



Dr. Elba Garcia, Dallas County Commissioner District 4 Newsletter

Message from Commissioner Garcia

SUMMER 2019

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Dear neighbors and friends, how time flies when you are having fun! As you will be able to tell in this edition of our newsletter, we have been running non-stop and getting things done for the residents of Dallas County and District 4.

I am very excited to announce that we opened the new Northaven Trail extension in Northwest Dallas. I was also very glad to be able to keep the promise I made to our seniors at Emeritus Senior Center at Mountain View College by providing them with a new bus. The center's old bus was broken down and had no air conditioning.

Our Road & Bridge District 4 crew has been busy paving streets in Cockrell Hill. We also continue to make progress on our \$200 million renovation of the Records Building and we have begun much-needed repairs on the roof of Old Red. Designs are now finished for Chalk Hill Trail and work on Medical District Drive and Denton Drive is moving along. Both projects should be completed by Fall 2020. We also hope to begin improvements on Camp Wisdom Road in Grand Prairie sometime in Fall 2019, and have begun design work and completed the right of way purchases for the widening and extension of Wildlife Parkway in Grand Prairie.

So you can see, dirt is flying and things are moving in District 4! I want to thank all of our constituents for their input and their support. These projects could not happen without you. As always, please let us know if there is anything our office can help you with, we are only a call away! The only reason we are here is to serve you.

Saludos!

-Dr. Elba Garcia

Road & Bridge District 4 Gives Back



Road & Bridge District 4 team at the Big Event in Grand Prairie



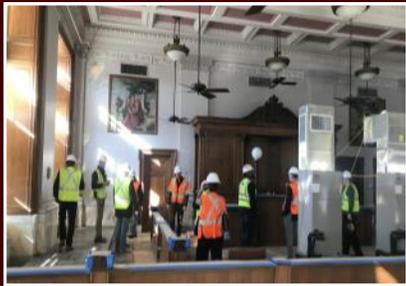
Road & Bridge District 4 at the Texas Theater on Jefferson Blvd.



One of Commissioner Garcia's commitments is to work with other municipalities. In March, the Road and Bridge District 4 team volunteered to help in The Big Event in Grand Prairie for the second time since the initiation of the project in 2018. This year 1,800 volunteers turned out to work at 80 job sites across Grand Prairie helping others in need. In total, 12.56 tons of debris and trash was collected in the efforts to help beautify the City of Grand Prairie.

Also, after a big storm hit the Dallas area in July, the Road and Bridge District 4 team volunteered in post-storm cleanup of Jefferson Blvd. and Sunset St. in Oak Cliff with the Jefferson Boulevard Alliance.

Dallas County Records Building Update



Construction is going well at the Dallas County Records Building. Commissioner Garcia spearheaded the renovation project in 2016 in hopes of modernizing the interior space of the three historic buildings while simultaneously exhibiting the past, present and future of Dallas County. Currently, the project is on schedule with the demolition of the floors beginning in August. We are also very excited to see the erected columns and steel framing for the seventh floor addition to the records building. Construction is set to be complete in the Fall of 2020.

Road & Bridge District 4 Update

Commissioner Garcia agreed to assist the City of Cockrell Hill in resurfacing the streets based on a 2014 Bond Program approved by the voters of Cockrell Hill. This program was put in place in order for the Road and Bridge 4 team to repave and mill all residential streets in the City of Cockrell Hill. The team has continued making progress on this project and is set to be completed in the Fall. In addition, the Road and Bridge District 4 team has given a helping hand into other Districts by assisting in sealing a cracked street in the City of Coppell and assisted in installing a culvert pipe and desilting a bar ditch in the City of Sachse.



Old Red Museum



Under Commissioner Garcia's leadership, repairs to The Old Red Museum have begun. These repairs include the replacement of the roof with natural slate, cleaning the stone with the supervision of the Texas Historical Commission, and maintenance and painting of the window frames. "Old Red" has been part of Dallas history since 1892 and serves as a symbol of Dallas heritage, which is why it is important to preserve the historic façade. Although construction will continue into Fall 2019, the exhibits remain open to the public, so come and visit today!

Northaven Trail Phase 2B & 2C



The western expansion of the Northaven Trail is now open! This 3.3 mile trail extension is an important part of what will be a major east-west trail connection that will extend from the Elm Fork Soccer Complex on the west side of I-35 all the way to the White Rock Trail on the east side of Central Expressway. Commissioner Garcia has been working on this project since 2012 along with her colleagues and City of Dallas Councilmembers. The western portion of the paved trail was led by Dallas County and runs from Cinderella Lane to Denton Drive. The new extension also connects to the DART Rail and we are working on possible plans to make connections to Bachman Lake, as well as Champion Trail in Irving. The City of Dallas is leading Phase 2A, which runs from Preston Road to Cinderella Lane, and is set to be completed by the summer or early Fall.

Emeritus Senior Citizens Center

Earlier this year, Commissioner Garcia made a promise that she would provide the senior citizens at the Emeritus Center with a new bus. The center's old bus was broken down and had no air conditioning. They now have a brand new air-conditioned bus to transport the seniors to and from the center and take them on field trips. The smiles on their faces were wonderful to see. It meant a lot to them and Commissioner Garcia was glad to do this for them. Thank you to the hard work of Commissioner Garcia along with her colleagues, and the Dallas County Health and Human Services Department, this promise came to fruition in only four months.



Vote Centers in Dallas County



In 2016, Commissioner Garcia began pushing for the purchase of a new voting system and the implementation of county wide voting to improve the way the voters of Dallas County will cast their votes. In the November 2019 election, Dallas County voters will have the opportunity to vote at any of the polling locations in Dallas County. On election day voters will also be introduced to the new voting equipment, including computerized poll books which will help improve the check-in procedures at the polling locations. These changes were made possible by the hard work from the Dallas County Elections Department and the support from the citizens of Dallas County.

Commitment to Dallas County District 4

Over the last two terms, Commissioner Garcia has donated over \$126,000 from her personal annual salary to local organizations and has not taken a single pay raise since being elected. All benefits and pay raises have been reallocated to employee training and other beneficial items for Road and Bridge District 4. A total of \$202,000 have gone back to the Road and Bridge District 4 fund. This is a primary example of Commissioner Garcia's commitment to her constituents and Dallas County taxpayers.



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