

# From the Mayor - Flooding Update

In light of the flooding on March 28th, I thought it is important to reach out to the citizens. The City staff received numerous calls and many of us saw emails and videos regarding the Broadway flooding that occurred with heavy rainfall in a 24 hour period. We have all been concerned about the impact on, and safety of, all citizens, businesses, and commuters. The City has done its best to divert traffic and erect barricades. In the event of a quick downpour such as that of a few weeks ago, sometimes our first responders simply can't react fast enough. This problem has persisted for many decades. Unfortunately, the situation is complicated even further due to the fact that (i) much



of the water drains south and west from the City of San Antonio; (ii) N. New Braunfels north of Austin Highway is owned by the City of San Antonio; and (iii) Austin Highway and Broadway south of Austin Highway both are owned by TxDot.

The City leaders have attempted to resolve this problem for many years. The City, through our staff and City Council, along with the leadership of former Mayor Louis Cooper and the assistance of TxDot, hopefully is headed towards a resolution. For many months, we have worked with TxDot, Bexar County, San Antonio River Authority, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization(MPO) to design a road construction project for Broadway from Burr Rd to Austin Highway and a portion of Austin Highway that will help alleviate the drainage problem. While this project is not yet approved, the MPO preliminarily has approved it, and the MPO will have its final vote at its April 23rd meeting to approve a \$10,000,000 funding to serve as partial funding for the project. TxDot likely will contribute an additional \$4,000,000 and we have had meetings with the San Antonio River Authority and Bexar County representatives, including Judge Wolff, to seek their financial assistance as well.

The City would have to contribute some amount, but I believe the long term benefits to all will be worthwhile. This might be a once in a lifetime opportunity for Alamo Heights and we will keep everyone updated once we learn whether MPO has approved the funding for our project. If MPO and TxDot approve funding for the project, we intend to have public meetings to take comment on the design of the project. Rest assured, we recognize this tremendous problem and hopefully, with the help of others, we are on the way to remedying this situation.

### CITY **CALENDAR**

#### **APRIL**

Tuesday, April 17 Architectural Review **Board Meeting** 5:30 p.m.

Monday, April 23 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Holiday – Battle of Flowers Offices Closed\*



#### MAY

Tuesday, May 2 **Board of Adjustment Meeting** 

Planning and Zoning Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Monday, May 14 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

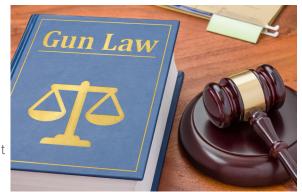
\*REGULAR GARBAGE PICK-UP

## Repeal of Ordinance

On April 4, 2018, the AH City Council held a special meeting to discuss an Ordinance to amend Chapter 10, Miscellaneous Provisions and Offenses, Article I, by repealing Section 10-4, which prohibits a person from carrying a loaded rifle or shotgun on a public street or in a motor vehicle within the city limits of Alamo Heights.

This action follows the actions of other cities which have recently repealed their ordinances restricting persons from openly carrying rifles or shotguns in places where it is legal to do so and/or restricting a person from being in possession of a loaded rifle or shotgun in a public place or automobile. The State of Texas allows persons having a "license to carry" to carry a handgun

either concealed or in a holster while in a public place not otherwise restricted by law, so long as that person is not violating any law. Further, Texas does not require a license for a person to openly carry a rifle or shotgun and there is no requirement under State law that a rifle or shotgun be unloaded when openly carried.



It is reasonable to anticipate some members of the public may become alarmed upon seeing a person openly carrying a rifle or shotgun in a public place. Our assurance to the citizens of Alamo Heights is that the AHPD will immediately respond to any call from a citizen reporting an open carry presence. Officers will initially observe the activities of the person(s) involved and respond appropriately to illegal conduct on the part of any person(s) involved. However, officers cannot take enforcement action in response to the legal display of a rifle or shotgun in a place not otherwise prohibited by law.

### May General Election

The general election will be held on May 5, 2018 at AH City Hall to elect Councilmember Places Three, Four, and Five to serve a term of two years for their respective places.

Early Voting: Alamo Heights voters will be able to vote at any polling site throughout Bexar County, beginning Monday, April 23rd through Tuesday, May 1st. Varying times and polling sites are available on website, www.alamoheightstx.gov/ government/elections/. Early Voting will not be available on *Friday, April 27th* in observance of Battle of Flowers Holiday and on Sunday, April 29th.





#### **USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

911 for EMERGENCY Fire/EMS (Non-Emergency): 824-1281 Police (Non-Emergency): 822-3321 Administration and Finance: 822-3331

Public Works: 882-1518 Water: 882-1507

Community Development: 826-0516

Court Clerk: 882-1501