



**Staff: Sophia Figueroa, Assistant  
Tabitha Dunklin, Secretary**

**Email: [District11@dallascityhall.com](mailto:District11@dallascityhall.com)  
Telephone: 214-670-7817**

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## **Updates from City Hall**

**City of Dallas FY 2016-17 Budget** - The City Manager and City Council have consciously worked to balance the new 2016-17 budget. In August, the City Manager, A.C. Gonzalez presented a proposed budget to Council, where the City Council made amendments to meet the needs of taxpayers.

Council Member Kleinman hosted 4 Public Town Halls (2 in the community and 2 virtual meetings). "At each meeting, we conducted a community survey that found the top three areas of interest: 1) public safety, 2) streets, and infrastructure and 3) code compliance."

After much deliberation among Council Members and City Staff, the City Manager worked to balance the budget with an array of needs like increasing compensation for Dallas Police and Fire employees, strengthening and consolidating city departments, and prioritizing stray animals. CM Kleinman voted in favor of the final budget which includes an increase in the number of hired police officers, and a significant increase in compensation for almost all uniformed officers. To provide better street and infrastructure service, the Street Services and Public Works Departments, have been consolidated to one department, Mobility and Street Services. "The City Manager added \$1.5 million to the budget for evening, and night shifts at Dallas Animal Services along with free spay/neuter and micro-chipping. Council then added \$2.7 million more going to Dallas Animal Services...". The budget was finalized on September 30, 2016, and was effective October 1, 2016.

**City of Dallas Property Tax Rate** - On Wednesday, September 21, 2016 City Council voted to "reduce the tax rate of 78.25 cents per \$100 valuation, which is effectively a 1.45 cent decrease from the current tax rate of 79.70 cents, leaving more money in resident's hand."

After Council Member Kleinman's call for constituents to voice their opinions about the potential increase in property tax, our office received an overwhelming response from citizens. We appreciate everyone who took the time to email and call in.

**Fair Park** - The Privatization of Fair Park is a hot topic in Dallas. As many may

know, Mayor Mike Rawlings and the Fair Park Committee have proposed to allow a non-profit foundation operate and maintain Fair Park. With an extensive needs inventory list of \$242 million to complete major restoration and renovation at Fair Park, City Officials are looking to a public-private partnership to help subdue costs and preserve one of our city's beloved architectural gems. Comparable to the Dallas Zoo and the Arboretum, the City of Dallas is proposing to maintain ownership of the land, and allow the non-profit foundation management of facilities.

On August 4, 2016 the Park Board voted 9-to-5 to privatize Fair Park. Most recently, the newly appointed City Attorney, Larry Casto has called for additional proposals of privatization. After further deliberation among City Officials, Council will vote on the future of Fair Park. The City will issue an Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking entities interested in managing Far Park.

**Dallas 2017 Bond Program** - The 2017 Bond Program is a proposed comprehensive capital improvement program to provide funding for improving the City of Dallas' infrastructure such as alleys, streets, sidewalks, libraries, parks and various facility types.

The Bond Program is funded by General Obligation Bonds that citizens will have to pay back overtime. As project needs are identified, and more discussions among Constituents, Council Members and City Staff take place, the exact dollar amount will be determined. At this time, Dallas does not intend to raise the property tax rate in order to pay for 2017 Dallas Bond Program. The Bond Program must be approved by the citizens of Dallas through an election.

On October 5-6, 2016, Council Member Kleinman hosted the first round public town halls to facilitate discussion and survey infrastructure concerns of constituents regarding the priority of projects on the City Inventory Needs List. In January, we will continue the conversation and host a second round public town hall meetings January 2017. Our office will provide constituents with meeting details, once meeting dates are confirmed.

For information on each departments needs and inventory, please visit [www.dallasbond.com](http://www.dallasbond.com).

**Employee's Retirement Fund** - Proposition 1 is an item on the November 8 ballot that proposes to change, among other things, pension benefits for future City of Dallas civilian employees who are members of the Employees' Retirement Fund ("ERF"). ERF covers the city's civilian employees and is separate from the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System. Each fund has its own board of directors.

The ERF Board of Trustees and the Dallas City Council unanimously approved the proposed changes and called a special election for Proposition 1 pursuant to city code.

**Proposition Highlights:**

- ERF's actuary has estimated that Proposition 1 will save ERF approximately \$2.15 billion over the next 30 years.
- Proposition 1 makes changes in benefits for new civilian employees hired on or after January 1, 2017, while retaining the current benefit structure for current city civilian employees, deferred vested members, and retirees.
- The current benefit structure was designed when male life expectancy was age 79; today it is age 82.7. The proposed changes in Proposition 1 address this change in life expectancy by increasing the retirement age for the city's civilian employees from 60 to 65.

## Economic Development



*Dallas Midtown Park Foundation Rendering*

**Midtown** - The Dallas Midtown project is moving along! In addition to the Millcreek apartments, a new Marriott concept hotel was approved and was ground broken to begin construction. Over the next few months, we expect to see more activity from current property owners and new purchasers.

The centerpiece of the plan is the Dallas Midtown Park, a 21-acre common space envisioned to serve the entire city of Dallas. On September 15th, the park plan was revealed at the Westin Galleria to over a hundred people. Of the five parcels needed to acquire the property, two are well on their way to coming under city control. The park will be managed by the City of Dallas but owned and built by the Dallas Midtown Park Foundation.

To view development vision and plans, visit [www.dallasmidtown.com](http://www.dallasmidtown.com) and [www.dallasmidtownvision.com](http://www.dallasmidtownvision.com).

**Costco Wholesale** - Dallas' first Costco is coming! Located on the corner of Churchill and Coit, the multi-million construction project will take the place of an abandoned TXDOT property. Costco is projected to open mid-2017.

**Preston Hollow Village** - Exciting news from Preston Hollow Village. District 11's newest development is growing! Over 1,000 apartments are under construction and several new restaurants have opened.

For development details, visit [www.prestonhollowvillage.com](http://www.prestonhollowvillage.com) .

## Community Projects

**Walcrest** - The Walcrest Facility, a Dallas Water Utilities pump station at Walnut Hill and Hillcrest, is well on its way to becoming one of Dallas' most important locations. When completed it will provide over 40,000,000 gallons of water a day to Dallas residents. We appreciate the patience of nearby neighbors, as we construction continues. Construction is scheduled to be complete in 2019.

For more information, please visit [www.walcrest.org](http://www.walcrest.org).

**Northaven Trail Extension** - We are moving along on the design for Northaven Trail Phase 1B which will continue the existing trail eastward over U.S. Highway 75 (North Central Expressway) and connect into the existing Cottonwood Trail, White Rock Creek Trail, and future SoPac Trail. We expect the design to be completed in 2017. Construction is funded by Dallas County, State of Texas, and Federal monies but needs a local contribution of \$2,600,000. Funding for this project is expected to be included in the upcoming 2017 bond election. If funding is secured for the City's contribution next year we expect construction to begin in early 2018.

With the connection to the three trails on the east side of U.S. Highway 75, and the planned construction to the west to the DART green line, the final nine-mile trail will connect citizens to northern Dallas, downtown Dallas via the Katy Trail, and Fair Park via the White Rock Lake Trail and Santa Fe Trail. In District 13, to the west, we have letters of agreement from all four Oncor property license holders agreeing to the alignment for the Northaven Trail-phase 2A. This will allow us to proceed with construction drawings. Dallas County is completing construction drawings to 30%. From thereon to project completion the City of Dallas Park and Recreation department will take over as the project manager. Though this project is in district 13 it will be the westward continuation of the existing Northaven Trail which is entirely in District 11.

For project details, please visit the [Northaven Trail Website](#) .

### Upcoming Friends of Northaven Trail Events:

**Saturday, November 5th at 2pm - 6pm - Kramer Carnival  
at Kramer Elementary - 7131 Midbury Drive**

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# KRAMER CARNIVAL



november 5

**Saturday, November 12th at 9:30am - 5K Northaven Trail**



Inaugural 5K and Fun Run  
November 12, 2016

**Location:** North Haven Trail  
JCC Of Dallas

7900 Northaven Rd. Dallas, TX  
75230

9:30 AM Opening Ceremony

<http://GetMeRegistered.com/SmileForALifetime5K>

	Before 9/15	9/16-10/15	After 10/15
5K 13 & Up	\$35	\$40	\$45
5K Kids Ages 3-12	\$30	\$30	\$30
Fun run 13 & Up	\$20	\$25	\$30
Fun Run Kids Ages 3-12	\$20	\$20	\$20
Virtual Runner	\$20	\$20	\$25

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HEALTHY SMILES. BEAUTIFUL LIVES.

Smile for a Lifetime Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization comprised of local chapters throughout the country that provides quality orthodontic treatment for patients who may not have the opportunity to achieve a beautiful, straight smile without financial assistance.

**Sunday, December 11, 2016 - Holiday Lights on the Trail**

Join neighbors at the Northaven Trail at sunset, as we light the trail in celebration of the holiday season.

(more details and flyer to come)

# Transportation



*Dallas Area Rapid Transit 's latest Streetcar*

**DART** - There are two projects going forth to increase the core capacity of the DART Light Rail system; the construction of a second rail corridor through downtown Dallas - known as D2 to "increase system capacity, provide operational flexibility and serve new markets." The Streetcar Network, the second project was created to connect the Oak Cliff Streetcar line with the McKinney Avenue Streetcar line.

On October 24, 2016, the NEW DART Rail, Streetcar and TRE schedules will expand. For more information, please visit the [www.dallascitynews.net](http://www.dallascitynews.net).

**Cotton Belt Corridor** - The Cotton Belt project is a longstanding project, proposed by DART to implement new routes for citizens in Dallas and other DART member cities (Richardson-Plano-Addison), to travel to the DFW Airport. Initially proposed to be implemented in the 2025-2030 time frame, this project has recently received attention as the Regional Transportation Council and DART have begun exploring opportunities of expediting the implementation of the corridor in FY 2017 DART budget.

On September 26, 2016, the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee met to outline and vote on the City's transportation priorities. The City prioritized the downtown Dallas - D2 Subway, and the downtown Streetcar.

As Council Member Kleinman is supportive of advancing the Cotton Belt Corridor, he is eager to continue working with his colleagues on the D2 Subway and Streetcar initiatives.

[Click here](#) to learn why CM Kleinman supports the Cotton Belt Corridor.

**High Speed Rail** -Texas Central Partners (TCP) is developing a transformative project for the future of Texas. TCP Experts are proposing a private alignment project from Dallas/Fort Worth to Houston. Collaboration between cities to bring these major economic engines closer has shown that TCP is addressing the needs of the majority of Texans, living in urbanized areas. By delivering timely, cost effective capital projects with a higher service level, this privately funded project will show the world how we leverage the private sector. Dallasites are excited to see this project move forward and supports the continuing effort to make Texas the home of the first High Speed Rail system in the Americas.

As the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee Chair, on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, Council Member Kleinman will host a city-wide meeting at the Downtown Dallas Public Library - J. Erik Jonsson Central Library at 1515 Young Street.



## High-Speed Train Citywide Public Meeting

Council Member Lee M. Kleinman invites you to attend  
a Public Meeting to learn about the proposed  
high-speed train between Dallas and Houston.



**Tuesday, October 25, 2016  
6:00 - 7:00 pm  
J. Erik Jonsson Central Library 1515  
Young Street, 75201**

*Transportation impacts all of us. Learn about this proposed private project from Texas Central. Ask questions. Hear sound simulations. Talk with subject matter experts about the proposed alignment and anticipated economic development. City staff will be available to take your comments.*

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

  Additional information can be found at [www.texascentral.com](http://www.texascentral.com)  
General questions and information 214-670-3565.

# Resources

**Code Compliance Department** - [Click here](#) to learn the top 10 Code Violations, and City Ordinances.

For questions, contact our District Code Representative, Ms. Danielle Smith-Allen at 214-846 1699 or [Danielle.SmithAllen@DallasCityHall.com](mailto:Danielle.SmithAllen@DallasCityHall.com)

**Sustainable Development Construction** - Building Inspection Department - Citizens needing assistance with inspections or permit information for commercial or residential properties can visit department website or call with question.

[Click here](#) for more information, or call 214-948-4480.

**Contact Us** - We encourage you to be engaged with our office, and City current events. Please contact our office for questions or help with neighborhood concerns. Let us know if you would like Council Member Kleinman to attend a HOA or community meeting.

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