

# Williamson County Commissioner Terry Cook NEWSLETTER April 2021 Volume 5 Issue 4

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Thank you Girl Scouts of Central Texas



# The Message



April – what a month; it's just been a blur. Those years when the legislature is in session just won't let you have a regular schedule. Daily we are alerted to bills, bill changes, and must stop, review, assess and perhaps generate a letter to Representatives, Senators and Committees. We have certainly seen the Good, Bad, and the Ugly this session.

First, the BAD bills.

The assault on local government control and authority continues with this session.

First, a substantial number of developer-backed bills to eliminate a county's ability to plan transportation and enforce subdivision rules with those rules focusing on safety such as flood minimization, drainage planning, safe and sufficient neighborhood roads that support fire and emergency vehicles. In fact, in some cases, they want to build large RV parks for year-round living but without consideration as a subdivision! In this anything goes developing, they make quick profit and move on, leaving the county ultimately with responsibility for these "colonias". If you see advertising for "The Mansions at..." just think the look of hundreds of tightly fitted, double-wide manufactured homes with two-car garages right on narrow roadways. Does "UGLY" come to mind? One developer wants to do this just outside Hutto and they'd be all rental units. Again, they want to avoid any subdivision rules and planning (where does flood-plain vulnerability get assessed?) with the early review process of the county engineer's team side-stepped. Developers are looking to put these in around the county – coming to you soon?

Secondly, bills that take away the authority and right of local governments and their residents to make decisions on that which affects them such as decisions about monuments and statues. Come on – that's residents' decisions, not that of state government, and it's solely reactionary to discussions around the locations of civil war statues and monuments in Texas. Another class of bills intends to remove county authority to issue debt using certificates of obligation – often used, and in our county, well-managed, to refurbish buildings to accommodate current needs and to build or buy additional buildings to house growing county functions.

Thirdly, the issue of counties and lobbyists. Bills saying that counties can't use taxpayer money to be members of organizations such as the Texas Association of Counties, who does pay for a lobbyist to stay up with what the legislature is doing, educate them about the impact of legislation on counties, often negative impacts on small counties, and to alert us as to the impact of proposed legislation and give us all those to contact by mail, phone or e-mail with our support or dismay. These lobbyists aren't the ones greasing palms; maybe that's the issue. There's no way we in county (or city) government can do our regular jobs and spend a lot of time in Austin. Think about the lowly-populated counties in West Texas. How would those elected officials ever find the time to travel so far and the money it would cost them to stay in Austin? Think about trying to meet all those in the legislature and learn how things are done. Besides, those commissioners are also crew chiefs for road crews in their precincts! Speaking in committee meetings still requires that you be physically present; a little behind the times, they haven't embraced Zoom.

Of course there's a few unfunded mandates floating out there despite talk in the last legislature of ending them.

There's plenty more; we can only hope they dry up in committee.

Now for the GOOD bills. There are many, I'll highlight a few.

Especially in Wilco—#1 home of quarries in Texas— bills to monitor air pollution, water use, noise, and blasting vibrations are in play for these quarries. Concrete batch mixing plants are being analyzed also for air pollution with particulate matter. Both are key players in the road and building construction industries, but that doesn't mean they shouldn't be safer for those living and breathing here.

Bills to support telemedicine expansion and use are good for us all, many are focused on rural areas...leads to broadband. How do you stream without broadband unless you're handy with your smart phone and have good tower support near you?

Broadband expansion is finally at least being talked about. Texas is WAY behind a lot of other states – in fact may be taking up the rear. It's just a shame with all the rural, largely unserved, and definitely under-served areas. But we should not only be getting the information highway planning and construction going, we need the monthly price down to an affordable level – not much is being said here. That must be solved; we Americans pay more than anyone else...why? There's even a bill to remove sales tax from internet bills – a start.

And a shout out to our 3 Representatives and 1 Senator for many well-intentioned, thoughtful, and well-worded bills in this session. You make me proud!

And I'll ring a bell of exuberance for the bill to allow registered Deputy Voter Registrars to serve statewide! Let's hope this one passes.

# **CARES Act Funding**

### **Rent and Utilities**

In March, the County working with our non-profit agencies assisted 576 families with ~\$370,000 Cares Act funds.

In April, up to the 27th, 155 families were assisted with ~\$190,000 of Cares Act funds.

# Small Businesses – Hospitality Assistance

With notification of all Chambers of Commerce and direct outreach to restaurants, bars, hotels, event centers, etc., (Note: Tia Stone, president of Taylor's Chamber is alleged to have personally visited each eligible business in her area), the program granted funds as follows.

207 applications, including some not in Williamson County (!)

170 applications approved for about ~\$2,900,000 of direct assistance, including direct employee monetary assistance.

Hospitality program ends Friday, April 30, 2021.

## COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM FOR WILCO WINDING DOWN

Wilco Waitlist

Terminated new signups on Friday April 17
Distributed all remaining names (~30k) to FER/FHS (?) and Curative

### **FER/FHS Program**

Last day for Kelly Reeves - 5/12/2021

Last day for contract with Wilco as partner – 5/12/2021

Remainer of waitlist has been distributed to FER/FHS & Curative by Wilco

To signup for 1<sup>st</sup> dose vaccinations with FER/FHS program, you now go to www.vaccinateaustin.org (these vaccinations are currently Pfizer)

For questions about your 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Moderna, if you haven't received notification from FER/FHS – email them at emailsupport@familyhospitalsystems.com.

# **Curative Program**

Georgetown Athletic Complex ends 4/30; Dell Diamond will continue with gaps for events and baseball games until 5/21/2021

Last day for contract with Wilco as partner – 5/21/2021

Curative mobile outreach has already terminated.

Curative has both Moderna and Pfizer doses

People needing 1<sup>st</sup> doses you must signup on the Curative list

Dell Diamond Vaccine site link: <a href="https://curative.com/sites/26169">https://curative.com/sites/26169</a>

If you need to reschedule your appointment with Curative,

email: appointments support@curative.com

Those with appointments for 2<sup>nd</sup> doses and need to change their appointment go to www.Curative.com/manage

# Wilco Outreach to Isolated people and regions

VAX MOD (Amy Jarosek and team) are still in action; call my office if you need to refer someone for this service, 512-244-8610. They must be unable to travel in a vehicle.

WCCHD is still vaccinating in unserved areas.

# **Walk-in Site in NE Austin**

For walk-in vaccinations of Moderna vaccine, you can pre-register (speeds up process but not required) at <a href="https://covid19.austintexas.gov">https://covid19.austintexas.gov</a>.

The site is the Delco Activities Center in NE Austin off 183 at 4601 Pecan Brook Drive. Dates vary so check, but this clinic tries to stay open until 8PM on the days it is operating.

For more information <a href="https://austintexas.gov/news/austin-public-health-expands-online-scheduling-and-pilots-vaccine-clinic-without-appointments">https://austintexas.gov/news/austin-public-health-expands-online-scheduling-and-pilots-vaccine-clinic-without-appointments</a>

# TRAFFIC LIGHTS!!!

# O'Connor



Poles have finally arrived!, meaning that all pole foundations are complete!

At Liberty Walk-pe-

destrian signal poles were installed, form work for the electric service foundation has begun, and the concrete controller pad has been poured.

At Morgan Hill- electric service was installed.

At Great Oaks- pedestrian signal poles were installed and the foundation for electric service has been poured.

Cost is \$1,000,000. Projected completion is by the end of June...hopefully!

# Sam Bass Rd.

At Walsh Ranch Blvd.- The signal controller and all cables and conductors have been installed.

At Great Oaks Dr.- The last timber pole was installed and the foundation for the steel strain pole was drilled and poured. 3 of the 4 signal poles were installed. The wheelchair ramp and ground box apron at the NE corner were formed and poured.

Cost is \$350,000. Substantial completion anticipated Spring 2021.

### TOWNHOMES AT DOUBLE CREEK UPDATE

Winter storm Uri struck the area hard, causing many frozen pipes and then massive interior flooding. None may have been hit as hard as the Townhomes at Double Creek, a provider of 3 and 4-bedroom units for low- and very low-income residents. Located at Louis Henna Blvd. and Double Creek, this multifamily community suffered from interior flooding across the development. Some residents, not receiving guidance from management, moved to hotels at their expense; others received hotel rent coverage through the property management's insurance company.

We all know that the competition to acquire plumbers and insurance assessments was intense following the storm. Then there is a dearth of available skilled personnel to make the needed repairs of drywall, elimination of mold, and installation of flooring once insurance money is acquired.

Well, on April 1, those in hotels with rents covered by the insurance company were told the coverage would terminate in 7 days. Additionally, residents of 44 units were issued notice that their leases would be terminated in 7 days under TX Property Code Section 92.054, "Casualty Loss" – not eviction code. April 2-4 was Easter weekend. Where were all these families going to go with such short notice, and government was closed in Texas on April 2 in observance of Good Friday should they need assistance? Wilco is faced with the tightest housing market in memory and highest rates of rent.

In stepped Janneke Parrish, local resident and candidate for Round Rock City Council, meeting with residents and contacting everyone she knew, including the Austin Community Law Center. The Law Center, in turn, filed a request for a temporary restraining order for the rent coverage at hotels and "eviction" from townhome units. Our Judge Rick Kennon, District Court #368, heard the request and filed a temporary restraining order on Thursday, April 8, declaring irreparable harm would be caused to families thrown into homelessness. Kennon followed the temporary order with an ask on April 13 for the property management lawyers and the lawyers for the residents to reach mutually agreeable resolutions.

Round Rock Serving Center's Lori Scott jumped into action acquiring hotel rooms for a limited number of nights and some storage units. Our office put out social media calls for monetary assistance to the Round Rock Serving Center earmarked for the townhome residents. Many, many residents of Central Texas responded raising \$24,000 by Friday, April 23!

This saga is not over, contributions are still accepted at the Serving Center, <a href="www.rrasc.org">www.rrasc.org</a>, and you designate the donation intended for the residents of Townhomes at Double Creek. The Austin Disaster Relief Network also joined up with the Round Rock Serving Center in assisting these families.

# The Census, Redistricting, and You

In an usual year when the census was taken, all legislative bodies would know how many congressional seats a state would have for the next decade and how many residents would be in every district depending upon the level of government from federal all the way down to city council by the end of the census year. That way, the redistricting process could take place in the years ending in 1 (2001, 2011, 2021...you get the picture). If you are interested in seeing historical data on reapportionment of U.S. House seats for the last 100 years, there is an interactive map <u>HERE</u>.

Unfortunately, because of actions taken at the federal level last year and the pandemic, that is not the case this year. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, all states just found out on April 26, 2021 the reapportionment number of U.S. Congressional seats (Texas will gain 2 congressional seats to go from 36 to 38), but what's more, no one will have the data to do the real business of redistricting- the actual hard number of people and where they are located-until September. Although, even this date could change.

This massive delay in the data means that the state legislature will have to call as many special sessions as are needed to come up with, hopefully, fair and equitable maps. By law, Special Sessions of the Texas legislature can only run for 30 days, and they have specific agendas, such as redistricting. However, more sessions could be called if all business taken up in the first session was not completed. In other words, this may run into the holiday season or even early next year, which in turn will delay the Texas Primary, currently scheduled for early March, as it's always been. There is a bill in the legislature, Senate Bill (SB) 1822, to account for the delay that would do the following if maps are adopted:

By November 22, 2021, the Texas primaries will be held on March 1.

By January 3, 2022, Primary Day will be held on April 5.

By February 14, 2022, Primary Day will be held on May 24.

And because there are always lawsuits in response to the redistricting maps passed by the legislature, who knows what would happen then? Texas Primary Day in August or September 2022 anyone?

Redistricting on the county level would not be able to happen until we receive the data in September, too. Expect changes to all four commissioner precincts. Precincts 2 and 4 will be the first to run in their new areas. Fun times!



Looks Like the State Stiffs Our K-12 Education Needs - Again

Analysis: A \$5.5 billion shift in who pays for public education in Texas | The Texas Tribune

I wish I could say something nice about any of the actions being taken at the state legislature. Rising values of your property means more money going to the state. With more money going to the state, you would think they would spend more on education, an idea that seemingly everyone supports. But Noooooooo.

According to this story, the state is keeping education funding at the same level, even with more funding coming into the state's coffers. The legislature can say that they aren't cutting education, but that also means that they aren't willing to expand education funding either. So, in essence, the state legislature is skimming money from our children's education to pay for other areas of government.

What's more is that state leadership did not forward any of the federal funds from the CARES Act down to school districts to help them pay for all of the unbudgeted items related to the pandemic until just the last week of April! to the tune of \$11.2B. They have been sitting on it for months, and even now, there are still more monies over and above the \$11.2B that they haven't sent yet.

I am proud to say that your Williamson County Commissioners Court stepped up and assisted all of the 11 school ISDs in the county through its Wilco Forward Program, as well as 2 private schools (with at least 100 students attending in 4 grade levels kindergarten and above) and 6 charter schools (registered as a charter school and whose campus is physically located inside Williamson County).

I urge you to go to the link and read The Texas Tribune article. There's still time to change this course during this legislative session. Let's hope that education advocates can get through to enough senators and representatives to make education better in our state.

To contact our Williamson County delegation:

Rep. John Bucy 512-463-0696 Texas House of Representatives: E-Mail Rep. Bucy, John III

Rep. James Talarico 512-463-0670 Texas House of Representatives: E-Mail Rep. Talarico, James

Rep. Terry Wilson 512-463-0309 Texas House of Representatives: E-Mail Rep. Wilson, Terry

Sen. Charles Schwertner 512-463-0105 The Texas State Senate - E-mail Form

Go to <u>TLO (texas.gov)</u> to learn more about legislative bills (the language and tracking of actions), committees (who is on which ones and when they meet), and other important information!



There are numerous local elections across Williamson County on May 1.



If you click the word Vote above, it will take you to the Williamson County Elections page, where you will find all sorts of information regarding election dates and the early voting schedule.

See voting locations and other elections information **HERE**.

This would be an excellent time to check your voter registration status, and while you're at it, you can also see your sample ballot, right HERE.



# Thank you, Girl Scouts of Central Texas!!!

You thought Girl Scout Cookie season was behind us and the snowstorm. *They're back – at least for some.* 

Girl Scouts of Central Texas received a donation of 125 cases of cookies with the direction of donating them to First Responders to thank them for their efforts



during the past year. A friend of my Executive Assistant, Garry Brown, who volunteers for Girl Scouts of Central Texas, reached out to him to ask if he had any contact with potential recipients who would enjoy this very generous donation.

Ha! Of course, he did!

Working through Dameris Morales, an employee in Williamson County Emergency Services, she and the Girl Scouts chose a date and time to bring those goodies over. Troops 2660, 45008, 45010, and 45012 from the Red Poppy Service



Unit in Georgetown helped deliver them. These girls, on their day off from school because of a teacher inservice day, took the time to say thank you to our First Responders and the Williamson County Sheriff's Office.

We can be sure there will not be one wasted crumb!





# **N** COMMISSIONERS COURT

It was quite a busy month in April!

A good busy though!



Congratulations Williamson County District
Clerk Lisa David on your 40th anniversary
as a county employee!!!

40 years and she was only elected in 2006!

We are quite lucky to have her.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO PARAMEDIC DENA JAEGER!

Retired after 25 years in service to Williamson County EMS! 25 years of working holidays and birthdays at all hours of the day. The county owes Dena's family a debt of gratitude for their understanding of her impressive service to the residents of Wilco.



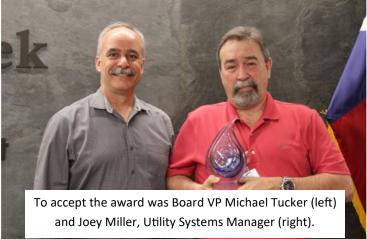
April 18-24, 2021 was Crime Victim's Rights Week, and for the third year, Commissioner Cook was honored by being asked by the County Attorney's Office to present the proclamation to Commissioners Court.

From Left to right in the front row is Dee Hobbs, Williamson County Attorney, Sara Bill, Director of Victim Services, and Thomas Velez, Assistant County Attorney

# Congratulations Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District

**Get the Trumpets out --- Brushy Creek MUD** water team pulled down a Blue Legacy Award from the Water Conservation Advisory Council, Austin, for their implementation of a highly effective leak detection program throughout their MUD. They won this distinction for their innovation and success in water conservation for communities of 10,000 – 50,000.





An initial leak audit in 2009 found 28% of their water loss was unaccounted for. Industry standards have an acceptable rate of 10-15% for a water provider. And, because we, on the west side of I-35, are sitting on limestone with its caves, vaults, and channels, face a tough job of finding leaks as they're not bubbling up to the surface generally.

The MUD rapidly put together a comprehensive strategic plan with a 2011 tactical move of hiring a firm for a comprehensive leak detection survey (79 leaks found). After those repairs, the firm returned and 11 additional leaks were detected with one huge one losing 250,000 gallons per day!

2<sup>nd</sup> tactical move was to look for leaks from their 550 aging fire hydrants. They implemented a 2x/year maintenance program with the hydrants and began recording pertinent info on each hydrant. Further, locks were installed on many hydrants to prevent unlawful water use and even ESD 2 agreed to report how much water they use in executing their duties to the community.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> tactical move was acquiring specialized equipment which uses acoustic leak detection technology which makes it now possible for one employee to check 20-30K linear feet of water line per month! This equipment even pinpoints leak location, saving effort and \$\$ in making the necessary repairs.

The 4<sup>th</sup> tactical step was using GIS mapping of the MUD's water lines, historical leaks and any other layer of information to facilitate keeping up with the myriad of water lines under their 2,300 acres of responsibility. Yes, truly GIS is the foundation of our lives.

Finally, the coup de tactical steps was replacing all 5,600 manual water meters with electronic meters for more accurate readings. Additionally, residents can now request water logs from the district to evaluate their own water use. Town hall meetings and digital outreach brought awareness and education to their customers.

In summary of all these efforts, Brushy Creek MUD is down to an 8%, saving ~200 million gallons annually, previous unaccounted for water loss. The district has set a goal to reduce that to 6%. Water is gold here in central Texas; the MUD is storing up treasures for the future.



National Donate Life Press Conference with 2-time heart transplant recipient Lemuel Bradshaw and Terry

April 7, 2021

# In the News- Commissioner Cook: Donating to save lives, heal others

Williamson County Commissioner Terry Cook: Donating to save lives and heal others (statesman.com)

Imagine if you could give the gift of restored sight to a young mother, human tissue to repair a first responder's injured limb or an organ to save a teenager's life. National Donate Life Month, observed each April, encourages us to register as organ, eye and tissue donors to make these types of gifts possible.

One registered donor alone might save eight or nine lives and enhance that of 100 or more people. Think about it!

Registering is free to both the donor and donor's family. All costs associated with the donation are charged to the recovery agency, but funeral expenses remain the responsibility of the family. Signing the Texas Donate Life at donatelifetexas.org registry is a legally binding, first-person authorization by which you become a donor upon death. That's it. You sign up and go about your life. The Donate Life Texas registry is the only official organ, eye and tissue donor registry of this state.

Based on 2018 population estimates, 78.6 percent of Williamson County residents are registered donors. That's a whopper to be proud of.

In 2020, United Tissue Resources — an organization that has provided allograft tissue recovery and distribution for Central Texas since 1985 — helped 43 donors from Wilco provide 1,842 tissue grafts to county hospitals and surgery centers.

Miracles in Sight, an eye bank, reported 48 corneal donors from Wilco last year. As one of Texas' largest tissue donor counties, Williamson County is also one of Donate Life America's best partners.

Figures for countywide specific numbers of organ donations were not available, but last year 189 organ donors did provide 594 organs for transplant in the Texas Organ Sharing Alliance service area covering 56 Central and South Texas counties. But more donors are needed and that means you.

Organ donation includes solid organs such as heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine.

Organ donor patients must be medically declared brain dead and maintained on mechanical support before organs are removed. Recipients on the transplant list receive organs based on the severity of need and matching criteria. Currently, more than 110,000 Americans — 10,000 of them Texans — are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. Every 10 minutes, a new name is added to the list, and tragically, 22 people die daily from a lack of available organs. The generosity of an individual organ donor can save up to eight or nine lives.

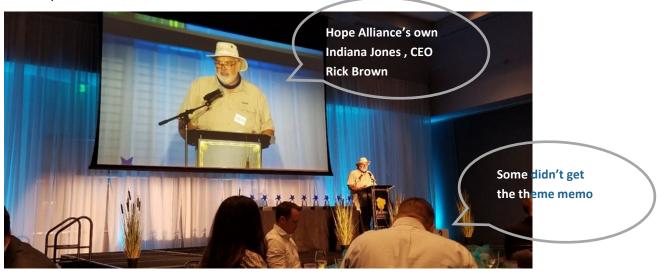
Although most people are familiar with organ donation, tissue donation is not as commonly discussed yet is actually more commonly gifted. Tissue transplants, or allografts, are given to patients to reduce pain, prevent amputations, protect against infection and either improve or save the life of recipients. Life-enhancing or life-saving bone, skin, heart valve, vein, nerve and connective tissue are surgically removed after a donor's heart stops beating. Each year, more than 1.75 million allograft transplants are performed in this country. In contrast to organ donation, tissue grafts do not have to be matched to a recipient's blood type. Rejection of tissue grafts is uncommon. While there is no waiting list for tissue recipients, tissue donors are still needed.

Continued at bottom of next page



# Allies of Hope Gala at Kalahari for Hope Alliance

Who doesn't want to go to a safari-themed celebration at Kalahari? On Saturday, April 24, Hope Alliance recognized the contributions of Officers of the Year who worked with Hope Alliance's staff and volunteers this past year for safety and justice for survivors of family violence and sexual assault.



Recognitions for outstanding commitment and actions:

Pflugerville PD Officer of the Year	Cedar Park PD Officer of the Year	County Attorney Officer of the Year
Detective Brian Miller	Victim Services' Jessica Gonos	Domestic Violence Dir Thomas Velez
Leander PD Officer Detective Aaron George	District Attorney's Attorney of the Year Andrew Erwin	Liberty Hill Officer of the Year Officer Joseph Renee Chapa
Round Rock PD Officer of the Year Detective Sean Randolph	Taylor PD Officer of the Year Communications Supervisor Theresa Briones	Wilco Sheriff Dept Office of the Year Detective Michael Mack

If you've heard of eye transplants, you actually heard about corneal transplants. An eye is a complex organ connected to the brain by the optic nerve that sends visual signals from the eye to the brain, where they are interpreted as images. Yet the optic nerve is made up of more than 1 million tiny nerve fibers, much like a fiber optic cable. Once these nerve fibers are cut they cannot be reconnected, making it impossible to transplant a whole eye.

Corneal transplantation, however, has been available for nearly a century. A healthy, clear cornea is needed for good vision, and if it becomes injured or damaged by disease, it can become swollen or scarred, causing glare or blurred vision. In a corneal transplant, a surgeon removes the damaged cornea replacing it with a clear donor cornea.

Besides corneal donations, scientists also rely on donated tissue from the retina, lens and other eye parts to find the causes and cures for eye disorders and diseases.

As the Donate Life website says: It (registration) takes only moments yet means a second chance of a lifetime. Don't delay. Sign up now for the opportunity to one day improve someone's health and quality of life, or to give life itself.



620 at Railroad/Chisholm Trail (Contractor: Bridges and Roads LLC)—Be aware traffic lanes of 620 have shifted to the north side to create a work zone along the south side for the bridge construction over the railroad track. Storm sewer pipe continues to be placed in various locations. This is a City of Round Rock, Wilco & TxDOT project. Estimated completion date is Summer 2022.

<u>Great Oaks Bridge at Brushy Creek Rd.</u> Still awaiting utility moves before it goes out to bid. Atmos, AT&T, and Oncor have already completed their relocations. Still waiting on Charter and Grande. Construction still anticipated to start this summer!!! Estimated cost is \$13.6M. Learn more HERE.

<u>Hairy Man Rd./Brushy Creek Rd. Safety Improvements</u> (Contractor: DeNucci Constructors LLC)— Learn more about this project at this <u>website</u>. Placement of asphalt for the widenings on both sides of Brushy Creek Rd. has started. Work continues on the retaining wall footing on the westbound side of Brushy Creek Rd. Note: Hairy Man Rd will have a 30-day closure sometime during this project. This is a 100% county job with estimated cost of \$6.1M. Substantial completion is anticipated in early 2022.

<u>Pond Springs Road Area Drainage Improvements</u> 60% design of the project will be submitted to the City of Austin in May 2021. Construction start is still slated to begin Fall 2021. County project with estimated cost of \$4.17M. With all the rain we're having this week, you should go take a quick drive over there to see why this project is important.

<u>Forest North Drainage Improvements Phase III</u> (Contractor: DeNucci Constructors LLC)—The contractor has heard neighborhood concerns and going back over and cleaning up and finishing some of the smaller items. For example, all pavement repairs on the waterline and storm sewer line trenches for roadways in the Norchester zone have been completed. Soil retention blankets have been installed over hydro-mulched areas on Chester Forest St. and Broadmeade Ave. County job, including installing Austin waterlines with reimbursements, for \$4.8M. Substantial completion is anticipated early 2022.

<u>University Blvd. widening from IH-35 to Sunrise Rd.</u> (Contractor: DeNucci Constructors LLC)— Stay off University if you possibly can!!! It is down to only 2-lanes in each direction causing huge backups. May I recommend using the N. Mays Street extension if you need to reach Baylor Scott & White. If you need to get to Specs or Chipotle, etc., I suggest N. Mays and exiting on a cross street (I think its Oakmont) to weave thru light industrial to come into that shopping center from the east side just south of Wells Fargo. The existing outside lane of eastbound University Blvd. from University Oaks to Oakmont Dr. has been completed. Drill shaft installation was completed for the signal foundations at Sunrise Rd, and temporary traffic signals will be installed. Water line work began on eastbound University, just east of Sunrise Rd. This is a City of Round Rock project for which the county has contributed \$5M. Project is slated to finish in early 2022.

Wyoming Springs @ Smyers Lane—A left turning lane will be created in the median. Plans have been finalized and an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of Round Rock has been drafted and submitted for the city's review. Environmental due diligence has been completed. It is anticipated that the project will be advertised and go out for bid in May 2021 with construction start in Summer 2021. This project should have a very short time span for turnaround.

<u>I-35 Changes</u> (outside of Precinct 1) - I-35 bridge at Ronald Reagan is being destroyed and traffic re-routed as new bridges are built May 3 until sometime in June (assuming it stops raining). I-35 at 183 northbound is now closed (what a mess) so northbound traffic exiting for 183 must continue along I-35 and do U-turn and comeback south to catch overpass to N 183. Deep sigh.







# The Mission, Vision, and Value Statements of the Williamson County Commissioner Precinct 1 Office

# **MISSION**

To lead pro-actively on the Williamson County Commissioners Court while advocating for the constituents of Precinct 1 and the county at-large from a foundation of collaboration and respect.

# **VISION**

To transform Williamson County government into a more accessible, responsive, transparent, and well-managed organization for our residents, so that we become the community recognized as the best in Central Texas to live and enjoy.

# **VALUES**

Accountability, commitment, integrity, and respect form the values that guide the Williamson County Commissioner Precinct 1 office.

### **CONTACT US!**

**LOCATION:** Williamson County Jester Annex

1801 E. Old Settlers Blvd., Suite 110

**MAIN PHONE:** 512-244-8610

**EMAIL COMMISSIONER COOK:** 

commissioner1@wilco.org

COMMUNICATIONS/SCHEDULING: Doris Sanchez

512-244-8610. doris.sanchez@wilco.org

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT:** Garry Brown

512-244-8615, garry.brown@wilco.org

**SEE US ONLINE!!!** 

Williamson County's Website! - www.wilco.org

Our office's web site- Terry Cook, Commissioner Pct 1

# Non-Emergency Phone Numbers

Austin Fire Department 512-974-0130

County Judge Bill Gravell 512-943-1550

Jollyville Fire Department (ESD 1) 512-258-1038

Round Rock Fire Department (ESD 9) 512-218-5590

Sam Bass Fire Department (ESD 2) 512-255-0100

Williamson Central Appraisal District 512-930-3787

Williamson County Landfill 512-759-8881

Williamson County Regional Animal Shelter 512-943-3322

Williamson County Sheriff's Office 512-864-8282

Want to know even more about what's happening in Williamson County?

Sign up for the WILCOunty Line E-newsletter! Click here to sign up! Commissioner Cook keeps meeting with many MUD Boards and HOAs. To invite her to your meeting, contact Doris at doris.sanchez@wilco.org In case of Emergency DIAL 911