



# City Newsletter

October 2024

Dear Neighbors,

The City Council, staff and I worked diligently on the budget for fiscal year (FY) 2025 and culminated at the September 2024 meeting as Council adopted the FY 2025 Budget and the 2024 tax rate. With the continued challenges of increases in emergency service funding, inflation, water plant costs, disasters, and supply chain issues, it was important to ensure proper funding of City services while also being fiscally responsible. I am pleased to report that this year, Council voted to maintain the current tax rate at \$0.271 per \$100 in valuation.

The FY 2025 Budget is not merely a financial document, but a blueprint for the future and a testament to the City's unwavering commitment to residents' quality-of-life, infrastructure, and fiscal responsibility. The FY 2025 budget totals \$18.7 million; comprised of \$12.7 million (61%) for major fund operating expenses including police, fire, water/wastewater, and solid waste services with \$6 million in capital improvements (32%) in streets and infrastructure projects. With crime pushing into our City from the City of Houston, public safety remains paramount in our City, and this year's budget reflects that commitment. Public safety accounts for 36% of the City's total operating budget (73% of General Fund operating costs).

Also included in the Budget is the City's Five (5) Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP is a multi-year plan of capital projects that reflect the goals of the City through planning, scheduling, managing, monitoring and financing capital projects. The plan includes improvements to roads, and water & sewer lines, including improvements to Bunker Hill Road and Taylorcrest over the coming year.

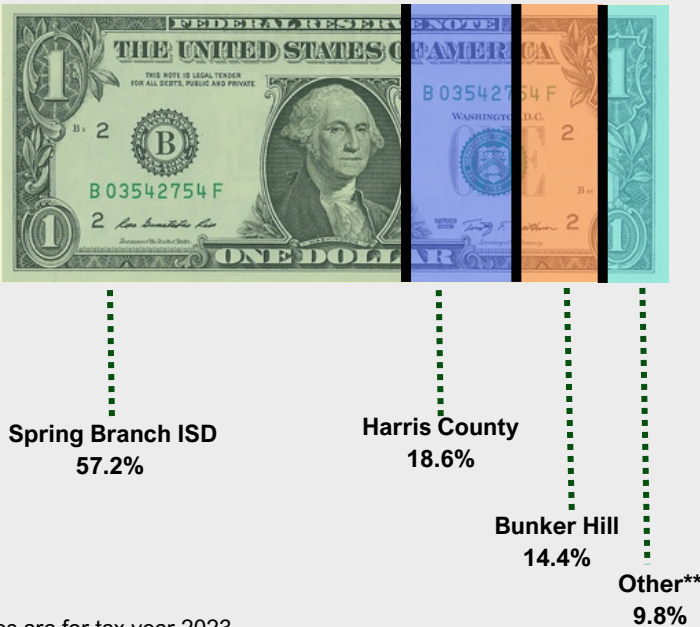
I invite you to examine the full budget document on the City's website at [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/governance/finance-budget](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/governance/finance-budget). Please contact city staff or me with any questions or concerns.

Thanks to staff, Council, and you for your continued trust as we look forward to 2025.

*Humbly Yours, Mayor Robert Lord*

## Where Do Your Property Taxes Go?

Property taxes are taxes that are assessed, collected, and used to provide local services. Your tax dollars are distributed to seven (7) local entities\*:



\*All values are for tax year 2023.

Source: [www.hctax.net/property/TaxRates.cshtml](http://www.hctax.net/property/TaxRates.cshtml)

\*\*Other entities:

Harris Co. Hospital District: 7.6%

Harris Co. Department of Education: 0.3%

Harris Co. Flood Control: 1.6%

Port of Houston Authority: 0.3%

## World Teachers' Day

City Council issued a proclamation in recognition of World Teachers' Day on October 5, 2024. City Administrator Gerardo Barrera celebrated with Frostwood and Bunker Hill Elementary School teachers. A special thank you to our outstanding Spring Branch ISD educators!



L-R: Frostwood Elementary Principal Hilary Hiler, City Administrator Gerardo Barrera



L-R: Bunker Hill Elementary Principal Desiree Rios, City Administrator Gerardo Barrera

## Bunker Hill Elementary Scout Visit



City Council welcomed Bunker Hill Elementary Scout Troops to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the October 15, 2024, Council meeting.

## Save the Date

For more information about these events, contact Management Analyst Mallory Pack by email [mpack@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:mpack@bunkerhilltx.gov).



### Family Movie Night & State of the City

November 8, 2024, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Bunker Hill Village Front Lawn

Grab your lawn chairs and picnic blankets for an outdoor screening of Toy Story! Enjoy complimentary pizza, popcorn, and Kona Ice snow cones while supplies last.

### Twinkle Light Parade & Celebration

December 19, 2024, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The parade begins at 6:00 p.m. from Frostwood Elementary and arrives at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church by 7:30 p.m. for a free holiday celebration with cookie decorating, a balloon artist, holiday carols, and pictures with Santa. For more information, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/event/2105-twinkle-light-parade](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/event/2105-twinkle-light-parade).



## Volunteer on a City Committee to Serve Your Community

Throughout the year, volunteer committees make recommendations to the City Council on various topics such as; Beautification, Drainage, Technology, and Public Safety. While some committees meet frequently, others only meet as needed. This is an opportunity for residents to get involved in their City. To learn more about the responsibilities of each Committee and to submit a volunteer application, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/latest-news/volunteer-for-city-functions-3](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/latest-news/volunteer-for-city-functions-3).

## Register for V-Linc

V-linc is the City and Public Safety Department's most effective means of timely communications with residents. It is used to communicate topics such as emergencies, inclement weather, City Council Meetings, and City newsletters, as well as a way to register residential alarms. All residents are encouraged to sign up. For more information, visit [www.mvptdx.org](http://www.mvptdx.org) and look for the V-linc message envelope.

## Bunker Hill Road & Greenbay Sanitary Sewer Project

Underground utility work to replace the sanitary sewer line under Bunker Hill Road and the 1700 block of Greenbay began the week of October 21. While most of the work will be underground, partial lane closures on Bunker Hill Rd. between Taylorcrest and Memorial will be required throughout the day while the sewer line is replaced. Traffic control measures will be in place during construction; however, drivers should expect delays and plan their travel routes accordingly. Weather permitting, all work will take place Monday-Friday, between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and is anticipated to be completed within 75 days from the start of construction.

For more information regarding this project, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/latest-news/bunker-hill-rd-greenbay-sanitary-sewer-rehab-project](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/latest-news/bunker-hill-rd-greenbay-sanitary-sewer-rehab-project) or contact Public Works Director Elvin Hernandez by email at [ehernandez@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:ehernandez@bunkerhilltx.gov) or call 713-467-9762.

## Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

Fires caused by lithium-ion batteries have increased throughout the Memorial Villages and nationwide. These rechargeable batteries can be found in the home and workplace in many common products such as -- cell phones, laptops, electric power tools, lawn mowers, e-bikes & e-scooters, and electric vehicles. Improper charging, storage, and disposal can cause these batteries to overheat, catch fire, or explode. Prioritize safety measures to take charge of battery safety:



### Use approved batteries

Only purchase and use devices that have a reputable testing agency mark such as UL. These show that the product has been safety tested.



### Keep away from heat

Keep batteries and devices at room temperature. Keep away from direct sunlight and any heat source such as a radiator.



### Use the wall outlet

Always plug directly into a wall electrical outlet for charging.



### Use supplied charger

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for charging and storage. Use the correct cord and power adapter made specifically for the device.

## City Holiday Hours

City offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

### Thanksgiving\*

November 27 (offices close at noon)  
November 28 - 29

### Christmas\*

December 23 - 27

### New Year's Day\*

December 31 - January 1, 2025

\*No trash collection on November 28, December 25, and January 1.

## MVPD House Watch



Planning to be away from home this holiday season? Ensure peace of mind by registering your home in the MVPD House Watch Program. The program is designed to provide residents with a means of having their homes checked periodically by an officer when they are away from home for an extended period of time. To register, visit [www.mvptdx.org](http://www.mvptdx.org).

## On-Call Services

The City's Public Works crews are on-call 24/7/365 to respond to water leaks and/ or sewer stoppages on City lines. For immediate attention outside of regular business hours, nights, and weekends, contact MVPD Dispatch at 713-365-3700.