



**Letter from the Director**

As I write this letter, I want to assure the Citizens of Freeport that the Department of Public Works is committed to helping Freeport move forward in a positive direction each day with our many areas of responsibility.

The Department of Public Works maintains your stormwater, your streets, your parks, your recreation, your building maintenance, your rental facilities, your beach, your signs and lights, the fleet maintenance of the city, and the list goes on.

In this Newsletter you will find information on Road Construction projects, Stormwater, Road Construction awareness, Heat Safety, Hurricane Preparedness, Recreation, and important contact information.

Finally, I want to extend my appreciation to the entire Department of Public Works staff for their commitment to the City of Freeport and their outstanding work ethics!

Thanks for reading!

Lance Petty

Director of Public Works





### **2020-2022 Interlocal Street Re Surfacing Program**

The City of Freeport participates in an annual interlocal agreement with Brazoria County for the re-surfacing of two (2) miles of roadway per year. The two (2) miles of roadway is selected each year by the Department of Public Works through field inspections to determine the condition of the roadways to enable the Department to prioritize the much-needed repairs. The Department of Public Works submits the proposed repairs to the City of Freeport City Council in December each year, for approval for the following calendar year.

### **What is an interlocal agreement with Brazoria County for road re-surfacing?**

The City of Freeport submits two (2) miles of road improvements to the Brazoria County Commissioners office for approval. Once approved through the Commissioners Court, Brazoria County will begin scheduling approximate dates for the needed repairs. Through this interlocal agreement the city is able to utilize the county to re-surface roadway at a discounted rate. Using the interlocal agreement the county labor and equipment is free of charge and the city only pays the material cost for resurfacing.

### **What is the re-surfacing process?**

- Milling – removal of existing asphalt
- Cutting down – lowering roadway that has been elevated from asphalt overlays over years
- Tilling and stabilizing – tilling sub base with a mixer of dry Portland cement to stabilize sub base to aid in the failure of the roadway
- Compaction – use of a pad foot and smooth drum roller with water to compact the sub base material
- Asphalt – oil and installation of 3” of asphalt compacted to 2 ½” for a final road surface.

### **What is the timing for repairs?**

The City of Freeport repairs are usually completed by the county in September/October of each year, we have to be mindful that each city in Brazoria County utilizes the interlocal agreement, but historically the work is completed in our city during the months of September/October.

### **What is the status of the 2021-2022 Interlocal resurfacing?**

Council has approved the designated roads for re surfacing and these designated roads have been approved through the county commissioner’s court. The county is scheduled to begin repairs beginning September 2022.



### **What are the 2021-2022 Council Approved Interlocal Roads for resurfacing?**

- Zapata – Brazosport Blvd to N. Ave Q.
- Skinner – N. Ave J. to N. Ave S.
- Travis – N. Ave G. to Jones Road
- S. Ave H – N. Velasco to Archer
- S. Ave G – N. Velasco to Archer
- S. Ave F – Caldwell to Archer
- Britt Bailey – S. Ave F. to S. Ave H.
- Ash St. – 8<sup>th</sup> to Railroad crossing
- Golf Course maintenance road – Completed
- Bryan Beach main entrance - Completed

### **2021-2022 contractual roadway rehabilitation**

The City of Freeport issued bonds for a road rehabilitation program for much needed repairs to concrete roads, curbs, gutters and sidewalks in 2 phases. The repairs were anticipated to be completed over a three (3) year period, but with the process of engineering, geotechnical testing, and traffic flow for construction this process may take an additional year for completion. The Department of Public Works along with the City Engineer inspected the roadways and prioritized the rehabilitations based off of roadway condition and drainage. The proposed roadway rehabilitation projects were submitted and approved by council for engineering process to begin. Phase 1 construction will begin in calendar year 2022.

### **What is contractual roadway rehabilitation?**

The Department of Public Works and the City Engineer completes a roadway inspection to prioritize a schedule of rehabilitation. The roadway rehabilitation program is submitted to council for approval of roadway to be rehabilitated along with an approval for engineering to begin. Engineering is 100% complete, and the bid openings were completed on January 6, 2022. The City Engineer is reviewing the sealed bids and a contractor will be presented to City Council for award. Once a contractor is secured for service, rehabilitation of roadway will begin, the estimated completion time of each phase is an additional 245 days weather permitting.



**What is the roadway rehabilitation process?**

- Removal of all concrete roadway, curb/gutter and sidewalk infrastructure
- Installation of new drainage infrastructure
- Installation or relocation of utilities that are needed
- Correction to any sub grade work to eliminate road failure
- Correction of elevation issues that would eliminate drainage issues
- Installation of all new concrete roadway and sidewalks

**What is the status of the 2021-2022 contractual roadway construction for Phase 1 and Phase 2?**

Currently the City of Freeport has received 100% engineering plans for the phase 1 rehabilitation. The city anticipates securing contractual services in January with construction beginning shortly after. Below is the list of contractual roadway rehabilitation:

| <b>Phase 1</b>  | <b>Progress</b> |
|---|-----------------|
| • Arbutus – W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup>       | complete        |
| • W. 10 <sup>th</sup> – Velasco to Magnolia             |                 |
| • W. 8 <sup>th</sup> – Dixie to 1841 W. 8 <sup>th</sup> |                 |
| • W. 6 <sup>th</sup> – Yaupon to Dixie                  | 60% complete    |
| • W. 7 <sup>th</sup> – Yaupon to Dixie                  |                 |
| • W. 5 <sup>th</sup> – Dixie to Court                   | 80% complete    |
| • Lynn St. – Dixie to Avalon                            | 80% complete    |
| • Avalon – W. 6 <sup>th</sup> to W. 7 <sup>th</sup>     | 30% complete    |



Phase 2 of the 2021-2022 contractual roadway construction is currently in engineering. The city anticipates engineering to be completed in August of this year and to initiate contractual services in September/October 2022. Phase 2 completion is anticipated during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2023. Below is the list of contractual roadway construction for **Phase 2**:

- W. 9<sup>th</sup> – Yaupon to Dixie
- W. 10<sup>th</sup> – Magnolia to Cedar
- W. 11<sup>th</sup> – Magnolia to Velasco
- W. 12<sup>th</sup> – Magnolia to Velasco
- N. Ave G – Travis to Yellowstone
- N. Ave A – Fisher to De Zavalla
- N. Ave B -McNeal to Munson
- W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St – Velasco to Cedar

## STORM WATER POLLUTION



The City of Freeport is always looking for ways to improve the quality of stormwater in the city. Last year the Department of Public Works implemented a stormwater maintenance plan to enhance and improve the stormwater system through preventative maintenance. The City of Freeport's stormwater system is a combined open ditch and closed ditch consisting of underground piping, curbs/gutters and inlets. The City of Freeport operates and maintains two (2) stormwater pump stations, one is located on Ave A and another on 2<sup>nd</sup> street, both pump stations are equipped with an emergency generator for power failures. This fiscal budget, the City of Freeport city council authorized the purchase of a new Jet Machine and Vacuum trailer that the department will receive in April 2022. These new purchases will enable the DPW to efficiently perform preventative maintenance on the stormwater system. The Department of Public Works continues to reserve emergency bypass pumps that you will see at different locations throughout the city for hurricane season to ensure proper movement of water if necessary, during these events.



## Grass Clippings



How you maintain your lawn is a big deal to the City of Freeport's receiving waters. Whether you manage your lawn yourself or hire a landscaper there are some simple steps to take to make a big difference. These include leaving the clippings on the lawn, cutting with a sharp blade and at a time when the grass is dry, and growing grass taller. Yard debris such as leaves, grass clippings and other organic plant material are actually sources of stormwater pollution. Yard debris blown into the street may cause the storm drainage system to clog and eventually flood. Some good lawn management practices for you to consider are:

- Grass cycling or recycling clippings by leaving them on the lawn. This provides a food source for the lawn, improves moisture, saves time, energy and pollution related to capturing and transporting clippings.
- Making lower cuts and growing taller grass. Keep blade heights at 3 and 4 inches as this will make for a healthier lawn, will reduce mowing frequency, and watering needs.
- Sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from the pavement back onto your lawn so that they don't wash into storm drains

**Did you know that 1/4-acre lawn area can produce over 1 ton, or about 160 barrels of grass clippings annually!**



### Help Keep Pet Waste Out of Freeports Catch Basins



When pet waste is improperly disposed of in the street catch basins, it is picked up by storm water runoff and washed into Freeport's waterways causing significant water pollution.

Decaying pet waste consumes oxygen and releases ammonia both which can damage the health of fish and other aquatic life. Pet waste can also carry bacteria, viruses, and parasites that threaten the health of humans and wildlife.

Nutrients in pet waste promote weed and algae growth causing cloudy and green water making swimming and recreation unappealing and potentially unhealthy.

Dog owners can help prevent contamination of local waterways, by picking up after their dog and disposing of the waste in a proper trash receptacle.



## Work Zone Safety



In work zones, the Department of Public Works crews are performing essential services such as maintaining streets, stormwater, parks, trees and all infrastructure, and ensuring that trash is properly disposed of. We need your help to ensure the safety and accessibility of all users of our roadways. Whether driving, riding or walking, use care when approaching work zones. Here are some safety tips to avoid a potential accident:

- Stay alert and minimize distractions
- Follow other vehicles at a safe distance
- Slow down when you see a work zone
- Look for flaggers
- Be aware of workers
- Proceed cautiously
- Be patient

*Thank you for helping to keep us all safe.*





## Practice HEAT SAFETY Wherever You Are

Heat related deaths are preventable. Protect yourself and others from the impacts of heat waves.

[weather.gov/heat](http://weather.gov/heat)

**Job Sites**  
Stay hydrated and take breaks in the shade as often as possible.

**Indoors**  
Check up on the elderly, sick and those without AC.

**Vehicles**  
Never leave kids or pets unattended - LOOK before you LOCK

**Outdoors**  
Limit strenuous outdoor activities, find shade, and stay hydrated.

| HEAT EXHAUSTION         | HEAT STROKE                                       |
|-------------------------|---|
| Faint or dizzy          | Throbbing headache, confusion                     |
| Excessive sweating      | No sweating                                       |
| Cool, pale, clammy skin | Body temperature above 103°<br>Red, hot, dry skin |
| Nausea or vomiting      | Nausea or vomiting                                |
| Rapid, weak pulse       | Rapid, strong pulse                               |
| Muscle cramps           | May lose consciousness                            |

- Get to a cooler, air conditioned place
- Drink water if fully conscious
- Take a cool shower or use cold compresses

CALL 9-1-1

- Move person to cooler place
- Cool using cool cloths or bath
- Do not give anything to drink

## Heat Related Deaths ARE Preventable

### LOOK BEFORE YOU LOCK

The temperature in your car can quickly become deadly!

Outside Temperature 80°

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Inside 99°<br>Time Elapsed: 10 Minutes  | Inside 109°<br>Time Elapsed: 20 Minutes |
| Inside 114°<br>Time Elapsed: 30 Minutes | Inside 123°<br>Time Elapsed: 60 Minutes |

[weather.gov/heat](http://weather.gov/heat)

Source: National Weather Service





## Hurricane Preparedness Checklist



- Evacuation Plan
- Medications and Medical Supplies
  - Two Week Supply
- Cash
- Flashlight – Batteries
- Phone and Portable Chargers
- Important Documents:
  - Birth Certificates
  - Insurance Cards
  - Social Security Cards
  - Bank/Credit Card Numbers
  - Wills
  - House Inventory Photos
  - Titles (cars, boats, etc.)
  - Vet/Microchip Records for Pets
- Battery-powered Weather Radio
- Phone List:
  - Doctors
  - Insurance
  - Electric, Gas, and Water Companies
  - Family/Friends/Neighbors
  - Landlord or Property Manager
  - Bank or Credit Union



- Keep Your Vehicle filled with Gas
- Emergency Kit:
  - Nonperishable Food and Water (1 gallon per person per day) for 7 days
  - Non-electric Can Opener
  - Cooler
  - First Aid Kit
  - Pet Supplies – Pet Food and Water, Leash and Collar, Bowls, Medications, Carrier/Cage
  - Sleeping Bags and Pillows
  - Tool Box/Rope
  - Plastic Sheeting and duct tape
  - Work Gloves
  - Fire Extinguisher
  - Cleaning Supplies
  - Clothing
  - Whistle
  - Special Needs Items for Infants/ Small Children or Elderly/Disabled
- COVID-19 Supplies
  - Face Masks
  - Disinfectant Wipes
  - Hand Sanitizer





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**Did you know that the City of Freeport has a Recreation Center located at 803 Mystery Harbor Lane?**

Whether it's a swim in the pool, working out in the weight room, working on cardio, playing basketball or racquetball, participating in programs or relaxing in the sauna the recreation center is the place to be.

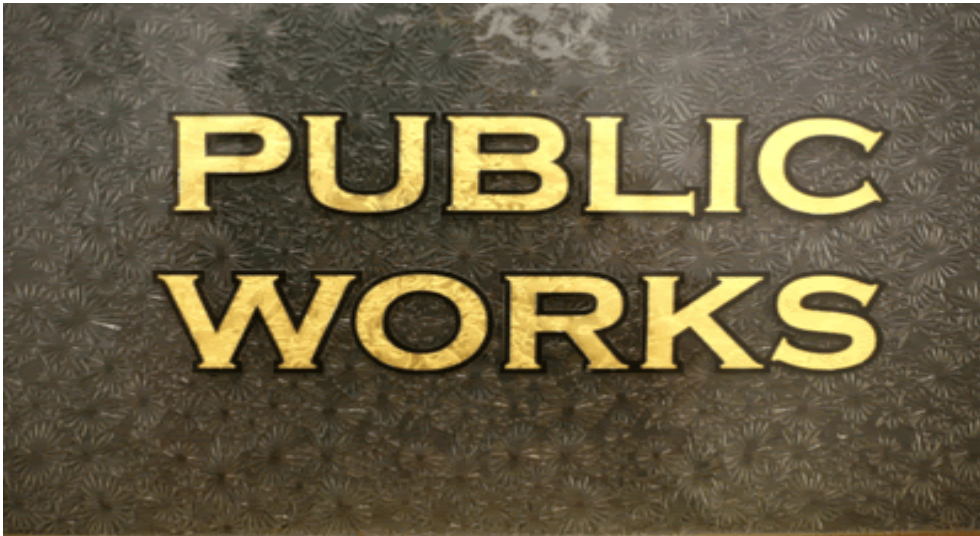
The hours of operation are:

Monday – Friday 6:00 am – 7:00 pm

Saturday – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Closed on Sundays





### **Important contact Information**

**Department of Public Works  
510 S Avenue A  
Freeport TX 77541**

**Hours of Operation  
7:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Monday - Friday**

**Phone # 979-233-4241  
Director's ext. 2605  
[lpetty@freeport.tx.us](mailto:lpetty@freeport.tx.us)**

**After Hours  
979-239-1211**