

Budget cuts were made with the public's safety in mind. Almost 32% of the City budget will go toward public safety.



CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS ANNUAL BUDGET

Sales Tax Revenue Survives COVID-19 Pandemic

After many months of preparation, the City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Budget for the City of Webster on September 22, 2020.

This year's budget was not without its challenges. With the shutdown due to the COVID-19, we saw a decline in sales tax revenue during March and April 2020. During the planning phase, we expected the sales tax revenue to be down significantly from the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Since the sales tax revenue makes up 37% of the City's total revenues, there was a lot of concern going into the budget creation. However, Webster's citizens proved to be very resilient, and the sales tax numbers normalized June through August. The City still anticipates a slight decline in sales tax numbers from the 2019-2020 budget as COVID-19 continues to be a concern. *(Continued on page 3)*

CITY COUNCIL

Donna Rogers
Mayor

Jennifer Heidt
Council Member Position 1

Andrea Wilson
Mayor Pro Tem
Council Member Position 2

Larry Tosto
Council Member Position 3

Beverly Gaines
Council Member Position 4

Edward Lapeyre
Council Member Position 5

Martin Graves
Council Member Position 6

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9-1-1

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Police (Non-emergency)
281.332.2426

Public Works
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Webster Way Editor
281.316.3764



CITY OF WEBSTER, TEXAS GOVERNMENT



Pictured from L-R: Police Captain Ray Graham, Police Chief Pete Bacon, Community Development Director Derhyl Hebert, City Manager Danny Presley, CCISD Director of Facility Services Paul Miller, Police Captain Jeremy Edge, and City Secretary Michael Muscarello.

Clear View HS Groundbreaking

Webster leadership participates in groundbreaking ceremony

On Tuesday, October 13, Webster City staff attended the Clear View High School Groundbreaking Ceremony.

Clear Creek ISD projects the school to be complete by December 2021. It will have new facilities for career and technical education programs such as an audio/video production classroom and studio, a certified nursing assistant classroom and lab, a cosmetology classroom and lab, and a new district-wide welding program learning space.

"I stand here amazed at the tangible, significant, and beautiful investment that our Clear Creek ISD citizens have made for current and future generations," said Clear View High School Principal Monica Speaks during the ceremony. "I know with certainty that this commitment to each child does not occur everywhere. We understand that this is special, and for this, we are truly grateful and excited."

Clear View High School originally opened in 1938 as Webster High School. According to CCISD, the historic main entrance will remain with a new perimeter exterior wall added to protect the structure until a further purpose is identified.

We look forward to the new Clear View High School building opening in the City, offering exceptional learning opportunities to our community students.



2020-21 Budget continued...

The annual budget estimates the amount of revenue the City will receive during the year and explains how it will be spent. However, a budget is much more than a set of numbers. It also provides an overview of City operations, communicates the priorities and issues considered while developing the budget, and describes both the financial and non-financial challenges facing the City.

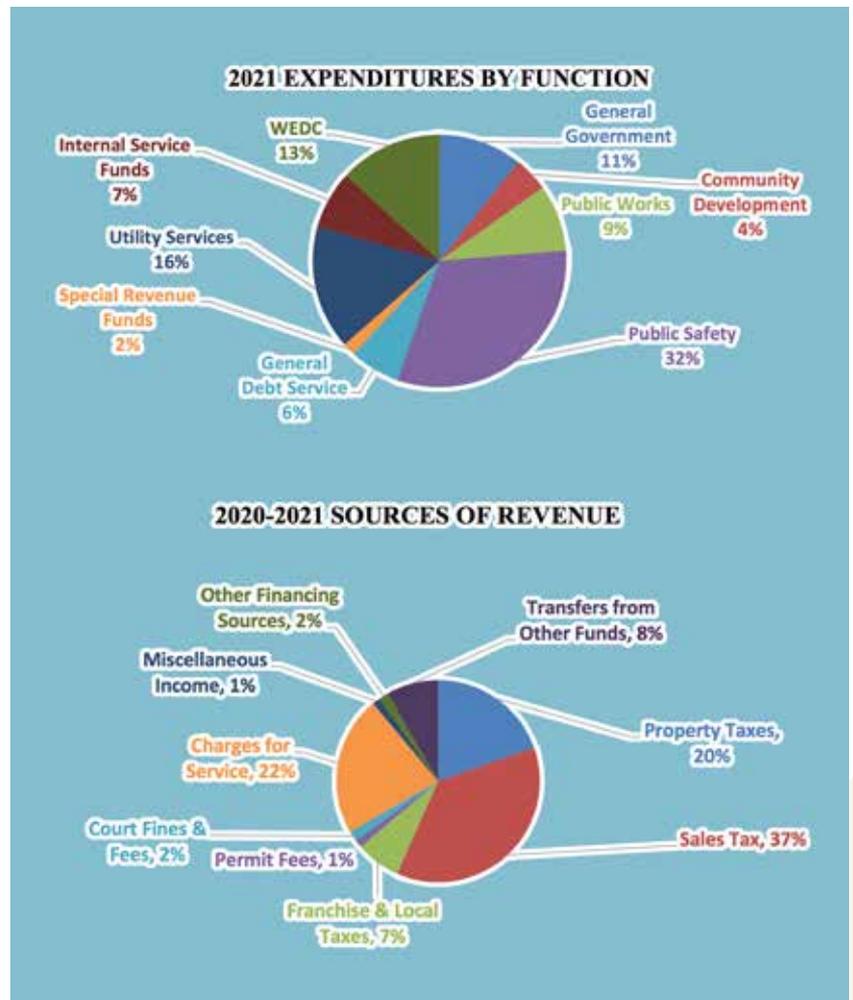
Including the Webster Economic Development Corporation's activities, resources in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Budget total \$44,867,020. Revenues are derived from many sources. Due to the significant number of retailers and restaurants in Webster, the most considerable revenue (almost 37%) comes from local sales taxes. Charges for services, such as water, wastewater, and drainage utilities, make up approximately 22% of all revenue sources. Property taxes follow at just over 20%.

The Annual Budget also shows how the City's revenue is spent. Expenditures total \$43,169,840 in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Budget. This money provides various services to constituents, including police and fire protection, maintenance of parks, rental facilities, and utilities. Of the City's services, almost 32% of the City budget goes toward public safety. Utility Services accounts for 16%, WEDC activities account for 13%, General government administrative activities account for 11%, and Public Works operations account for approximately 9%.

This year's budget was trimmed in anticipation of continuing COVID-19 decreases in revenue. Declining revenues during this pandemic have led to some cost-saving measures. These measures include a one-year moratorium on purchasing vehicles, no transfers to the equipment replacement fund, reduced professional development costs due to anticipation of many canceled training seminars, no replacement of equipment or office furniture is included in the 2020-21 budget, and most capital projects are put on hold until the 2021-22 budget.

Those cuts take into account the public's safety, the delivery of services to our citizens, and the responsible management of city finances. Each reduction was scrutinized to the fullest degree; none were taken lightly.

Still, the Fiscal Year 2020-21 annual budget maintains basic programs and service levels for all citizens. With the hard work of our economic development team, businesses continue to move into Webster. Property taxes and utility rates continue to be among the lowest in the area, making Webster one of the best places to be for quality of life and low taxes. For more information about the 2020-2021 budget, log onto the City's website at www.cityofwebster.com.





California Fire Update

After 35 days in California, all Webster Fire Department personnel and equipment made it home safely.

Shift Commander Jason Myers returned on September 30, and Firefighter Zachery Hon returned with Brush 14 Truck on October 15.

According to Cal Fire, as of October 22, the Creek Fire is 61 percent contained.



WELCOME TO WEBSTER, OFFICER CANTU

Meet Webster Police Officer Raymond Cantu.

At the end of September, Police Chief Pete Bacon swore Officer Cantu into the police department. He comes to Webster with two years of police experience and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. The officer is also a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Welcome to Webster, Officer Cantu!

AS SEEN ON FACEBOOK



On October 3, Sergeant JC Rincones met 6-year-old William while patrolling an apartment complex in Webster. The young boy showed off his two toy police cars, and the sergeant gave him a quick tour of his unit. William then invited Sergeant Rincones to his birthday party the following weekend.

He was ecstatic when he saw the police sergeant pull up on his birthday weekend to wish him a happy birthday.

According to his mother, Brenda, the only thing William talked about that day was how Sergeant Rincones would be coming by to visit him.

William was given Webster Police Department stickers, as well as a 7-Eleven Slurpee coupon for #OperationChill.

Operation Chill is 7-Eleven's community outreach program designed to enhance relationships between police and young people.

The Webster Police Department is proud to serve Webster's citizens while establishing a positive connection with kids in the community.

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Pictured back, from left are Police Chief Pete Bacon, Director of Public Works John Warnement, Council Member Marty Graves, and Council Member Edward Lapeyre. Front from left are Council Member Larry Tosto, Mayor Pro Tem Andrea Wilson, Deputy City Secretary Maria Rodriguez, Council Member Jennifer Heidt, Mayor Donna Rogers, Fire Chief Dean Spencer, Assistant Fire Chief Shane Martin, Shift Commander Marshall Boyd, Lieutenant Zach Thorpe, Lieutenant Anthony Pearson, Driver-Operator Chad Jones, and Council Member Beverly Gaines.

Webster Celebrates Staff Promotions

Meet the new Police Chief, Director of Public Works, and more

During the City Council Meeting on October 20, staff and Council celebrated several promotions.

Council first appointed Pete Bacon to Police Chief. Pete began his law enforcement career in 1993 and eventually moved to Webster in 1999. He has been the Assistant Police Chief in Webster since 2018 and Interim Police Chief since August 2020.

"I am extremely grateful and humbled by the City Council's decision to appoint me as Chief of Police," he said. "The City of Webster has afforded me tremendous opportunities for professional growth over the past 21-years, and I truly care about this community. I am honored to serve alongside the Webster Police Department's men and women."

Council then appointed John Warnement to Director of Public Works. John began with the City of Webster in 1997 as the Recreation Coordinator, before moving to the Webster Public Works department in 2007. He became Assistant Public Works Director in 2009 and has served as Interim Public Works Director since February 2020.

"Having grown up in Clear Lake, Webster has always been near and dear to me," John said. "It

has been a distinct privilege to serve, in increasing capacity, the City of Webster for over 23 years. I look forward to this next step, leading the outstanding men and women of Public Works."

Webster Fire Department employees were then acknowledged for their recent promotions during the meeting. City Council recognized the new Assistant Fire Chief Shane Martin, Shift Commander Marshall Boyd, Lieutenant Zach Thorpe, Lieutenant Anthony Pearson, and Driver-Operator Chad Jones. The promotions were well deserved, and the City is in good hands under their leadership.

The City Secretary Department was also excited to introduce the new Deputy City Secretary to Council during the meeting. Deputy City Secretary Maria Rodriguez comes to Webster with 13 years of experience, seven of which were spent as Deputy City Secretary in Pearland.

"I am glad to be a part of the Webster community," Maria said. "I am looking forward to collaborating with my coworkers, bouncing new ideas, and fine-tuning others."

Maria is well-versed in the City Secretary's Office processes and will be a great asset to the team.

AVOID SEWER BACKUPS AND OVERFLOWS BY KEEPING THIS STUFF OUT OF YOUR TOILET

Did you know?
Cleaning wipes, baby wipes and facial wipes are one of the biggest problems for sewer back-ups in our community. That's right- even if the package says "flushable" or "disposable", they should NEVER be flushed. They belong in the trash.

Flush ONLY toilet paper. Put trash in the trash can.

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) from food waste, scraps, and cooking, when poured down the drain, clog pipes and cause sewer backups and overflows. Not managed properly, FOG can solidify and stick to the sides of your kitchen drains and sewer pipes.

For large amounts of FOG, such as used oil from a turkey fryer, collect cooled oil in a sealable container and take it to the City of Webster Service Center at 855 Magnolia Ave.

NEVER pour grease or cooking oil down drains or garbage disposals.

For small amounts of FOG, scrape out or use paper towels to wipe your pans, then discard the FOG or soiled paper towels in your trash can.



Public Works Spotlight

City Manager Danny Presley spent time with the Webster Public Works employees at their morning safety meeting on Wednesday, October 14.

“We had a very lengthy and candid conversation about several issues,” said Danny. “I appreciate their candor and their willingness to ask questions and provide their input. It was a very good visit, and they are excited to begin a new chapter under the leadership of Public Works Director John Warnement.”

“We have a great group of employees at Public Works doing a great job for the City of Webster! I really enjoyed my time with them.”



Business Highlight- Shoot Point Blank

Shoot Point Blank is a retail store and indoor gun range located inside NASA Bypass Business Park at 350 NASA Pkwy. The business opened in October in its magnificent 15,035 square foot facility.

The retail component has everything gun aficionados will need, including firearms, ammunition, and accessories. The extensive inventory offers over 500 firearms in stock.

The indoor gun range features 20 lanes, equipped with a state-of-the-art air filtration system. Guests can choose from over 60 firearms to rent by the hour and try out in the lanes.

Shoot Point Blank is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Guests must be 18+ to operate long guns and 21+ for handguns.

THE CITY OF WEBSTER

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CITY OF WEBSTER, TEXAS GOVERNMENT

NOVEMBER

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- 01 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS**
2 a.m.
- 03 ELECTION DAY**
CITY COUNCIL MEETING*
6 p.m. at City Hall
- 10 WEBSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING***
6 p.m. at City Hall
- 11 VETERANS DAY**
City offices closed
- 17 CITY COUNCIL MEETING***
6 p.m. at City Hall
- 25 THANKSGIVING CLOSURE**
City hall closes at 1:30 p.m. Offices remain closed until Monday, November 30
- 26 THANKSGIVING DAY**

*Special meetings may be added, and meetings may be canceled if there are no agenda items. Check the City website at cityofwebster.com for meeting information.

COMING UP...

HOLIDAY HOURS

CHRISTMAS

City offices will close at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 23. Offices will remain closed until Monday, December 28.

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY

City offices will close at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 31. Offices will remain closed until Monday, January 4.

Don't Be a Victim

LOCK YOUR CAR, TAKE YOUR KEYS, REMOVE YOUR VALUABLES

We want to remind residents to be cautious when shopping this holiday season. Take purchases home before going to the next store or restaurant, and ALWAYS take your keys and lock your doors.

Shoppers should park in a well-lit area and never leave their car running unattended.