



**Letter from the Director**

We at the DPW realize that there are many concerns throughout the city, we are working as hard and quickly as possible to fix these issues.

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, Recreation, Museum, Updates on Projects and important contact information.

Here at the DPW we have a ready and resilient staff that is committed to making the best Freeport possible. I am proud of all the work the men and women accomplish on a daily basis to keep Freeport moving forward!

Thanks for reading!

Lance Petty

Assistant City Manager

**PUBLIC WORKS**



**DEPARTMENT**



**READY  
AND  
RESILIENT**



## **2022-2023 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 2022-2023 Interlocal resurfacing?**

Council has approved the designated roads for resurfacing and these designated roads have been approved through the county commissioner’s court. The county began the resurfacing program on October 25, 2023.



### **What are the 2022-2023 Council Approved Interlocal Roads for resurfacing?**

- Austin – Entire Road
- Slaughter Rd. – CR 217 to Golf Course
- S. Ave G – Archer to Dead End
- Britt Bailey – S. Ave F to S. Ave H
- S. Ave B – Velasco to Archer
- Walnut – 8<sup>th</sup> St. to Alley
- Broad – Yaupon to Arbutus
- Locust – 6<sup>th</sup> St. to 9<sup>th</sup> St.
- Varner – B Port Blvd. to N. Ave H
- Sweeney – N. Ave G to N. Ave F
- N. Ave Q – Yellowstone to Varner
- Maple – 8<sup>th</sup> St. to Dead End
- Maple – 2<sup>nd</sup> to W. Brazos
- Oak – W. Brazos to Outriggers
- Caldwell – Ave A to Mystery Harbor
- De Zavalla – Ave A to Mystery Harbor
- Groce – Ave A to Mystery Harbor
- Perry – Ave A to Mystery Harbor
- Munson – Ave A to Mystery Harbor

### **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 is complete.



**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 selected a contractor through sealed bids and construction began on Phase 1, 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 TH	Complete
• W. 10 <sup>th</sup> – Velasco to Magnolia	Complete
• W. 8 <sup>th</sup> – Dixie to 1841 W. 8 TH	Complete
• W. 6 <sup>th</sup> – Yaupon to Dixie	Complete
• W. 7 <sup>th</sup> – Yaupon to Dixie	Complete
• W. 5 <sup>th</sup> – Dixie to Court	Complete
• Lynn St. – Dixie to Avalon	Complete
• Avalon – W. 6 <sup>th</sup> to W. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Complete



Phase 2 of the 2021-2022 contractual roadway construction engineering is complete, contractor has been selected and construction began September 2023. 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 – 288 to Arbutus



## STORM WATER POLLUTION



The City of Freeport is always looking for ways to improve the quality of stormwater in the city. 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 purchased a new jet machine and vacuum trailer 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.

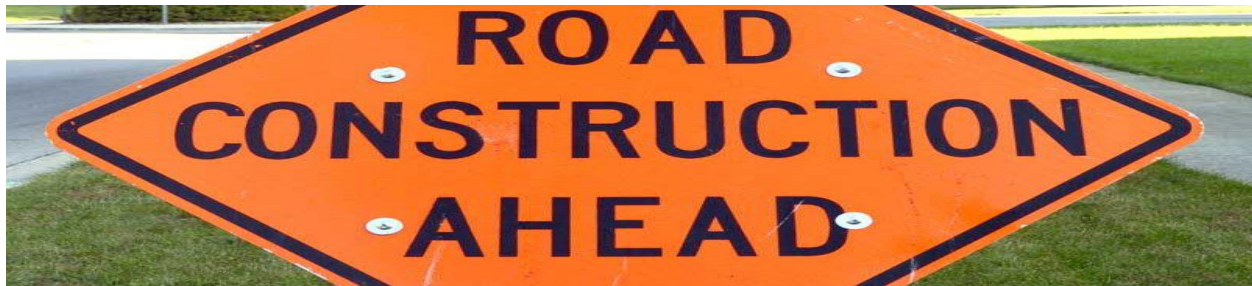
Nutrients in pet waste promote weed and algae growth causing cloudy and green water making swimming and recreation unappealing and potentially unhealthy.

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*



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## Projects



### **2023/2024 Budget**

FMP Kitchen Remodel – Under Construction

County Interlocal Road Improvements – Under Construction

Lift Station rehabilitation – Complete

Wastewater treatment plant improvements – Bid Process Complete

1495 water line relocation – Under Construction

City wide sewer collection line rehabilitation – under construction



**Did you know that the City of Freeport's Recreation Center is 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 8:00 am – 7:00 pm

Saturday – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Closed on Sundays





# MUSEUM

**Did you know that the City's Museum is located at 311 East Park Avenue in Freeport's downtown historical district?**

If you would like to learn about the history of Freeport, then the Freeport Historical Museum is the place to be. The museum offers fascinating history of Freeport, a children's adventure area, a children's movie theatre and rentable areas for meetings. The staff at the museum coordinates numerous events throughout the year and are partnering with the Freeport library to provide learning experiences for our youth.

Please contact the Museum at 979-233-0066 for information



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## WATER / WASTEWATER UTILITIES

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### **Did You Know?**

*The water and wastewater infrastructure are owned by the City of Freeport and operated by Veolia North America. Veolia has been providing the City of Freeport operation services since 1995 through an affiliate (PSG).*

*Veolia and the City of Freeport entered into a new water and wastewater operations agreement in 2015.*

*Veolia monitors all wastewater entering the plant(s) and operates and maintains the wastewater treatment plant(s) so that effluent discharge from the outfalls meet the discharge requirements by TCEQ.*

*Veolia provides maintenance and operations of the water and wastewater system and required to provide preventative maintenance on the infrastructure of both systems.*





***Examples of requirements from Veolia as the operator of the system is:***

- *Wastewater treatment and collection*
- *Lift station operations and maintenance*
- *Preventative maintenance on infrastructure*
- *Monthly water samples*
- *Monthly flushing of dead-end mains*
- *Monthly meter reading for billing*
- *Installation of new water and wastewater taps*
- *Infrastructure main line and service line repairs*
- *Monitoring of ground storage and elevated storage tanks*
- *Monitoring the BWA contract*
- *Emergency call out*

***This is a small example of the responsibilities of Veolia under their contract obligations.***

## ***INFRASTRUCTURE***

*The City has approximately 263,000 linear feet of gravity sewer lines that discharge into the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant service area and approximately 9,600 linear feet that discharge into the Slaughter Lane Wastewater Treatment Plant service area, 4,000 linear feet of force mains, and 583 manholes in service, approximately 3,800 water meters, 29 lift stations, (2) elevated water towers, (3) ground storage tanks, (3) water wells, and (3) pump stations.*





## ATTENTION WATER MAIN BREAK!



### **What is the main cause of water main breaks?**

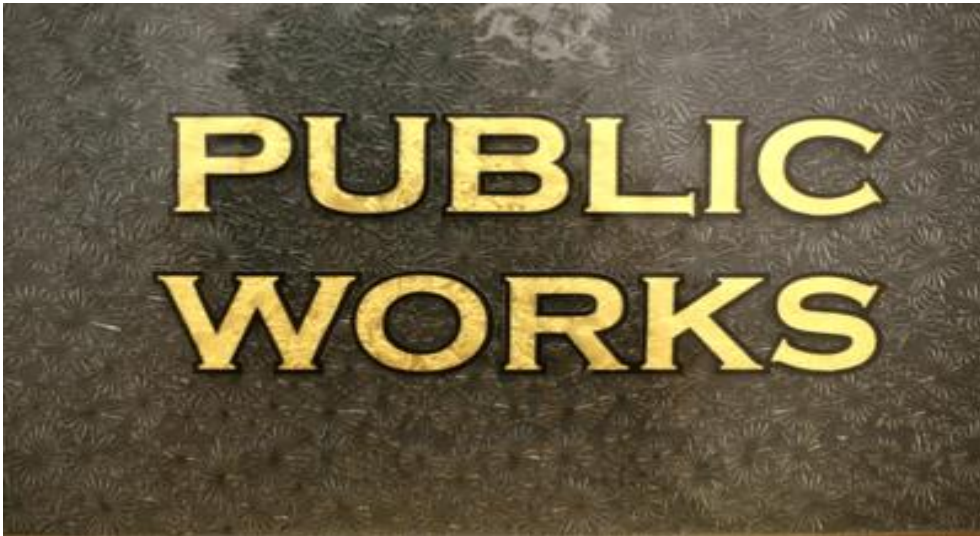
*Main breaks happen due to various reasons and are a normal part of operating a water utility. Temperature changes or overly dry or wet weather can cause the ground to shift. This results in breaks to the water main pipes. The age of the main or sudden fluctuations in the pressure may cause a break. During installation of outside contractors installing new gas or cables underground is also a cause for damaged water mains.*



## ***Resident's Spot***

I hope this newsletter will be a tool to help keep the residents informed. Please keep up to date on these newsletters by visiting the city's website. If you experience any issues, please contact the Public Works Administration office immediately.

If you would like to speak with someone about your issues, please call **979-233-4241** and someone from the DPW will return your call the same business day. If you have an after-hours emergency, please call **979-239-1211**.



### **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  
Assistant City Manager ext. 2605  
[lpetty@freeport.tx.us](mailto:lpetty@freeport.tx.us)**

**After Hours  
979-239-1211**