



DR. ELBA GARCIA

DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER

DISTRICT 4

DECEMBER 2020

Feliz Navidad and Happy Holidays 2020 - 2021 From the Garcia Family



Joangela, Fernando, Dallas County Commissioner Elba, Domingo, and their dogs Zuzana, Zuzopali, and Luby



COVID-19 – Businesses Reduce Capacity

As of Friday, December 4th, Trauma Service Area E (TSA E), which includes Dallas County and the greater Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, reported seven consecutive days where the percentage of COVID-19 confirmed patients in regional hospitals, as a percentage of available hospital beds, exceeded 15 percent. According to Governor Abbott’s Executive Order GA-32, this makes TSA E an area with high hospitalizations, and certain occupancy reductions are automatically triggered by reaching this threshold.

Businesses whose occupancy rates were increased to 75% in October through GA-31 are immediately reduced back to 50%. This includes all restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms and exercise facilities and classes, museums, and libraries in Dallas County and the other counties comprising TSA-E. A full list of affected businesses can be located at <https://open.texas.gov/>. These capacity reductions do not affect businesses listed under the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) guidance or covered by other exemptions contained in GA-32.

TSA E will remain under these restrictions until there are seven consecutive days where the percentage of COVID-19 confirmed patients in regional hospitals as a percentage of available hospital beds is at 15 percent or less. The Texas Department of State Health Services provides additional information on GA-32 and a list of all affected counties at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/ga32>.

In observance of the 2020 Holidays, Dallas County offices will be closed for the Christmas Holiday, Thursday, December 24th – Friday, December 25th and for New Year’s Day, Friday, January 1.



Oak Cliff Nature Preserve Clean-Up

I would like to recognize Mr. Rodolfo Guel for his leadership and participation in a community volunteer clean-up effort of The Oak Cliff Nature Preserve. Mr. Guel assembled a team of local neighbors and with the assistance of Road and Bridge District 4, who donated trash bags and gloves and loaned trash pickers this clean-up project was successful. I would like to personally commend him for his efforts to organize this clean-up. I am proud to represent residents who gives back to our community.



Chris Howell Foundation

Road & Bridge 4

Our Road and Bridge team completed a clean-up of Campo Santo de Cemento Grande, Dallas County's first Latino cemetery.

Our team strived to keep this cemetery presentable and keep alive the memory of those buried in this cemetery. Campo Santo de Cemento Grande has been abandoned for almost 70 years and with the help of our Road and Bridge team, the history of those at Campo Santo de Cemento Grande will be preserved.

Women's Empowerment Ceremony

The Chris Howell Foundation will host the Virtual 2020 Women's Empowerment Ceremony on Sunday, December 20th at 6:00 pm. Dr. Elba Garcia is being recognized for her accomplishments in our community and received the Faithful Service Lifetime Achievement Award.

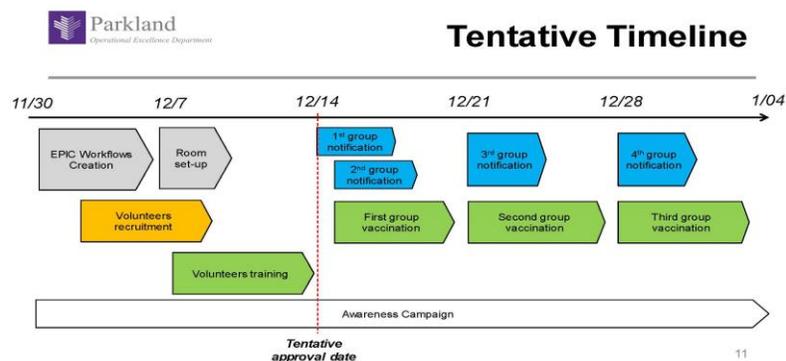
"I would like to give a warm thanks to Mr. Chris Howell and Mrs. Dominique Bryant-Howell for presenting me with this astounding award and to the Chris Howell Foundation for continuing to provide programs and resources to improve the health, wellness, and education of our communities." –

Dr. Elba Garcia

Parkland:

COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Parkland is one of the first hospitals in Texas to receive the COVID vaccine. The FDA granted an Emergency Use Approval for the Pfizer vaccine on December 14th. Parkland is expected to receive 5,850 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and a second dose of vaccines 3 weeks later.



DALLAS COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT:



Michael Scarpello

Dallas County would like to welcome Mr. Michael Scarpello to the Elections Department. The Dallas County Elections Commission unanimously selected Mr. Michael Scarpello as the new Elections Administrator for Dallas County, effective December 7th. Mr. Scarpello will be replacing Ms. Toni Pippins-Poole who has retired after nine years of service. I want to thank Ms. Pippins-Poole for her leadership and service to the Elections Department and the residents of Dallas County.