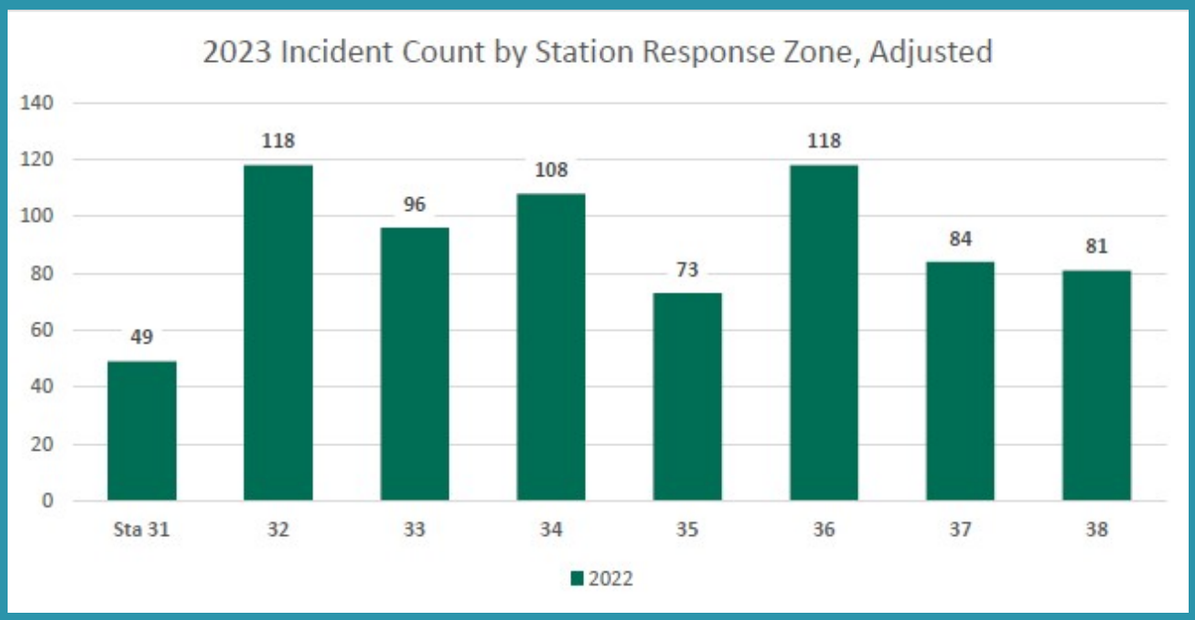
HCESD 16 News

Klein Fire Department has continued to see an increase in calls in the first few months of 2023, with a 15% increase between January and February. Last month, we responded to a total of 310 dispatched incidents in our territory – 19 of which were fire-related and 147 of which were rescue and/or EMS incidents. More than half of the responses were concentrated among three stations – Station 32 (20%), Station 33 (17%) and Station 34 (15%).





	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
20222	319	634	966	1301	1616	1926	2269	2646	2989	3386	3760	4200
2023	417	727										
% change	31%	15%										



Lithium Battery Do's & Don'ts

Fire departments across the country have seen an uptick in lithium-ion battery fires. These types of fires are very dangerous – they can be explosive, are fast moving, and don't go out easily. Causing extensive damage and numerous injuries, these "pockets of fire" remain even after appearing to be extinguished; meaning firefighters must stay for hours to ensure the fire doesn't reignite or escalate.

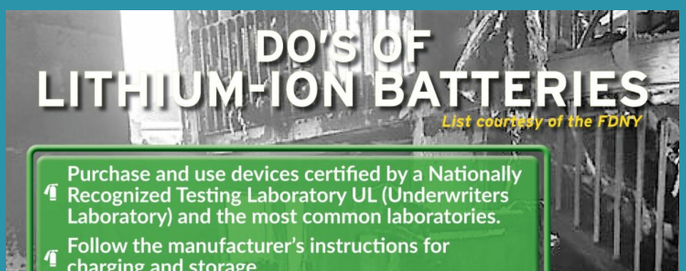
When a lithium-ion battery fire starts, the escalation is rapid. They usually take you by surprise, leaving very little time to escape and consume everything in sight. These fires tend to start due to overheating, but may also be caused by defective batteries. Complications with these fires create an "unstoppable chemical reaction" called a thermal runaway. They are so hard to stop that typical household fire extinguishers cannot put them out.

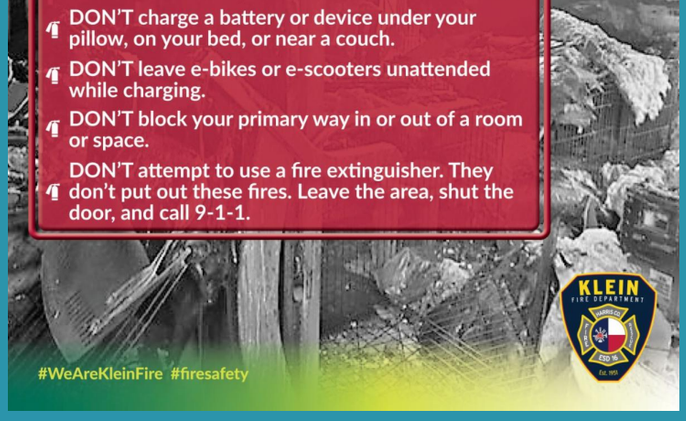
What is a lithium-ion battery? Well, we use them on a daily basis. They power our cell phones, wearable tech like smart watches or ear buds, laptops and tablets, implanted medical devices, portable power banks, cordless power tools, and electric scooters, bikes, and cars. Essentially, anything we plug in to charge is an item we should use with respect and caution.

Klein Fire Department responded to a devastating fire believed to be caused by a lithium-ion battery. We were first-in on a residential structure fire in Station 31's zone, with no obvious signs of fire upon arrival. As our members advanced with a handline through the front door and called out for signs of life, the acting captain heard a response, calling for help. The team quickly moved in the direction of the plea and found a badly burned person, removing them from the residence. Harris County ESD 11 Mobile Healthcare transported them to the hospital.

As a team, Engine 31 worked together to preserve life and property, courageously saving a life in the process. Mutual aid to extinguish the fire and secure the scene was provided by Ponderosa Fire

Department, Champions Emergency Services District, and the Harris County Sheriff's Office.
While accidents happen, being mindful of the possible dangers of everyday items that use lithium-ion batteries is in the best interest of community members. Practicing safe storage and charging and recognizing defective or tampered-with batteries will greatly assist in the decrease of lithium-ion battery fires.





The Klein Fire Department is rated ISO Class 2 and provides Fire Suppression, Rescue, and Medical Emergency Assistance to a resident population of 173,549 residents covering the Spring/Klein area and encompassing approximately 49 square miles.

If you have questions about the transition or wish to learn more about Klein Fire Department, please contact the ESD at info@HCESD16.org or visit www.HCESD16.org / www.KleinFire.org

ESD 16 Website

ESD 29 - Champions Fire Department Monthly Update

ESD 29 / Champions Fire Department

Our service area includes Greenwood Forest, Huntwick, Champions and other communities in the immediate area. Generally, the boundaries run from Cypress Creek on the North to Bourgeois on the South and Stuebner Airline over to Cutten Rd.

Service Area Map

Harris County ESD No. 29 Reccomends Escape Planning

Plan Ahead! If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes or seconds to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do, how to get out, and where to go if there is a fire.

BE PREPARED…

- Make a **PLAN**. Draw a map of your home. Show all the doors and windows.
- Know at least **2 WAYS OUT** of each room, if possible. All windows and doors should open easily.
- **SMOKE ALARMS** – Have them and test them.
- Have a **MEETING PLACE** outside. It should be in front of your home, and EVERYONE should meet here.
- **PRACTICE** your plan twice a year, during the day and at night, and practice different ways out.
- **TEACH** children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- **CLOSE DOORS** behind you as you leave.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS…

- **GET OUT AND STAY OUT!** Never go back inside for people, pets, or anything else.

- **GET LOW AND GO** under the smoke to your way out.
- Call 9-1-1 from **OUTSIDE** your home.

YouTube Every Second Counts in a Home Fire—Practice Your Escape Plan

Visit http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/escape-planning/basic-fire-escape-planning for more info.

www.championsfire.org

To see their incident response chart, go here: https://championsfire.org/incident-data

Average Emergency Calls response time: 5 minutes, 24 seconds

FEBRUARY 2023 MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	15	20%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	34	45.33%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1	1.33%
Service Call	5	6.67%
Good Intent Call	16	21.33%
False Alarm & False Call	4	5.33%
TOTAL	75	100%

Schools In Our District

Klein ISD Website

Tomball ISD Website

CyFair ISD Website

Cy-Fair ISD News

CFISD STUDENT OF THE WEEK: DANNY HERNANDEZ

March 27, 2023—Hamilton Middle School sixth-grade student Danny Hernandez excels both inside and outside of the classroom, as he is regularly noted by teachers for his volunteerism and helpful nature.
School: Hamilton Middle School
Age: 12
Grade: 6
Accomplishments: Hernandez has been on the A/B honor roll the entire school year and received a "difference maker" award.
Favorite class: "I enjoy World Cultures because the class is quiet and my teacher and classmates are nice."
Favorite things to do after class: "I enjoy tidying up my room and my house because I enjoy seeing things organized. I like playing with my sister after the work is done."
Favorite song: "All the Stars by Kendrick Lamar."
Favorite website/app: "Z-Type is my favorite because it helps my type faster. It also helps me type a paragraph or a passage faster."
Favorite movie: "Free Guy because it was filled with action and comedy, which I find important for a movie."
Ambition: "I would like to be an electrical engineer and my goal next year is to join tech class to help prepare me."
What topics/things are you passionate about?: "Technology because it helps the world around us."
What inspires you?: "My family."
What three things can't you live without?: "My family, God and my home."
What are you most looking forward to this semester?: "I'm looking forward to events in my elective, which is band."

Read the full article on CyFair's website here.

Cy-Fair ISD Website

Klein ISD News

KLEIN ISD
PROMISE2PURPOSE

Klein ISD Artists Sweep Rodeo Art Contest with 5 'Best of Shows,' 11 Other Accolades

Fourteen Klein ISD Visual Art students were named award winners of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Contest. Klein ISD received 5 'Best of Shows,' 6 Gold Medals, and 5 Special Merits Awards. These gifted students were delighted to display their artistic skills in this high-profile competition and left everyone impressed.

We proudly offer comprehensive, award-winning Fine Arts programs at Klein ISD. Our students pursue their passions and continue to earn recognition for their excellence!

Klein ISD Coordinator of Fine Arts Leah McWhorter was thrilled to see the recognition our students' achievements have received and shared her excitement.

"I am extremely proud of the achievements of our students," Ms. McWhorter said. "The opportunities they received from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program is a memory these students will never forget."

Congratulations, artists! Your #KleinFamily is so proud of you and excited to see what you do next.

Klein ISD Website

Tomball ISD News

Tomball Education Foundation Awards Over $100K to Tomball ISD Educators

The Tomball Education Foundation awarded 29 grants to Tomball ISD educators across 15 different campuses and one Central Office department, totaling $100,948 to be used on innovative projects they submitted through the grant process.

The Tomball Education Foundation provides funds for educational projects and activities that are beyond traditional funding. Funds are used to facilitate student achievement and skill development, recognize and encourage staff excellence, and expand community involvement from individuals, businesses and civic organizations.

Since 2018, TEF has awarded over $270,000 in grants to employees of Tomball ISD. Congratulations to the 2022-2023 Grant Recipients.

For a complete review of the article and list of recipients go here

Tomball ISD Website

COVID Stats & Info For Harris County

COVID has been a part of all our of lives for over two years now and is a regular part of almost every news broadcast. As such, we will be discontinuing routine coverage in this newsletter unless the threat remerges at a later date.

Charts and more information on Covid can be found on the Harris County COVID Dashboard at **www.readyharris.org**

COVID-19 Resources

Texas Workforce Commission

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) continues to explore options to keep the 2021 tax rates as low as possible for Texas employers as Texas and the entire nation continue to deal with the economic disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Read more about 2021 tax rates in the press release.

TWC Website to Apply for Benefits: TWC Unemployment Benefits

Texas Workforce TeleCenter - 800-939-6631

TWC has a new Chat service on their website in the bottom right of the screen, called "Chat With Us". This new function will be able to answer most general questions from individual. https://www.twc.texas.gov

Harris County Resources

ReadyHarris Website: https://www.readyharris.org/#resources

Harris County Fire Marshal hotline to report businesses who are in violation of the County and State COVID-19 health and safety policies - 832-839-6941

Precinct 4 Commissioner Community Assistance - Pct 4 Community Assistance

People can sign up to receive emergency alerts from Harris County at: Ready Harris Alert Signup.

Also, 2-1-1 is a resource hotline set up by Harris County. If someone is in need of resources fast they can call that number and they will be connected to resources in their community. They can also text CV19 to 888-777. This hotline is available 24/7.

City of Houston

Houston Public Health Dept - https://houstonemergency.org/covid19/

Ready Harris Accessible Alerts

The Harris County Office of Homeland Security& Emergency Management has launched the new Ready Harris Accessible Alerts (RHAA). This new system is providing access to alerts, warnings, and preparedness information to persons who are Deaf, Blind, Hard-of-Hearing, Deaf-Blind, or have low-vision through a new one-stop-website. To sign up, we encourage members of the community to visit https://hct.ahasalerts.com.

Community members can also text AHAS to (281) 609-9093 to sign up.
The system will send our Ready Harris Alerts with sign language interpreting along with voice and closed captioning in English and Spanish before, during and after an emergency. The RHAA is compatible with video capable devices such as computers, tablets, cell phones and wireless Braille readers. With this new resource, HCOHSEM will also be able to reach individuals with low literacy in English and Spanish. This is HCOHSEM's latest effort to reach the whole community.

Federal Resources / Websites

CDC- Center for Disease Control: CDC Coronavirus

Small Business Administration: SBA

SBA Paycheck Protection Program - Paycheck Protection Loans
An SBA loan that helps businesses keep their workforce employed (during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.)

FEMA Corona Response: FEMA CoronaVirus

Precinct 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey Capitol Project Update

Visit Precinct 3 Website

Precinct 3 Service Request Link
https://webapps2.harriscountytx.gov/servicerequestform/pct-form?pct3=

Harris County Precinct 3 Road and Bridge

Harris County Precinct 3 maintains the highest level of standards in maintaining over 6,600 lane miles of

Harris County Precinct 3 maintains the highest level of standards in maintaining over 6,600 lane miles of roadway and associated bridges throughout the area. Maintenance includes road reconstruction, storm debris removal, sign installation, right of way mowing, and more.

Please see the list below for projects that are currently under construction that are in or affect our area, including projects transferred due to redistricting. For questions or comments, click here. To follow their current capitol projects list, click here.

Area Projects in Construction

Asphalt Reconstruction Package 2022-1 in the Cypress and Spring areas
Project Scope: Repaving of roads, new markings, and street signs along Tanner Road from Triway Lane to the Sam Houston Tollway, West Little York Road from North Eldridge Parkway to Brittmore Road, and Kuykendahl Road from north of Spring Cypress Road to north of 1960

Benefits: Increase safety and mobility throughout these areas

Phase: Construction
Estimated Construction Cost: $7.3 million
Estimated Completion: First Quarter of 2024

Atascocita Road at Blackstone Trails
Project Scope: Install new traffic signal

Benefits: Improves driver safety
Phase: Construction

Estimated Construction Cost: $370,000
Estimated Completion: Third Quarter of 2023

Barker Cypress at Longenbaugh and Fry at Bridgeland Creek Parkway
Project Scope: Extend left turn lanes

Benefits: Improves traffic flow

Phase: Construction
Estimated Construction Cost: $150,000
Estimated Completion: First Quarter of 2023

PROJECTS IN DESIGN

Asphalt Reconstruction Package 2022-2 in the Humble and Crosby areas (STARTING SECOND QUARTER 2023)

Project Scope: To reconstruct various roads in Humble and Crosby. Roadway portions include Aldine Westfield Road, First Street in the Crosby area, Miller Wilson Road, Hare Cook Road, Ramsey Road, East Stroker Road, and Krenek Road
Benefits: Increase safety and mobility throughout these areas
Phase: Design
Estimated Construction Cost: $11.3 million
Estimated Completion: TBD

Crosby Township/MUD (Runneburg)
Project Scope: Subdivision drainage improvements and channel excavation
Benefits: Increased drainage capacity and reduced flood risk
Phase: Design
Estimated Construction Cost: $1.0 million
Estimated Completion: Second Quarter of 2023

Cypress Creek Estates Subdivision
Project Scope: Subdivision drainage improvements and pavement reconstruction
Benefits: Increased drainage capacity, reduced flood risk, and reduced long-term maintenance costs
Phase: Design
Estimated Construction Cost: $9.4 million
Completion: Second Quarter of 2023

Harris County Precinct 4
Commissioner Lesley Briones

Precinct 4's Infrastructure Division

The Infrastructure Division administers and manages Precinct 4's Capital Improvement Projects Program. The CIP program includes road expansion projects, traffic signals and intersection improvements, and traffic management systems designed to improve mobility and air quality.

The Infrastructure Division also oversees the Child Safety Fund which is used to provide warranted school zone flashing warning signals in compliance with Precinct 4's criteria, the installation of a warranted traffic signal system facilitating the movement of traffic around a school facility to promote student safety. To find out if your area meets the criteria of the flashing warning signal, please click Flashing Warning Signals.

Community Assistance Department

Serving Precinct 4 constituents is our number one goal. With that in mind we have one stop, one phone number, one e-mail address for you to find a solution to any need you might have in Harris County. Tell us what's needed and we do the work! Whether it is a street or a stop sign to be replaced, a road or sinkhole repaired, or questions or comments about Precinct 4 services, CAD can assist.

The staff researches and responds to thousands of calls, letters, and e-mails each year concerning road and bridge maintenance and various issues throughout Harris County and Precinct 4.

In addition to processing requests for maintenance, CAD seeks to have a presence and be available to our community by attending a variety of community events and liaising with various agencies within Harris County and Precinct 4.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Website

Pct 4 Capitol Improvement Projects

Community Assistance Department Page

Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce

Representing the business and community interests in the Cypress Creek/North Harris County area since 1974, the Houston Northwest Chamber is actively engaged as a liaison with state, local, and federal leadership to promote the area on a variety of issues.

Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce

Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce

Transportation and Mobility Committee
2nd Tuesday of each month
Meeting Location:
29201 Quinn Rd.
Tomball, Texas 77375
Upstairs Conference Room

Tomball Government Affairs Committee

Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce Transportation\Government Affairs Committee

The committee meets the 1st Thursday of each month to discuss governmental issues that confront their Cy-Fair area. They meet at the Chamber offices located at 8711 Highway 6 North, Ste. 120 Houston, TX 77095.

Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce

Harris County Pct 3 Public Safety Forum

Meets at:
Glorious Way Church
11611 Champions Forest Dr
Houston, TX 77066

Local representatives from criminal justice and government agencies make presentations and discuss issues important to the community.

The button below provides a link to sign up for our alerts and lists.

Public Safety Forum Signup

Visit our House of Representatives Website

The Texas House of Representatives is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. This newsletter is available in alternate forms upon request. **Please call 1-800-241-1163.**

Contact Us

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