



**GREETINGS FROM  
CRAIG BROWN**

**GALVESTON CITY COUNCIL  
REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 2**



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June 2017 Issue

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**District 2 Newsletter**



**An old adage in business is that the hardest thing to manage is success.**

**Not that Galveston doesn't have many areas that still need improvement but when it comes to letting the public know what Galveston has to offer and attracting visitors to our Island, the response has been extremely rewarding.**

**This increase of visitors coupled with the 2020 Sun Setting of Parking on the Seawall, has come together to challenge the City to provide a well thought out strategic plan that addresses parking and alternative choices of transportation for citizens and visitors alike.**

**Approximately a year ago, Council foresaw this concern and approved a Comprehensive Mobility and Parking Implementation Study that will be presented to Council in the next few months. This Plan will highlight the specifics of a transportation system, not only designed for tourists but for locals as well, coupled with a complementary plan for strategically positioned Parking areas.**

**An integral part of this study also involves recommendations to enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety on the Seawall.**

**This is a very important study because it also lays the foundation for other land use and economic decisions that Council may consider, to support the recommendations that will be presented.**

**I will keep you informed as this plan develops and once it is unveiled your input will be very important.**

**Having a future vision for Transportation is fundamental to the quality of life and livability of our community and the City must be ready to provide a workable Mobility and Parking solution to manage the success that we have worked so hard to attain.**

**Wishing You a Congestion Free June !**

**Craig**

## **Sale of Airport Property**

**To the west of Scholes Airport is approximately 30 acres of undeveloped land that was held in reserve by the Federal Government for eventual use by the airport. Because of accessibility issues the land is not needed and the first portion of the property, which is approximately 5.5 acres, has been offered for sale to the City for \$437,000.**

**City Council discussed this purchase at our last Workshop meeting on May 25th and will be voting on this proposal at our next City Council meeting. Once this first parcel of land is purchased then the remaining portions will be evaluated by Council for acquisition.**

**To view more details of this land purchase please [CLICK HERE.](#)**



## **Tourism Impact Study**

**Recently, at a combined City Council and Park Board Workshop, the results of the 2016 Tourism Impact Study were presented.**

**The results still show a upward trend, compared to 2015, in most areas of Tourism but the increases are starting to show smaller gains than in years past.**

**About 1 in 3 of all jobs on the Island are sustained by Tourism. Visitors are spending more than the year before, while 61% of all the 6.5 million Tourists are Day Trippers.**

**To view the results of the Study in its entirety please [CLICK HERE.](#)**

**Moratorium on Broadway Development**

**At the regular City Council meeting of May 25th City Council approved an Ordinance that places a moratorium on Development on Broadway from 6th Street to the Causeway.**

**This 90 day moratorium, which after the initial 90 day period could be extended to 180 days, allows for the development of Broadway Design and Permitted Use Guidelines that will be evaluated and approved by City Council in approximately 6 months.**

**To view the specifics of the Moratorium Ordinance please [CLICK HERE](#).**



## **Stewart Beach Park Pavilion**

**At the May 25th City Council Workshop, Council received a presentation from the Park Board concerning a proposal to replace the existing 50,000 square foot Stewart Beach Pavilion with a new 72,000 square foot structure that is better suited to the needs of the City, Park Board, Tourists and Local Residents.**

**The design is still in the preliminary stages, as noted in the photo, and will not be completed until after further discussion. [CLICK HERE](#) to review the preliminary thoughts of the Design Consultants and If you have any suggestions on the**

**design or function of a new Pavilion please feel free to let me know.**

**There will also be a presentation Thursday, June 8th at 5:30 pm in the Galleon Room at the Galveston Island Convention Center by the Consultants to elicit further public input.**

## **City by the Numbers**

**\$11,000**

**Cost of one Seawall Parking Pay Station**

**5.6 Million Dollars**

**Preliminary Cost Estimates to Address the Beach Parks Flooding Concerns**

**\$25,000**

**Cost of this year's July 4th Fireworks Display**

**July- 2017**

**Completion Date for Stewart Beach Pavilion Design**

**17,000**

**Number of Water Meter Registers Replaced in the Last Few Years**

**90 days**

**Proposed Number of Days a Building Needs to be Uninhabited to be Designated as a Vacant Structure**

**\$1,658,000**

## **Cost of Constructing 100 Surface Lot Parking Spaces**



### **Vacant Structure Ordinance**

**As has been reported in past Newsletters I have been partnering with the Planning Department in structuring an Ordinance that addresses Vacant Structures in our community.**

**At the last City Council meeting the Planning Director, Mr. Tim Tietjens, updated the Board on the Ordinance's status. The Ordinance, which applies standards that a vacant Structure has to maintain is still being developed. A preliminary draft of the Ordinance will be presented at the July 27th City Council Workshop.**

### **Drainage at Beach Parks**

**As everyone who lives on the Island is aware the parking areas of East Beach and Stewart Beach turn into a lake with rains or high**

tides. This concern, which is multifaceted has been going on for quite awhile.

To make the Parks more user friendly and productive the Park Board has hired Atkins Engineering to design an approach that will correct these flooding concerns. Their evaluation is still a work in progress but some preliminary ideas have been presented and to view

[CLICK HERE.](#)



## Houston - Galveston Bus Service

At the City Council's May 25th meeting an Interlocal agreement between the City of Galveston and METRO of Harris County was approved. This should be the final approval for the initiation of bus service from Galveston to Houston. With this approval the Director of Transportation for the City says the service should begin in the next few months. I will keep you informed as this comes on line.

## City Manager Report

Yes, here it is again, the most up to date report from the City Manager.

[CLICK HERE](#)



## ***City Council Tidbits***



### **OMG ! The Trolleys Are Here**

**Yes, after many months of anticipation the rubber tire Trolleys are here and will begin Operation June 2nd. Thank you for your patience and enjoy the ride. [CLICK HERE](#) to view more specifics and information on the routes.**

### **Wharves Board**

**Recently Council approved Jason Levy as a new Wharves Board member and Richard Devries as a reappointment.**

**Congratulations to these two gentlemen for serving and also thank you to Benny Holland for his many years of service on the Board. Mr. Holland will be retiring from the Board due to term limits.**



### **More Fireworks**

**Recently the Park Board approved the funding for 7 fireworks displays on weekends in the summer. At their last meeting on May 23rd, the Board approved 7 more displays, for a total of 14 that will occur on every weekend during the summer season. With these displays Galveston will be the place to be to celebrate the summer.**

### **Council Policy Manual**

**City Council recently approved a Procedural and Policy Manual outlining policies, rules and regulations for Council. To view this manual in its entirety [CLICK HERE](#).**

### **Pay Stations on the Seawall**

**At their last meeting the Park Board approved the installation of two Pay Stations at the 61st and 81st Pier locations to see if this mode of cash payment will be utilized. In six months the Park Board will evaluate the success of these machines to see if additional Stations should be installed in other Seawall locations.**

[Contact Me](#)

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[Kempner Park](#)

[Silk Stocking Historic District](#)

[Lost Bayou Historic District](#)

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[Williams - Borden](#)

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