

# ROCKWALL CITY NOTES



a monthly city publication  
September 2025

## CITY DECOMMISSIONING SQUABBLE CREEK WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

The City began the decommissioning process for the Squabble Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility, located at 2219 Dickson Lane, in August. The facility, in continuous operation since 1975, has served the community for five decades and is now being retired as part of the City's and North Texas Municipal Water District's (NTMWD) long-term infrastructure and wastewater management plan. The NTMWD handles the decommissioning process, which will include emptying tanks, removing accumulated sludge, and dismantling certain portions of the plant's infrastructure.



## CITY PROPOSES 2026 BUDGET WITH 1-CENT TAX RATE INCREASE

Rockwall City Manager, Mary Smith, is proposing an increased tax rate of 25.75 cents per \$100 of assessed value for the upcoming fiscal year, October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, an increase of just over one cent from the prior year. This would bring the average residential tax bill to \$1,217, an increase of \$151 compared to last year, based on the average taxable home value of \$472,950. Homeowners over the age of 65 will continue to benefit from the City's senior tax freeze program, which prevents increases in their property tax bills. The proposed increase is intended to fund critical priorities such as street reconstruction projects, competitive pay for public safety personnel, and ongoing park and infrastructure improvements. Approximately 60% of the tax rate would fund daily operations, while 40% would be allocated to debt service. The City Council will review the budget in the month of September. For more information about the FY2026 proposed budget, please visit [www.rockwall.com](http://www.rockwall.com)

## PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS TRANSITION TO JUSTFOIA

In the month of September, the City of Rockwall will transition to a new software to receive and manage requests for public information. JustFOIA, a secure and efficient online platform for processing requests, will replace the City's current system, GovQA. Pending requests in GovQA will continue to be processed as usual through this transitional period. The new platform will result in some enhanced capabilities. Key Features of JustFOIA include:

1. Online Request Submissions: The public may request records through the JustFOIA portal without the need to register or create an account within the system
2. Real-Time Tracking: Users may receive email notifications as their request moves through different phases of processing
3. Secure Communication: Requestors may communicate directly with staff within the system for clarification and updates
4. Various Payment Methods: The system will accept payments via credit and debit cards, as well as e-checks, in addition to in-person payments.

"The ability to invoice and collect payments electronically will be a notable enhancement, proving much more convenient options for customers to pay for requested records. We appreciate the public's patience and understanding as staff aims to make this transition as seamless as possible. At any time, open records requests may be submitted online at [www.rockwall.com](http://www.rockwall.com)," said City Secretary, Kristy Teague. For more information, please contact Ms. Teague at (972) 772-6406 or by email at [kteague@rockwall.com](mailto:kteague@rockwall.com).



Get the latest updates, events, and news delivered straight to your email inbox.  
Don't miss out—sign up for our E-news updates today!  
<https://gqr.sh/8N4c>



# INTERSTATE 30 UPDATES

TxDOT's ongoing construction projects in Rockwall continue to bring major roadway improvements, including the widening of the I-30 bridges over John King Blvd. and FM 3549/Stodghill Rd. As part of this work, on-ramp closures and lane shifts are expected through the end of the year. Progress continues on the Horizon Bridge expansion, with traffic now on the new, eastside, lanes and construction of the west side coming soon. Speed limits have been reduced to **35 MPH** on all frontage roads within City limits. Residents and drivers should use extra caution when navigating these lanes and temporary business driveways in the area. Progress continues on the I-30 eastbound frontage road over the lake, with drilling underway on the westbound side.

For up-to-date information on daily lane closures, please visit [drivetexas.org](http://drivetexas.org)  
Sign up for text alerts at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXDOT/signup/35720>

## TEXAS NIGHT OUT

The Rockwall Police and Fire Departments invite residents to join their neighbors for Texas Night Out on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, from 6 to 8 p.m. Neighborhoods across Rockwall are encouraged to host neighborhood gatherings and cookouts. This year, participants are encouraged to bring a canned food item to support the Helping Hands Food Pantry Drive. Rockwall First Responders will visit each registered community event, meeting residents, and reinforcing the strong community partnerships that help keep Rockwall safe. Neighborhoods wishing to participate can sign up by contacting [cbennett@rockwall.com](mailto:cbennett@rockwall.com). National Night Out, "America's Night Out Against Crime," began in 1984. While most states celebrate in August, Texas moved the date to the first Tuesday in October to avoid the summer heat. Each year, hundreds of Rockwall residents take part, building neighborhood spirit and sending a clear message: Rockwall is united against crime.



## PET OF THE MONTH: STEVE



Your gentle giant and Netflix buddy is waiting for you! Steve is a lovable 3-year-old Hound/Great Pyrenees mix tipping the scales at around 95 lbs, but don't let size fool you. He's a big softie with an even bigger heart. He came to the shelter on Christmas Eve after his owner's health declined. He's housebroken, crate trained, walks great on a leash, and adores spending time with people. He does well with other gentle dogs, so a home with a canine companion would be a dream come true! Because of size and sensitive soul, he'd do best in a home with kids 13+ and no small animals or cats. He has been a shelter resident for 240+ days. His adoption fee is only \$75 and includes neuter, microchip, rabies vaccination, boosters, and he's heartworm negative. If you're ready for 95 pounds of love, loyalty, and fun, fill out an application to schedule a time to come meet him!

Rockwall Animal Adoption Center  
825 Airport Road (972) 771-7750 [RockwallAdoptions.com](http://RockwallAdoptions.com)

Fall is coming, so it's time to prep your landscape for winter. As cooler temperatures approach, it's the perfect time to start preparing your lawn and landscape for the winter months. A little effort now will ensure a healthier, greener yard come spring.

- Apply fall pre-emergent herbicides around October 15th to help prevent winter weeds like Henbit and Poa Annua from taking root.
- Avoid overseeding with Ryegrass unless necessary to prevent winter erosion. Ryegrass can damage warm-season turf and cause spring transition issues. If you must overseed, choose a perennial tri-blend of Ryegrass, Kentucky Bluegrass, and turf-type Fescue for better results.
- Prune trees between November and March. This is the ideal window to promote strong growth and reduce stress on your trees.
- Don't forget that final fertilizer application! Use a 3-1-2 ratio fertilizer like 15-5-10, applying at 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to strengthen turf and landscape beds through the winter.

A little prep this fall means less worry and more growth in the spring!

## TRAVIS' TOOLBOX

TIPS FROM TRAVIS SALES,  
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND REC



## Mark your Calendar

### San Jacinto Music Series

San Jacinto Plaza Downtown  
Friday and Saturday nights through Oct.  
7pm-9:30pm

### Rockwall Farmers Market

Downtown Rockwall  
Saturday mornings through Sept.  
8am-12pm

### Senior Resource Fair - Sept. 5

The Center at 9am

### Scare on the Square - Oct. 25

San Jacinto Plaza, 2pm-5pm

### Hometown Christmas - Dec. 6

Downtown Rockwall, 9am-8pm



Check out more events online  
<https://www.rockwall.com/EventCalendar.asp>