

Alamo Heights News

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS

6116 BROADWAY

78209

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July 2008

City Institutes New Parking and Traffic Regulations

The City Council has passed an ordinance prohibiting parking in the 100 block of Burr Road from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The ordinance also restricts parking in the 100 block of Catherine Court from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday unless the vehicle displays a permit issued by the Police Department. Permits are issued only to residents.

Residents in the two areas had expressed concern about parking on their streets during peak traffic hours. The large number of vehicles parked along the curbs and, in the case of Katherine Court, the narrow width of the roadway impeded access by emergency vehicles, restricted traffic flow and reduced visibility for residents as they exited their driveways.

The City Council also passed an ordinance creating four-way stops on Montclair Avenue at Ashcroft Avenue, on Townsend Avenue at Ogden Lane and on Ciruela Street at College Boulevard. A one-way stop was approved for traffic traveling south on Columbine Street at the intersection with Ogden Lane.

Council Hears Briefing on BRAC Improvements

In an effort to provide information that will be useful to their neighbors, representatives from the Ft. Sam Houston Army Command briefed the City Council on June 9 about construction work to be completed under the Base Realignment and Closure Commission plans.

Col. Wendy Martinson and Mike Hartman described the anticipated population growth due to the migration of military personnel and showed plans for construction at Ft. Sam Houston. Hartman also

explained the plan to control the traffic of vehicles delivering materials to the construction sites at Ft. Sam Houston.

Ft. Sam Houston will work in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation and the city of San Antonio to widen Walters Street, including the bridge over 1-35, in an effort to handle the increased traffic. Col. Martinson indicated that the military plans no new gates and that public access roads are expected to remain the same.

Report Water Leaks

Due to increase temperature in the summer months, the City's water system is more susceptible to leaks and breaks. These leaks can waste thousands of gallons of the precious commodity. If you observe or suspect a water leak, please call the Public Works Department at 882-1518. After business hours, call the police dispatcher at 822-3321.



Calendar

July

21 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

August

5 Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting 5:30 p.m.

6 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 p.m.

11 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

19 Architectural Review Board Meeting 5:30 p.m.

25 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

911 for EMERGENCY
 Fire/EMS (Non Emergency): 824-1281
 Police (Non-Emergency): 822-3321
 Police Administration Office: 822-6433
 Police Investigations: 822-2164
CITY HALL
 Administration: 822-3331
 Taxes: 882-1502
 Water: 882-1507
 Court Clerk: 882-1501
 Public Works: 882-1518
 Community Development 826-0516

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CITY BRIEFS

City Outlines Motorcycle/ Moped Requirements

Soaring gasoline prices have caused some people to turn to their motorcycles, motor scooters and mopeds as transportation. Operating the two-wheel vehicles requires special Texas Transportation Code compliance, including requirements for vehicle registration, operator licensing, liability insurance and wearing a protective helmet.

As with cars and trucks, any type of motorcycle or motor scooter driven on a public roadway must be properly insured and currently registered with the State and must display a registration plate on the rear of the vehicle. Additionally, a person under the age of 21 operating or riding as a passenger on a motorcycle, motor scooter or moped is required to wear protective headgear that meets the requirements of the Texas Transportation Code.

The Texas Department of Public Safety may issue a Class M driver's license authorizing a person to operate a motorcycle, motor scooter or moped upon successful completion of a Basic Motorcycle Operator Training Course. Persons not wishing to attend the course must undergo a three-step testing process, including a knowledge test, vision test and riding skills test.

For more information on licensing and operating motorcycles, motor scooters and mopeds, please go to the Texas Department of Public Safety Web site (www.txdps.state.tx.us/) and view the "General Information" section under the Motorcycle/ ATV Safety Unit link.

Curbside Recycling Program

The City would like to thank the residents for making the Curbside Recycling Program a success. As a reminder the following items can be placed in the bins: junk mail, envelopes, newspaper, magazines, catalogs, phonebooks, cardboard, aluminum cans and plastic bottles. Please remember that you cannot place food, food remnants or liquids in the bins.

Solid Waste Reminder

All containers of solid waste set out for collection should weigh no more than 40 pounds so the loaders can easily lift them. Bulky waste, such as tree limbs, should be cut into 3-4 foot lengths so they are easy to handle.

"Sharps," such as broken glass, should be placed in cardboard boxes or wrapped with cardboard and clearly labeled as "SHARPS" to alert the loaders when handling this material.

Please call the Public Works Department at 882-1518 if you have questions about any aspect of solid waste collection or recycling.

Summer Brings Potential for Heat Illness

Even before summer officially began on June 21, the temperatures had already been climbing. With double and even triple digit temperatures and high humidity, we need to keep several things in mind.

- Stay hydrated to replenish the water and salts your body loses.
- Pay particular attention to elderly and young persons, since they may not be aware of their increasing body temperatures.
- The temperatures inside automobiles or even improperly ventilated houses can rise quickly. Do not leave children or pets in an unattended vehicle for even a few minutes.
- Don't allow yourself or others to become overheated. Watch for signs of three levels of heat emergencies.

1. **Heat exhaustion**—the individual might feel extremely tired and hot but is still sweating profusely.

2. **Heat cramps**—the individual will have many of the symptoms of heat exhaustion, plus muscle cramps, possible dizziness and flushed skin.

3. **Heat Stroke**—when the body cannot cool itself. This is a **life threatening emergency**. Symptoms include, but are not limited to, dizziness, possible unconsciousness, rapid breathing, rapid pulse, nausea, vomiting, dry and/or hot skin and no sweating. Stop all activity; **call 911**; and place the patient in an environment for the cooling down process. Place cool, wet cloths where there is air movement. Do not place the person in cold water, since that will cause the patient to shiver and result in more internal heat generated. Place an unconscious patient on their left side with the head lying on the left arm.

If you have friends or neighbors who may be susceptible to the heat, check on them regularly to ensure their health and safety. If you are concerned about someone and would like assistance, call the Police Department so an officer can make a welfare check.

City's Budget Schedule

The City Council recently adopted a new fiscal calendar that begins Oct. 1 and city staff has already begun preparation of the proposed budget for 2008-09. The proposed budget is scheduled for presentation to the City Council at its Aug. 11 meeting. Public hearings for the proposed budget are tentatively scheduled for Sept. 8 and 22.