

# GATEWAY

**Webster**  
TEXAS

Spring 2011  
Volume 19, Number 1



**World-Class Medical Center of the South**

## In This Issue

Focus on Finances .....	3
Dragon Boats in Webster .....	3
World-Class Medical Center of the South .....	4
City of Webster Election (Elección de Ciudad Webster) .....	6
2010 Charter Review Commission Report.....	8
Promoting the Tourism Capital.....	10
Myers and Gaines Receive Top Honors.....	10
Red Carpet Premier of Disney's Latest.....	10
Public Meeting Notes .....	11
City Council.....	12

## Calendar of Events

### March

1	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
2	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
8	6 p.m.	Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting
11	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
15	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
16	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
21-25		Spring Residential Clean-up Week
25	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night

### April

5	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
6	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
8	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
12	6 p.m.	Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting
19	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
20	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
22	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night

### May

3	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
4	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
10	6 p.m.	Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting
13	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
17	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
18	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
27	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night

## Adopt a Pet



Dogs and Cats are available for adoption at the City of Webster Animal Shelter.

To inquire about adopting a pet, contact Public Works at 281.316.3700, or check the website at [www.cityofwebster.com/adopt](http://www.cityofwebster.com/adopt)



# GATEWAY

## GATEWAY

Spring – 2011  
 Volume 19, Number 1

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Please contact 281.316.4121 or email [ctrailkill@cityofwebster.com](mailto:ctrailkill@cityofwebster.com) with questions or comments. It is the editorial policy of the City to publish community news that impacts the constituency of Webster.

## Focus on Finances

### Shop Webster First

While “Shop Locally” is a common phrase that many cities use to promote their businesses, the refrain has special significance in Webster. Purchases made in Webster not only support local enterprises but also they generate the majority of revenue that pays for police and fire protection, parks, recreation, and other services that are provided to the community.

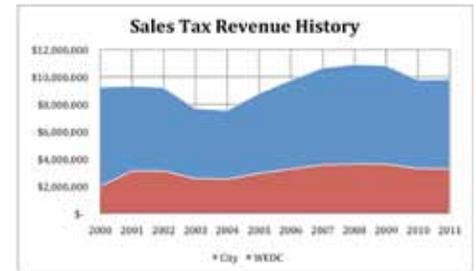
As the sales tax rate in the City of Webster is 8.25%, the total rate can be broken into three components: State, City, and Webster Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). The State sales tax rate is 6.25%, while the local (City) sales tax rate is just 1.5%. In 1999, WEDC authorized an additional 0.5% sales tax to promote and stimulate new and expanded commercial development in Webster. In essence, Webster’s portion of the sales tax is 2% of the total: 8.25%

With an annual budget of \$9,828,110, sales tax provides approximately 60% of the City’s General Fund revenue. An additional \$3,276,040 is received by the Webster Economic Development

Corporation. For the sake of comparison, property taxes contribute only \$1,880,510, or 11% of total revenues, to the General Fund. This ratio of sales tax to property tax sets Webster apart from most communities, as it is more common for property taxes to generate the vast majority of a municipality’s revenue. Webster constituents, therefore, benefit from the high concentration of retailers, restaurants, and entertainment venues located here and enjoy much lower property tax rates than surrounding cities.

Dependence upon sales tax, rather than property tax, however, brings more volatility to the City’s revenue base. For many years, the City experienced sales tax revenue growth in excess of 10%. Growth slowed considerably in 2008 to 2.3%, remained essentially flat in 2009, and declined 9.4% in 2010 due to an economic downturn.

The forecast for 2011 is more optimistic as new restaurants and retailers land in Webster. A modest increase in sales tax revenue is projected due to a gradual flattening of the sales



decline at existing stores, combined with the newly established venues (see chart).

Just as sales tax is essential to the City, so, too, are prosperous retail establishments. The Economic Development Division seeks to attract new, vibrant businesses to the City, retain those that are here, and expand those seeking a larger footprint.

The refrain “shop Webster first” has significant import for Webster’s constituents who ensure that property taxes remain low while City services remain high.

*Focus on Finances is a brief article on a specific aspect of the City of Webster’s finances. Its purpose is to provide an inside look at city government. Is there something you would like to read about in the future? Do you have any financial questions about the City? Call Michael Rodgers, Director of Finance, at 281.316.4102.*

## Dragon Boats in Webster

### Edgewater Celebrates Completion of First Phase Of Marina

The team paddling sport of dragon boat racing, which had its origins in China more than 2,000 years ago, is coming to Webster on Saturday, April 9. Edgewater, located just east of Highway 3 on NASA Parkway, is a master-planned

waterfront community that is hosting the first annual “Edgewater Dragon Boat Challenge.” This day-long festival celebrating Asian culture will feature specialty vendors, cultural performances, professional kite flying, and dragon boat

racing at Edgewater’s newly completed first phase of the marina.

The free, family festival opens at 8:30 a.m., and the first race, featuring the 40-foot long, 22-person boats, begins at 9 a.m.



# World-Class Medical Center of the South

For more than a decade, Webster has held the naming rights for the “medical center of the south.” With Houston as the medical center of the north, Webster’s reputation for providing comprehensive, top-tier services to a super-regional population has grown, in accordance with the City’s expanding medical footprint.

Now, the 1,700,000 people in Webster’s medical service area who depend on exceptional healthcare, the latest in facilities and equipment, world-class physicians, and unsurpassed convenience afforded by the medical center of the south have much to celebrate. Not only is Clear Lake Regional Medical Center embarking on a \$92,000,000 expansion and renovation project that will augment its women’s and children’s services, add a new patient tower, and enhance more than 40 medical specialties but also The Heart & Vascular Hospital has just completed its \$17,000,000 expansion, and construction has resumed on the 375,000 square foot Bay Area Regional Medical Center hospital located at 200 Blossom.

While major cities feature clusters of top-notch hospitals, leading-edge medical support facilities, and expert physicians, Webster’s formula for success is unique. Within three of the municipality’s 6.7 square miles is

a medical district that is characterized by its wide-ranging, complete menu of specialties and services, reputation for excellence, and easily navigable centralized location. The medical center of the south is perceived as the “go to” sector for a super-regional population who resides in 24 cities surrounding Webster. The exceptional quality and scope of services that are found in the medical center of the north are offered in Webster. However, in Webster’s medical center, easy access, free parking, affordable hotel accommodations, and myriad restaurants propel Webster to the top. For a burgeoning consumer base who seeks world-class healthcare, Webster’s offerings and convenience are unsurpassed.

## Investment and Commitment

Webster’s medical service area population is growing due to the investment and commitment by the City’s healthcare constituents. By 2013, the number of patients who depend on Webster’s medical center is projected to escalate to 2,000,000, as a larger market discovers that Clear Lake Regional Medical Center features the only pediatric surgeon south of Houston’s medical center who provides a full range of surgeries for those just born to 18 years of age, or The Heart & Vascular Hospital is the only hospital in the entire region

to have a hospital solely dedicated to cardiovascular services and offer the highly acclaimed Level III chest pain accreditation. In conjunction with the region’s steady population growth, which has escalated as high as 69% just to the south since the 2000 census, the medical center of the south is poised to accommodate a growing market and attract large numbers of patients who were accustomed to frequenting the medical center of the north.

With Clear Lake Regional Medical Center’s plans to begin a \$92M expansion this summer with a scheduled completion for spring 2013, the region’s flagship hospital continues to demonstrate its commitment to excellence. A new three-story patient tower encompassing 154,470 square feet will be constructed to accommodate the latest technology and innovation in operating rooms, spacious pre-operating rooms for patients and their families preparing for surgery, and comfortable recovery rooms, along with a 30-bed adult intensive care unit.

## Family-Centric Care

One of Clear Lake Regional Medical Center’s objectives is fostering unparalleled services for women and children or “family-centric” care. Already, the hospital has a stellar history of delivering over 4,000 babies annually and providing the region’s top neonatal care – complete with the area’s only Level IIIb neonatal intensive care unit. With the imminent expansion, over 79,000 square feet of the women’s and children’s center will be remodeled to accommodate new, state-of-the-art birthing suites, additional labor and delivery rooms, and dedicated caesarean section operating suites.

The medical center of the south



*Clear Lake Regional Medical Center recently completed the top two floors of the Heart & Vascular Hospital.*

is forging new ground with its concentration on women's and pediatric services. At the apex of this initiative is the new pediatric surgeon who was recruited to Clear Lake Regional Medical Center from Pensacola, Florida. Dr. Stephen Kimmel who began practicing in Webster on January 17, is one of only 700 pediatric surgeons in North America. As the Pediatric Surgery Program was identified as a key component in enhancing many services that Clear Lake Regional Medical Center offered, new offices were filled with the latest specialized equipment and staffed with complementary personnel. With the advent of the only pediatric



Dr. Stephen Kimmel (r) with staff (l to r) Justin Sanborn, Surgical Coordinator; Melissa Reynolds, Front Desk Coordinator; and Nicole Acton, Pediatric Nurse.

surgeon outside of Houston's medical center, continuity of care for pregnant women, newborns, and children is seamless and local. In an example of a pregnant mother with a fetal congenital problem, from the diagnosis to prenatal counseling to surgical intervention at birth, the mother's and baby's care is managed from one locale – fostering optimal communication and results.

### Fulfilling a Long-Term Void in Webster

Prior to Kimmel's arrival, at a hint of pediatric surgical issues, the patient would be transferred to a specialized hospital in Houston's medical center.



Clear Lake Regional Medical Center's new patient tower enhances the Medical Center of the South's formula for success: world-class healthcare, easy access, and convenient, free parking.

Now, Clear Lake Regional Medical Center is, itself, a transfer facility. Patients from Kingwood to Beaumont to Lake Jackson are transferred by ground or air to Webster, where these young patients don't have to wait for weeks or months for elective surgery. Whereas nearly half of pediatric surgeries deal with the appendix, stomach, spleen, or gall bladder, Kimmel's prowess with laparoscopic surgery – which translates into minimal access, less invasive surgery, smaller incision, shortened hospital stay, faster recovery time, less chance of infection, and smaller scar – produces excellent results for complex, intricate procedures, too, such as esophageal atresia (to treat the esophageal tube that isn't completely formed in a newborn) or

PDA ligation (to close a vessel to the heart – occurring more prevalently in premature infants). Kimmel cites an example of a pyloromyotomy in a four-week old patient, whereby three tiny incisions were made into the overgrown muscle at the end of his stomach to relieve the blockage. Within a couple of hours after the surgery, the tiny patient could eat.

The medical center of the south is keeping pace with the super-regional population it serves and the commitment to provide world-class healthcare. To accomplish this mission, Bay Area Regional Medical Center is, once again, under construction, and Clear Lake Regional Medical Center is embarking on another huge project that will transform the healthcare landscape.



Clear Lake Regional Medical Center's campus is expanding to accommodate its burgeoning service-area population.

# City of Webster Election

(Elección de Ciudad Webster)

The City Council of Webster, Texas has called a general election for City Officers on May 14, 2011. The Mayor and Council Position No. 6 will be on the May ballot. Current office holders, respectively, are Floyd H. Myers and Donna Rogers. Myers and Rogers have filed respectively for their current positions. Billy Wayne (Bill) Jones has filed for Position No. 6.

A Special Election will be held on the same date for propositions for amendments to the City Charter. As required by the City Charter, the City Council appointed a nine-member commission to review the charter and make any recommendations to the City Council for Charter amendments. The Charter Review Commission, President Rose Hamidian, Vice President Troy Stewart, Ronald Johnson, Dana Fagler, Kenneth Goodwin, Marlene Eakman-Herbst, David Painter, Russell Newland, and Jared Null accepted this task in September, and presented a final report to the City Council on January 4, 2011. The Commission held public meetings over a four-month period. (See 2010 Charter Review Commission Report)

For your vote to be counted, please bring your voter registration or a form of identification to the voting place.

For information or questions regarding the City Election process, please contact the City Secretary's office, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, 281-332-1826. (Si tiene preguntas llama 281-316-4136)

## Notice Of General Election And Special Election (Aviso De Elección General Y Especial)

To the Registered Voters of the City of Webster, Texas (A los Votantes Registrados de La Ciudad de Webster, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 14, 2011, for voting in a general election to elect the Mayor and Councilmember, Position 6 for a 3-year term each and for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City certain proposed amendments to the existing charter of the City of Webster, Texas. (Notifíquese, por las presente, que la casilla electoral sitada abajo se abrirá desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta

las 7:00 p.m. el 14 de mayo de 2011 para votar en una elección general y especial para elegir un alcalde y un Concejal, Posición 6 por un término de 3 años cada uno y para el proposito de someter a los votantes califacados de la ciudad ciertas enmiendas propuestast al fletamento que existen de la Ciudad de Webster.

Mayor	Council Position 6
Floyd H. Myers	Bill Jones
	Donna Rogers

The proposed amendments are as follows (Las enmiendas propuestas son como seguir) :

### CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall Section 3.01.C, Number, Selection and Term, of Article III be amended to read that "The mayor and each respective councilmember shall be limited to two (2) full consecutive elected terms of office. The mayor, upon completion of a second consecutive full term as mayor, shall not be eligible to be a candidate for councilmember and each respective councilmember, upon completion of a second consecutive full term as councilmember, shall not be eligible to be a candidate for mayor for one full year, effective the first election year after the adoption of this charter amendment?"

### Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 1

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 3.01.C del Artículo III, Selección y Término, para que lea 'El alcalde y cada miembro del consejo respectivamente estarán limitados a dos (2) términos electivos completos. El alcalde, al concluir un segundo término completo consecutivo como alcalde, no será elegible para candidato para concejal, y cada concejal respectivamente, al concluir un segundo término completo consecutivo como concejal, no será elegible para candidato para alcalde por un año completo, efectivo el primer año de la elección después de la adopción de esta enmienda a la carta constitucional'?

### CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 2

Shall Section 3.02.B, Qualifications, of Article III be amended to read that each councilmember shall have been a resident of Texas and the City of Webster for at least twelve (12) months immediately preceding election day per the State of

Texas Election Code and delete, as of the deadline for filing for the office?

### Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 2

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 3.02.B del Artículo III, Calificaciones, para que lea que cada miembro del consejo deberá ser residente de Texas y de la Ciudad de Webster por lo menos doce (12) meses inmediatamente antes del día de la elección conforme al Código Electoral del Estado de Texas y eliminar, como la fecha límite para registrarse para un puesto?

### CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 3

Shall Section 3.02.E, Qualifications, of Article III be amended to add a candidate is barred from running for office if the candidate has been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude?

### Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 3

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 3.02.E del Artículo III, Calificaciones, para añadir que un candidato estará impedido a correr para un puesto si el candidato ha sido convicto de un delito implicando torpeza moral?

### CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 4

Shall Section 3.09.B, Procedure, of Article III, be amended to agree with Sections 3.07.B and E that the mayor or a consensus of three councilmembers instead of any member of council may offer any ordinance in writing that they desire and have it placed on the agenda of a regular council meeting?

### Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 4

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 3.09.B del Artículo III, Procedimiento, para coincidir con las Secciones 3.07.B y E que el alcalde o el consenso de tres miembros del consejo, en lugar de cualquier miembro del consejo, podrán ofrecer por escrito cualquier ordenanza que deseen y hacer que se coloque en la agenda de una reunión regular del consejo?

### CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 5

Shall Section 3.09.D, Reading, of Article III, be amended to clarify that printed copies of proposed ordinances are in front of all members of the council that are present at the meeting?

### Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 5

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 3.09.D del Artículo III, Lectura, para aclarar que copias impresas de ordenanzas

propuestas están al frente de todos los miembros del consejo que estén presente en la reunión?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 6**

Shall Section 3.11.B, Codification, of Article III, be amended that supplements to the Code of Ordinances shall be prepared and printed by contract or by city personnel whenever authorized or directed by the city and delete every five (5) years?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 6**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 3.11.B del Artículo III, Codificación, para que los suplementos al Código de Ordenanzas sean preparado e impreso por contrato o por el personal de la ciudad cuando sea autorizado u ordenado por la ciudad y eliminar cada cinco (5) años?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 7**

Shall Section 7.03.A, Circulation and Form of Petition, of Article VII be amended to read that all petition blanks be approved by the city attorney within two (2) business days instead of the next business day?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 7**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 7.03.A del Artículo VII, Circulación y Forma de Petición, para que lea que todos los espacios en la petición deberán aprobarse por el abogado de la ciudad dentro de dos (2) días laborables en lugar de el próximo día laborable?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 8**

Shall Section 7.03.A, Circulation and Form of Petition, of Article VII be amended to add that all petitions shall be filed in accordance with this charter and state law?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 8**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 7.03.A del Artículo VII, Circulación y Forma de Petición, para añadir que todas las peticiones deberán presentarse conforme con esta carta constitucional y con la ley estatal?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 9**

Shall Section 8.08.C, Annual Audit, of Article VIII, be amended to allow publication of notice of the annual audit on the city's website instead of the official newspaper?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 9**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 8.08.C del Artículo VIII, Auditoría Anual, para permitir que la publicación del aviso de la auditoría anual se dé en la página web

de la ciudad en lugar del periódico oficial?

#### **Charter Proposition No. 10**

Shall Section 9.01.C, Authority, Composition, and Procedures, of Article IX be amended to clarify that councilmembers may serve on a board, commission, or committee of the city, such as a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Board or a statutory economic development board, as expressly permitted by law?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 10**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 9.01.C del Artículo IX, Autoridad, Composición, y Procedimientos, para aclarar que los miembros del consejo podrán servir en una junta, comisión, o comité de la ciudad, tales como la Junta de Zona de Reinversión de Incremento de Impuesto o una junta legal de desarrollo económico, según lo expresamente permitido por ley?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 11**

Shall Section 9.02.C, Plats, of Article IX be amended to grant exclusive plat approval to the Planning and Zoning Commission instead of the city council?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 11**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 9.02.C del Artículo IX, Planos, para conceder aprobación de planos exclusivamente a la Comisión de Planificación y Zonificación en lugar del consejo de la ciudad?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 12**

Shall Section 9.02.C, Plats, of Article IX be amended to delete all references to Article 974a of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1925 and add, in compliance with State law?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 12**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 9.02.C del Artículo IX, Planos, para eliminar todas referencias al Artículo 974a de los Estatutos Civiles Revisados de 1925 (Article 974a of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1925) y añadir, conforme con la ley Estatal?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 13**

Shall Section 9.03, Boards of Adjustments, of Article IX, be amended to clarify that the duties of the Electrical Board are now under the Building Board of Adjustment by deleting the term electrical board?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 13**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 9.03 del Artículo IX, Junta de Ajustes, para

clarificar que las funciones de la Junta de Electricidad están ahora bajo la Junta de Ajustes de Construcción mediante la eliminación del término junta de electricidad?

#### **CHARTER PROPOSITION NO. 14**

Shall Section 12.13, Charter Review Commission, of Article XII, be amended to appoint seven (7) instead of nine (9) members to the commission?

#### **Carta Constitucional Proposición Núm. 14**

¿Debe enmendarse la Sección 12.13 del Artículo XII, Comisión para Revisar la Carta Constitucional, para nombrar siete (7) en lugar de nueve (9) miembros a la comisión?

#### **LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE (DIRECCIÓN DE LA CASILLA ELECTORAL)**

City Hall  
101 Pennsylvania  
Webster, Texas 77598

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Friday, (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 9 and May 10) beginning on May 2, 2011 and ending on May 10, 2011. (La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a jueves, entre las 7:30 a.m. y las 5:30 p.m.; viernes, entre las 7:30 a.m. y las 11:30 a.m., (entre las 7 :00 a.m. y las 7 :00 p.m. el 9 de mayo y el 10 de mayo) en la oficina de la Secretaria Ciudad, 101 Pennsylvania, Webster, Texas, empezando el 2 de mayo de 2011 y terminando el 10 de mayo de 2011.)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Pauline Small  
City Secretary  
101 Pennsylvania  
Webster, Texas 77598

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on May 6, 2011. (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de oficina 6 de mayo de 2011.)

# 2010 Charter Review Commission Report

## Proposed Charter Amendments

The Charter Review Commission respectfully submits to City Council the below proposed charter amendments to be placed on the ballot for the May 14, 2011 City Election.

### Proposition No. 1

"Shall Section 3.01.C, Number, Selection and Term, of Article III be amended to read that "The mayor and each respective councilmember shall be limited to two (2) full consecutive elected terms of office. The mayor, upon completion of a second consecutive full term as mayor, shall not be eligible to be a candidate for councilmember and each respective councilmember, upon completion of a second consecutive full term as councilmember, shall not be eligible to be a candidate for mayor for one full year, effective the first election year after the adoption of this charter amendment?"

#### Proposed New Charter Language:

Amending Section 3.01.C of the charter to read "The mayor and each respective councilmember shall be limited to two (2) full consecutive elected terms of office. **The mayor, upon completion of a second consecutive full term as mayor, shall not be eligible to be a candidate for councilmember and each respective councilmember, upon completion of a second consecutive full term as councilmember, shall not be eligible to be a candidate for mayor for one full year, effective the first election year after the adoption of this charter amendment.** However, the mayor shall be eligible to serve in the elected position as councilmember after having served one (1) or two (2) consecutive terms as mayor, and a councilmember shall be eligible to serve in the elected position of mayor after having served one (1) or two (2) consecutive terms as councilmember."

### Proposition No. 2

"Shall Section 3.02.B, Qualifications, of Article III be amended to read that each councilmember shall have been a resident of Texas and the City of Webster for at least twelve (12) months immediately preceding election day per the State of Texas Election Code and delete, as of the deadline for filing for the office?"

### Proposed New Charter Language:

Amending Section 3.02.B of the charter to read "Have been a resident of Texas and the City of Webster for at least twelve (12) months ~~as of the deadline for filing for the office;~~ **immediately preceding election day per the State of Texas Election Code;**"

### Proposition No. 3

"Shall Section 3.02.E, Qualifications, of Article III be amended to add a candidate is barred from running for office if the candidate has been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude?"

#### Proposed New Charter Language:

Amending Section 3.02.E of the charter to read "E. Have not been convicted of a felony **or an offense involving moral turpitude** for which the person has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities;"

### Proposition No. 4

"Shall Section 3.09.B, Procedure, of Article III, be amended to agree with Sections 3.07.B and E that the mayor or a consensus of three councilmembers instead of any member of council may offer any ordinance in writing that they desire and have it placed on the agenda of a regular council meeting?"

#### Proposed New Charter Language:

Amending Section 3.09.B of the charter to read "Procedure - Any member of council **The mayor or three (3) councilmembers** may offer any ordinance in writing that they desire and have it placed on the agenda of a regular council meeting. Copies of the proposed ordinance shall be furnished to members of council before the reading. Copies of the proposed ordinance shall be available at the city offices and shall be furnished to citizens upon request to the city secretary. If amended, it shall be available and furnished in the amended form for as long as the proposed ordinance is before council."

### Proposition No. 5

"Shall Section 3.09.D, Reading, of Article III, be amended to clarify that printed copies of proposed ordinances are in front of all members of the council that are present at the meeting?"

### Proposed New Charter Language:

Amending Section 3.09.D of the charter to read "Reading - The reading aloud of the title of the ordinance or resolution shall suffice as a reading, provided printed copies of the ordinance, in the form required for adoption, are in front of all members of council **that are present at the meeting** and a reasonable number of additional true copies are available to citizens present at the meeting. If four (4) councilmembers request that the ordinance or resolution be read in its entirety, it must be so read. Except as otherwise provided by this charter (Sec. 8.03 E, 8.06 E, and 8.09 C), it shall be necessary to the validity of any ordinance that it shall be read and considered at two sessions of the city council except in emergency situations as expressed in the body of the ordinance."

### Proposition No. 6

"Shall Section 3.11.B, Codification, of Article III, be amended that supplements to the Code of Ordinances shall be prepared and printed by contract or by city personnel whenever authorized or directed by the city and delete every five (5) years?"

#### Proposed New Charter Language:

Amending Section 3.11.B of the charter to read "Codification: Within three (3) years after adoption of this charter and **thereafter, by contract or by city personnel, supplements to this Code shall be prepared and printed whenever authorized or directed by the city.** ~~at least every five (5) years thereafter, the council shall provide for the preparation of a codification of all general ordinances of the city.~~ Every general ordinance enacted subsequent to such codification shall be enacted as an amendment to the code. For the purposes of this section, general ordinances shall be deemed to be those ordinances of a permanent or continuing nature which affect the residents of the city at large. The codification shall be adopted by the council by ordinance and shall be published promptly together with this charter and any amendment thereto and with appropriate references to State Statutes and the State Constitution, and such codes of technical regulations and other rules and regulations as the council may specify. This compilation shall

be known and cited officially as the Code of Ordinances, City of Webster, Texas, and shall be in full force and effect without the necessity of such code or any part thereof being published in any newspaper. The caption, descriptive clause, and other formal parts of the ordinances of the city may be omitted without affecting the validity of such ordinances when they are published as a code. Copies of the code shall be furnished to city officials, placed in city offices and a library open to the public designated by the council for free reference and made available for purchase by the public at a reasonable price fixed by the council.”

#### Proposition No. 7

“Shall Section 7.03.A, Circulation and Form of Petition, of Article VII be amended to read that all petition blanks be approved by the city attorney within two (2) business days instead of the next business day?”

#### Proposition No. 8

“Shall Section 7.03.A, Circulation and Form of Petition, of Article VII be amended to add that all petitions shall be filed in accordance with this charter and state law?”

#### *Proposed New Charter Language:*

Amending Section 7.03.A of the charter to read “All petition blanks used for the circulation by the members of the petitioners’ committee or their designees shall be numbered, dated and submitted to the city secretary. The se blank petitions shall be signed by the city secretary or authorized designee ~~prior to the conclusion of business on the following working day.~~ **and approved by the city attorney within two (2) business days after receiving a completed affidavit.** In the event the city secretary fails to comply with the preceding, such blank petitions shall be deemed valid and ready for circulation the following day. Location for twenty (20) signatures shall be provided on each blank petition. **In addition to the requirements contained in the Charter, all petitions shall be filed in accordance with state law.**”

#### Proposition No. 9

“Shall Section 8.08.C, Annual Audit, of Article VIII, be amended to allow publication of notice of the annual audit on the city’s website instead of the official newspaper?”

#### *Proposed New Charter Language:*

Amending Section 8.08.C of the ballot

to read “Annual audit: An annual audit shall be performed by a competent independent certified public accounting firm. Such audit shall include a recapitulation of all audits made during the course of each fiscal year. All audit reports shall be filed with the city council, shall be available for public inspection and shall be made a part of the archives of the city. Notification shall be published in ~~the official newspaper~~ **on the city’s website** that the audit report is available for inspection in the city offices.”

#### Proposition No. 10

“Shall Section 9.01.C, Authority, Composition, and Procedures, of Article IX be amended to clarify that councilmembers may serve on a board, commission, or committee of the city, such as a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Board or a statutory economic development board, as expressly permitted by law?”

#### *Proposed New Charter Language:*

Amending Section 9.01.C of the ballot to read “Members of the council shall not be appointed to any board, commission or committee created or established by council other than in an advisory capacity. **This does not include service on a board, commission, or committee of the city, such as a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Board or a statutory economic development board as expressly permitted by law.** This does not preclude subcommittees made up entirely of city council members.”

#### Proposition No. 11

“Shall Section 9.02.C, Plats, of Article IX be amended to grant exclusive plat approval to the Planning and Zoning Commission instead of the city council?”

#### Proposition No. 12

“Shall Section 9.02.C, Plats, of Article IX be amended to delete all references to Article 974a of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1925 and add, in compliance with State law?”

#### *Proposed New Charter Language:*

Amending Section 9.02.C of the charter to read “Plats-The planning and zoning commission **shall have exclusive plat approval** of proposed subdivisions submitted in accordance with city ordinances as adopted or hereafter amended. ~~The city council shall approve or disapprove final plats of proposed~~

~~subdivisions.~~ Hereafter, every owner of any tract of land situated within the corporate limits of the City of Webster who may divide the same in two or more parts for the purpose of laying out any subdivision or any addition to the city, shall comply with ~~the provisions of Article 974a of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas of 1925, as now or hereafter amended, and said Article 974a as now or hereafter amended is hereby adopted and incorporated herein for all purposes.~~ **State law.**”

#### Proposition No. 13

“Shall Section 9.03, Boards of Adjustments, of Article IX, be amended to clarify that the duties of the Electrical Board are now under the Building Board of Adjustment by deleting the term electrical board?”

#### *Proposed New Charter Language:*

Amending Section 9.03 of the charter to read “The Building Board of Adjustment and ~~the Electrical Board of Adjustment~~ shall have the power to hear and review appeals from the refusal of building permits and appeals of other administrative decisions by the building department and its inspectors. The Zoning Board of Adjustment shall have the power to hear and review appeals and permit exceptions and grant variances from the zoning regulations, in such cases where the permit or variance will not be contrary to the public interest, and where the literal interpretation and enforcement of the zoning ordinances or building codes would impose an unnecessary hardship and would itself violate the spirit, purpose and intent of the ordinances. The boards may recommend to the council amendments, extensions or revisions of the building code, which shall include the standards of construction for building, plumbing and wiring.”

#### Proposition No. 14

“Shall Section 12.13, Charter Review Commission, of Article XII, be amended to appoint seven (7) instead of nine (9) members to the commission?”

#### *Proposed New Charter Language:*

Amending Section 12.13 of the charter to read “The council shall appoint a charter review commission of ~~nine (9)~~ **seven (7)** registered voters of the city at its first regular meeting in July not less than two (2) years, nor more than five (5) years, from the previous charter amendment election.”

## Promoting the Tourism Capital

There are sound reasons why Webster's hotels now number 17 with over 1,500 guest rooms. Webster's perfect positioning midway between downtown Houston and Galveston beaches, Webster's 11-year exclusive partnership with Space Center Houston—the region's top visitor attraction, Webster's strong industry sectors for business travelers, like medical and aerospace, and Webster's innovative marketing campaigns translate into "heads in beds," or overnight stay for the municipality's hotels.

While Webster, like most cities with hotels, collects hotel occupancy tax based on a percentage of the hotel room charge, this tax is part of a highly restrictive special revenue fund, regulated

by state statute, that must be utilized to promote tourism and enhance hotel occupancy in the City. Unlike most cities, however, what Webster does with its hotel occupancy tax is rather extraordinary.

For instance, Webster is one of the only cities in Texas to pay for the all-important blue logo signage for its hotels on Interstate 45. Since 1999, Webster has funded the special mainline and ramp signage for its eligible hotels under Texas Department of Transportation's "Specific Service Logo Signage Program."



This program consists of service signage along designated Texas Highways that provides logo identification and directional information to motorists for gas, pharmacy, food, lodging, and camping establishments. Webster City Council recognizes that this program represents a key vehicle for advertising and promoting the City's hotels.

In late February 2011, the City launched a billboard campaign to promote its hotels, since the blue logo signage program could not accommodate all 17 hotels. The bold yellow sign, featuring the hotel logos that aligns the City with Space Center Houston, directs motorists to exits 25 and 26 for accommodations.

The City recently celebrated its 11-year, award-winning partnership with Space Center Houston, NASA's official visitor center and the region's top tourist attraction. As Space Center Houston continually creates exciting, novel, distinctive campaigns, programs, and exhibits, Webster's hotels are the fortunate recipients of this innovation, as they receive exclusive, unprecedented, year-round exposure in brochures, website, media, and collateral.

The latest and largest version of Webster's acclaimed brochure designed to market hotels, along with complementary, comprehensive dining and entertainment venues, has just been produced. Webster's Dining and Entertainment Guide is featured at Space Center Houston, Webster hotels, visitor centers throughout the State, Webster City Hall, and on-line.



### Myers and Gaines Receive Top Honors

Mayor Floyd Myers and Mayor Pro Tem Beverly Gaines received the designation of Certified Municipal Official (CMO) at the Elected Officials Conference in Austin.

The CMO designation is the highest level of advanced training offered by the Texas Municipal League Institute. In 2010, only 19 elected officials in Texas earned the designation.

While this is the tenth consecutive year that Myers has earned the CMO designation, Gaines has earned the designation for five consecutive years.



### Red Carpet Premier of Disney's Latest



Webster City Attorney Dick Gregg, Jr. joins Mayor Pro Tem Beverly Gaines and Fire Marshal Ron Gaines at Webster's Cinemark.

Webster's Cinemark was the venue for the special premier of Disney's new movie, *Mars Needs Moms*. Bay Area Houston Ballet & Dinner Theatre, located in Webster, and Walt Disney Pictures hosted an exclusive red carpet screening on March 10 for this latest Disney Digital 3D movie. One of Bay Area Houston Ballet & Theatre's star graduates, Kevin Cahoon, was honored for his role in this phenomenal movie.

# Public Meeting Notes

## *November 2, 2010, City Council Meeting*

- Approved the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 86, Utilities, of the Code of Ordinances regulating construction site erosion control, illicit discharges, and stormwater facility maintenance. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Authorized the City to sell two surplus police vehicles to the City of Marlin, Texas for a total of \$4,500. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Accepted the Investment Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2010. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Approved an amendment to the Specific Service Logo Signage for Interstate 45, Exits 25 and 26, under the City's Lodging Program with LoneStar Logos & Signs and authorized the Mayor to execute any related documents. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Appointed Fran Gordon as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2011. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 19, 2010. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Dolan, Rogers. Abstain: Donehue)

## *November 16, 2010, City Council Meeting*

- Deputy City Secretary Crystal Roan was recognized for obtaining her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk certification.
- Approved the second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 86, Utilities, of the Code of Ordinances regulating construction site erosion control, illicit discharges, and stormwater facility maintenance. (Unanimous)
- Approved a resolution supporting the certification of a municipal setting designation outside the boundary of the City of Webster at NASA Johnson Space Center. (Unanimous)
- Terminated that portion of the contract between the City of Webster and the Texas Department of Rural Affairs for the CDBG Disaster Recovery Non-Entitlement Grant Program relating to a Fire Station planning study. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Donehue)
- Amended the Webster Economic Development Corporation Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Annual Budget (WEDC Budget Amendment #1). (For: Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Abstain: Myers)
- Approved the appropriation of Webster Economic Development Corporation funds for the purpose of acquiring Tract I F, Abstract 86, J.R. Williams Survey, Harris

County Appraisal District in Webster, Texas. (For: Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Myers)

• Held a discussion and provided direction to Staff regarding renovations to the Webster Civic Center at 311 Pennsylvania. (Unanimous)

• Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 2, 2010. (Unanimous)

## *December 7, 2010, City Council Meeting*

• Approved the first reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 90, (Vegetation), Article II (Landscaping). (Unanimous)

• Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute a contract with SignAd Outdoor to advertise the City's 17 Hotels. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Waltz)

• Approved a resolution authorizing the Cities Aggregation Power Project, Inc. (CAPP) to negotiate an extension to the current electric supply; authorizing CAPP to act as an agent on behalf of the City to enter into a contract for electricity. (Unanimous)

• Authorized the Mayor to execute the Depository Services Contract between the City of Webster and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. for a period of one year from January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2011. (Unanimous)

• Postponed indefinitely the Mayor and City Council's annual cost of living stipend. (Unanimous)

• Appointed Donna Rogers, by acclamation, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the City of Webster Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 (TIRZ) for a term ending January 1, 2012. (Unanimous)

• Cancelled the second scheduled City Council Meeting for December 21, 2010. (Unanimous)

• Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 2, 2010. (Unanimous)

## *January 4, 2011, City Council Meeting*

• Police Chief Ray Smiley recognized Officers Brooks, Berryman, Murphy, and Muniz for their heroic efforts and disregard for their own personal safety answering a fire call on November 11, 2010. Police Chief Smiley recognized TCOs Hughes and Hamm for their professionalism and calm demeanor in handling dispatch for the fire calls on November 11, 2010.

• Approved the second reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 90, (Vegetation), Article II (Landscaping). (Unanimous)

• Authorized the City Secretary to place the proposed amendments to the City of Webster Charter on the May 14, 2011,

Election Ballot. (Unanimous)

• Approved a resolution of the City Council expressing intent to finance expenditures to be incurred for the design, construction, and equipping of firefighters facilities. (For: Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Myers)

• Accepted the Secondary Clarifier #3 Mechanical Equipment Replacement at the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant. (Unanimous)

• Approved a resolution declaring March 21-25, 2011 and September 26-30, 2011 as "Webster Clean Up Weeks" offering and agreeing to haul all disposable articles from residents free of charge. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Waltz)

• Approved issuance of a purchase order to Fuquay, Inc., to realign approximately 3800 Linear Feet of existing sanitary sewer lines and rehabilitate approximately 33 existing sanitary sewer manholes located along Medical Center Boulevard, Texas Avenue and Old Galveston Road (Unanimous)

• Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 16, 2010 and the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2010. (Unanimous)

## *January 18, 2011, City Council Meeting*

• Recognized Chris Thraikill, Marketing Coordinator for serving as the webmaster of the City's redesigned website. Webster, Texas, a CivicPlus client, competing against nearly 5,000 entries, received the Platinum award for Website Home Page Design in the Government category.

• Gave direction to Staff regarding Republic Services' proposed residential garbage collection Pilot Program in Webdale-Old Town Site Subdivision. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Donehue)

• Accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2010. (Unanimous)

• Approved the appointment of Jeremy Dailey as a Non-Paid Police Officer (Reserve Police Officer) for the City of Webster. (Unanimous)

• Denied Republic Services' proposed Franchise Agreement extension ending November 30, 2015. (For denial: Ellis, Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Abstain: Myers)

• Awarded a contract for Civic Center Renovations from bids opened on January 4, 2011 to Macias Construction. (For: Gaines, Donehue, Waltz, Dolan, Rogers. Against: Myers, Ellis)

• Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 4, 2011. (Unanimous)

### City Officials

Mayor: Floyd Myers.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 1: Melvin Ellis.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 2: Beverly Gaines.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 3: Mel Donehue.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 4: Steve Waltz.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 5: Natalie Dolan.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 6: Donna Rogers.....	281.332.1826

### City Offices – 101 Pennsylvania Ave.

EMERGENCY Ambulance-Fire-Police.....	9-1-1
City Hall Main Switchboard.....	281.332.1826
Building Permits.....	281.338.2925
Chief Building Official.....	281.316.4138
City Manager.....	281.332.1826
City Secretary.....	281.332.1826
City Planner.....	281.316.4122
Code Enforcement.....	281.316.4106
Community Development Director.....	281.316.4129
Economic Development Director.....	281.316.4116
Economic Development Specialist.....	281.316.4135
Emergency Management.....	281.316.3712
Environmental Health Inspector.....	281.316.4113
Finance Director.....	281.316.4102
Fire Department (Non-Emergency).....	281.332.2711
Fire Station #1 – 17100 Texas Avenue.....	281.332.2711
Fire Station #2 & Fire Marshal 18208 Egret Bay Blvd.....	281.332.2711
Human Resources (Personnel).....	281.332.1826
Marketing & Tourism.....	281.316.4121
Municipal Court.....	281.338.6702
Police Department (Non-Emergency) 217 Pennsylvania Ave.....	281.332.2426
Public Works Service Center.....	281.316.3700
Webmaster.....	281.316.4121

### City Services

Animal Control.....	281.316.3700
City Trash Hauling.....	281.316.3700
Civic Center Rental.....	281.316.4114
Republic Services (residential).....	281.446.2030
Republic Services (commercial).....	713.849.0400
Tickets - To Pay By Credit Card.....	281.338.6702
Utility Billing.....	281.316.4120
Water/Sewer Line Breaks.....	281.316.3700

### Telephone & Utility Services

AT&T.....	800.464.7928
CenterPoint Energy.....	281.534.4569
Comcast.....	800.776.9993
Reliant Energy.....	713.207.7777
Verizon.....	800.483.4000

### Government Services

Clear Lake City Water Authority.....	281.488.1164
Clear Lake Courthouse Annex.....	281.486.7250
Harris County Tax Office.....	713.224.1919
Harris County Public Health.....	713.439.6000
Poison Control (UTMB).....	800.222.1222
Texas Dept. of Public Safety (Drivers License).....	281.486.8242
U.S. Post Office, 17077 Texas Avenue.....	281.316.0379

### Community Services

Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau.....	281.474.9700
Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership.....	832.536.3255
Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership.....	832.771.0773
Bay Area Turning Point Hotline (domestic violence, sexual assault, homeless).....	281.286.2525
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.....	281.488.7676
Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library.....	281.488.1906
Innovative Alternatives.....	832.864.6000
Interfaith Caring Ministries.....	281.332.3881

## City Council



**Melvin Ellis**  
Council Position 1



**Beverly Gaines**  
Council Position 2



**Mel Donehue**  
Council Position 3



**Floyd H. Myers**  
Mayor



**Steve Waltz**  
Council Position 4



**Natalie Dolan**  
Council Position 5



**Donna Rogers**  
Council Position 6