
The Garden Ridge City Council will meet in a regular session on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas. This is an open meeting, open to the public, subject to the Open Meetings Law of the State of Texas, and as required by law, notice is hereby posted providing time, place, date, and agenda thereof. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are provided. Requests for accommodations or interpretative services must be made to the City Secretary 48 hours prior to this meeting.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Citizen Comment Period – limited to 30 minutes total

Rules for Citizens' Participation: The City Council welcomes citizen participation and comments at all City Council Meetings. If you speak, you must follow these guidelines:

- a) Respect and courtesy:
 - 1. Direct your comments to the entire City Council, not to an individual member, nor to the audience.
 - 2. Show the City Council the same respect that you would like to be shown.
 - 3. End your speaking at the time allotted below.
- b) Speaking:
 - 1. First citizen comment period.
 - 1.1. You are required to sign up to speak and you are limited to one 3-minute period.
 - 2. Second citizen comment period.
 - 2.1. You are not required to sign up and you are limited to one 2-minute period.
 - 3. State your name and address before your comments begin.
 - 4. You are only allowed to speak once per topic, unless also speaking during a posted Public Hearing.

NOTE: The Texas Open Meetings Act permits a member of the public or a member of the governmental body to raise a subject that has not been included in the notice for the meeting. However, any discussion of the subject must be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting and any response to a question posed to the City Council is limited to either a statement of specific factual information or a recitation of existing policy. TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.042.

4. Consent Agenda

THESE ITEMS MAY BE ACTED UPON IN A SINGLE MOTION. NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OR ACTION ON THESE ITEMS WILL BE HELD UNLESS REQUESTED BY A COUNCILMEMBER. PUBLIC COMMENT ON THESE ITEMS MAY BE HEARD DURING CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION; HOWEVER, THAT DOES NOT MEAN THE ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED OUTSIDE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

- a) Approval of Minutes for the August 2, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting.
- b) Approval of Minutes for the August 14, 2023, City Council Special Meeting.
- c) Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – July 31, 2023.

5. Staff Reports

- a) City Manager Monthly Activity Report.
 - City/employee recognitions, *Volunteer Garden Ridge!*, Community and Event Center report, building permits, citizen concern/input, upcoming events, personnel updates, and continuity of operations.
- b) Finance/HR Monthly Activity Report.
 - Financial reporting, audits, employee benefits, communication efforts, upcoming events, personnel updates, and continuity of operations.



- c) City Secretary Monthly Activity Report.
 - Administrative operations and projects, records management, communication efforts, citizen concern/input, upcoming events, personnel updates, and continuity of operations.
- d) Police Department Monthly Activity Report.
 - Traffic/code compliance enforcement, criminal activity, upcoming events, personnel updates, and continuity of operations.
- e) Public Works Department Monthly Activity Report.
 - Public Facilities: Street/right-of-way maintenance, drainage facility/easement maintenance, City facilities maintenance, animal services, personnel updates, and continuity of operations.
 - Utilities: Water pumping/usage from City wells, system infrastructure maintenance/repairs/projects, leak adjustments, water/drought management, personnel updates, and continuity of operations.
- f) Library Monthly Activity Report.
 - Upcoming events and continuity of operations.

6. City Engineer Projects Status Reports

- a) FM 2252 TxDOT Project: receive report and provide direction, as needed.
- b) Land Development Projects: receive report and provide direction, as needed.

7. City Commission and Committee Reports/Recommendations/Possible Actions

- a) Planning and Zoning Commission:
 - 1. Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Report.
 - 1.1. Receive presentation from Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) and receive recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission.
 - 1.2. Discuss and take action.
 - 2. Expiring Terms (September 30, 2023) of Commissioners.
 - 2.1. Receive recommendation to reappoint Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Maloney to serve another term with terms expiring September 30, 2025.
 - 2.2. Discuss and take action.
 - 3. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.
- b) Water Commission:
 - 1. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.
- c) Parks Committee:
 - 1. Receive monthly activity update as applicable.

8. Approvals and Authorizations

The following items are for discussion, consideration, and action.

- a) 2023 Tax Rate.
 - 1. Review and discuss the 2023 Tax Rate Proposal of \$0.257734.
 - 2. Hold a public hearing.
 - 3. Approve \$0.192839 as the 2023 Maintenance and Operation Rate for the City of Garden Ridge.
 - 4. Approve \$0.064895 as the 2023 Debt Service Rate for the City of Garden Ridge.
 - 5. Take action on Ordinance No. 239-092023 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, adopting a Tax Rate of \$0.257734 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) consisting of the approved Maintenance and Operation Rate and Debt Service Rate of assessed valuation for the City of Garden Ridge to be effective for the 2023 Tax Year (Fiscal Year 2024).
- b) Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District related to undeveloped properties along FM2252/FM3009.

9. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

1. Mitigation of growth and encroachment impacts on Garden Ridge (Swint and Erickson).
2. Economic Development/Council Liaison to Tri-County Chamber of Commerce (Smith and Bower).
3. Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee Update (Valdez and Erickson).
4. Council Liaison to the Water Company/Utilities Department (Valdez and Erickson).
5. Council Liaison to Comal ISD (Arvidson and Erickson).
6. City Welcome Signage (Bower and Erickson).

10. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

11. Citizen Comment Period – limited to 20 minutes total

See “Rules for Citizens’ Participation” under Item 3.

12. Reports and Comments from Mayor and City Councilmembers

The Mayor and/or City Councilmembers may comment, make general announcements, and/or provide progress reports on events, activities and/or committees/board meetings concerning the following:

Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts
City of Garden Ridge sponsored events and outreach efforts
Comal ISD (Garden Ridge Elementary School/Danville Middle School/Davenport High School)
Counties (Bexar/Comal/Guadalupe)
Families of Garden Ridge
Garden Ridge Lions Club and Garden Ridge Women’s Club
Garden Ridge Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association/Citizen Patrol
Great Springs Project
Greater Bexar County Council of Cities
Hill Country Alliance
Northeast Partnership
Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
Tri-County Chamber of Commerce

13. Adjournment

AGENDA NOTICES:

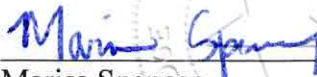
Decorum Required: Any disruptive behavior, including shouting or derogatory statements or comments may be ruled out of order by the Presiding Officer. Continuation of this type of behavior could result in a request by the Presiding Officer that the individual leave the meeting, and if refused, an order of removal.

Action by Council Authorized: The Council may vote or act upon any item within this Agenda. The Council reserves the right to adjourn into closed session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

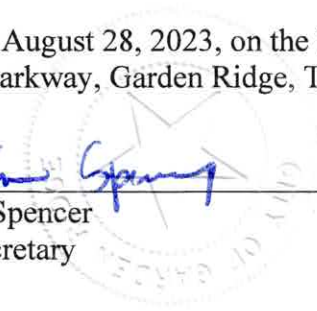
Executive Sessions Authorized: This agenda has been reviewed and approved by the City's legal counsel and the presence of any subject in any Executive Session portion of the agenda constitutes a written interpretation of Texas Government Code Chapter 551 by legal counsel for the governmental body and constitutes an opinion by the attorney that the items discussed therein may be legally discussed in the closed portion of the meeting considering available opinions of a court of record and opinions of the Texas Attorney General known to the attorney. This provision has been added to this agenda with the intent to meet all elements necessary to satisfy Texas Government Code Chapter 551.144(c) and the meeting is conducted by all participants in reliance on this opinion.

Attendance By Other Elected or Appointed Officials: It is anticipated that members of the other city boards, commissions and/or committees may attend the meeting in numbers that may constitute a quorum of the other city boards, commissions and/or committees. Notice is hereby given that the meeting, to the extent required by law, is also noticed as a meeting of the City Council, other boards, commissions and/or committees of the City, whose members may be in attendance. The members of the boards, commissions and/or committees may participate in discussions on the same items listed on the agenda, which occur at the meeting, but no action will be taken by such in attendance unless such item and action are specifically provided for on an agenda for that board, commission, or committee subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act.

This is to certify that I, Marisa Spencer, posted this Agenda at 12:00 p.m. on August 28, 2023, on the bulletin board located at the entrance to Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas.



Marisa Spencer
City Secretary



Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Robb Erickson
Mayor Pro-Tem Lisa Swint
Councilmember Kelly Smith
Councilmember Jesús Valdez
Councilmember Todd Arvidson
Councilmember Kay Bower

Councilmembers Absent: None

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Courtney Billi, Assistant City Secretary
Robyn Achu, Finance/HR Director
Ron Eberhardt, Police Chief
Steven Steinmetz, Public Works Director
Linda Crosland, Library Director
Cynthia Trevino, City Attorney

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

With a quorum of the City Councilmembers present, Mayor Erickson called the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

3. Proclamations/Presentations

- a) **Eagle Scout Dalton Lacy Certificate of Recognition**
- b) **Eagle Scout Noah Bliss Certificate of Recognition**
- c) **Eagle Scout Kaden Scribner Certificate of Recognition**
- d) **Eagle Scout Ty McAuley Certificate of Recognition**

Mayor Erickson and Councilmember Arvidson presented a Certificate of Recognition to Kaden Scribner and Ty McAuley for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

4. Citizen Comment Period

Sharilyn Krauss, 19522 Creekview Oaks, spoke regarding development in the City of Garden Ridge.

5. Consent Agenda

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- a) **Approval of Minutes for the July 11, 2023, City Council Special Meeting.**
- b) **Approval of Minutes for the July 17, 2023, City Council Special Meeting.**
- c) **Financial Statement, Summary Report, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – June 30, 2023.**

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve Consent Agenda items a)-c). The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.



6. Staff Reports

a) City Manager Monthly Activity Report.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed employee anniversaries and a thank you note recognizing City Staff. She stated there were 570 *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* hours for the month of July and spoke regarding Hog Wild Local Government Seminar, First Friday, and the FY2024 Budget and Tax Rate Schedule.

b) Finance/HR Monthly Activity Report.

Finance/HR Director Robyn Achu spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Finance/HR Department.

c) City Secretary Monthly Activity Report.

City Secretary Marisa Spencer reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Administrative Department.

d) Police Department Monthly Activity Report.

Chief Eberhardt reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Police Department.

e) Public Works Department Monthly Activity Report.

Public Works Director Steven Steinmetz reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Public Works Department.

f) Library Monthly Activity Report.

Library Director Linda Crosland reviewed the monthly activity report and spoke regarding continuity of operations related to the Library.

7. City Engineer Projects Status Reports

City Engineer Sam Johnson reviewed the City Engineer monthly activity report and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

8. City Commission and Committee Reports/Recommendations/Possible Actions

a) Planning and Zoning Commission:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in July and there are no updates at this time.

b) Water Commission:

Mayor Erickson stated the Commission did not meet in July and there are no updates at this time.

c) Parks Committee:

Rod Chamberlain, Parks Committee, provided City Council with an update on the committee's projects.

9. Approvals and Authorizations

The following items are for discussion, consideration, and action.

- a) Ordinance No. 143-082023 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, granting an exclusive Municipal Materials Management Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and BFI Waste Services of Texas, L.P., dba/Republic Services of San Antonio a Texas Limited Partnership, for the collection and disposal of solid waste and recycling service; setting forth general specifications establishing rates for collections and disposal of solid waste and recycling services; providing for enforcement and the collection of established rates; providing a penalty for violations of this ordinance of a fine of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 and making each day a separate offense; providing a cumulative and savings clause; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date.**

Mayor Erickson and City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding Ordinance No. 143-082023.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve Ordinance No. 143-082023 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, granting an exclusive Municipal Materials Management Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge and BFI Waste Services of Texas, L.P., dba/Republic Services of San Antonio a Texas Limited Partnership, for the collection and disposal of solid waste and recycling service; setting forth general specifications establishing rates for collections and disposal of solid waste and recycling services; providing for enforcement and the collection of established rates; providing a penalty for violations of this ordinance of a fine of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 and making each day a separate offense; providing a cumulative and savings clause; providing for severability; and declaring an effective date. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

b) Request from Buckley Powder Co., for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry for the period of October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024, and set annual permit fee.

City Manager Nancy Cain spoke regarding the request from Buckley Powder Co., for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry and stated she recommended the annual permit fee be set at \$31,453.55.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to approve the request from Buckley Powder Co., for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry for the period of October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024, and to set the annual permit fee at \$31,453.55. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) 2023 Texas Legislative Session.

Mayor Pro-Tem Swint and Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the 2023 Texas Legislative Session.

10. Updates

a) City Council Projects.

1. Mitigation of growth and encroachment impacts on Garden Ridge (Swint and Erickson).

Mayor Erickson stated there are no updates at this time.

2. Great Springs Project (Swint and Valdez).

Mayor Pro-Tem Swint and Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the Great Springs Project.

3. Economic Development/Council Liaison to Tri-County Chamber of Commerce (Smith and Bower).

Councilmember Smith and Councilmember Bower provided updates related to Economic Development and Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

4. Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee Update (Valdez and Erickson).

Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee.

5. Council Liaison to the Water Company/Utilities Department (Valdez and Erickson).

Councilmember Valdez provided updates related to the Water Company/Utilities Department.

6. Council Liaison to Comal ISD (Arvidson and Erickson).

Mayor Erickson and Councilmember Arvidson provided updates related to Comal ISD.

7. City Welcome Signage (Bower and Erickson).

Councilmember Bower provided updates related to City Welcome Signage.

11. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Bower requested to discuss a possible City event for April 2024.

12. Citizen Comment Period

Kevin Pierce, 19531 Creekview Oaks, spoke regarding development in the City of Garden Ridge.

13. Reports and Comments from Mayor and City Councilmembers

The Mayor and/or City Councilmembers may comment, make general announcements, and/or provide progress reports on events, activities and/or committees/board meetings concerning the following:

Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Boy Scouts and/or Girl Scouts, City of Garden Ridge sponsored events and outreach efforts, Comal ISD (Garden Ridge Elementary/Danville Middle School/Davenport High School), Counties (Bexar/Comal/Guadalupe), Families of Garden Ridge, Garden Ridge Lions Club, Garden Ridge Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association/Citizen Patrol, Garden Ridge Women's Club, Greater Bexar County Council of Cities, Hill Country Alliance, Northeast Partnership, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

Councilmember Smith spoke regarding Tri-County Chamber of Commerce events. Councilmember Valdez spoke regarding the Garden Ridge Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association Annual Car show. Councilmember Arvidson spoke regarding Comal ISD. Mayor Erickson spoke regarding Families of Garden Ridge Adopt-A-Highway Program and Northeast Partnership for Economic Development.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Wednesday, August 2, 2023, City Council regular meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST

Robb Erickson
Mayor

Marisa Spencer
City Secretary

Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Robb Erickson
Mayor Pro-Tem Lisa Swint
Councilmember Jesús Valdez
Councilmember Todd Arvidson
Councilmember Kay Bower

Councilmembers Absent:

Councilmember Kelly Smith

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Manager
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Courtney Billi, Assistant City Secretary
Robyn Achu, Finance/HR Director
Ron Eberhardt, Police Chief
Linda Crosland, Library Director

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

With a quorum of the City Councilmembers present, Mayor Erickson called the special meeting of the Garden Ridge City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 14, 2023, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

3. Citizen Comment Period: No one signed up to speak.**4. Business Items**

The following items are for discussion, consideration, and action.

a) 2023 Tax Rates.**1. Review the 2023 No-New-Revenue, Voter Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations.**

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed the 2023 No-New-Revenue, Voter-Approval, and De Minimis Tax Rate Calculations and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

2. Propose, by record vote, a tax rate for the 2023 tax year.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to propose the voter-approval tax rate of \$0.257734 for the 2023 tax year. The City Council voted by roll call:

Councilmember Smith, Place 1 – absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, Place 2 – aye
Councilmember Valdez, Place 3 – aye
Councilmember Arvidson, Place 4 – aye
Councilmember Bower, Place 5 – aye

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Announce date, time, and place of 2023 Tax Rate Public Hearing and Adoption.

Mayor Erickson announced the 2023 Tax Rate Public Hearing and Adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.



b) Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge General Fund, Water Company Operation and Maintenance Fund, Interest and Sinking Fund, Capital Improvements Fund, and Water/Sewer Capital Improvements Fund.

1. Presentation of budgets.

City Manager Nancy Cain reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge and addressed questions from Councilmembers.

2. Hold a public hearing.

Mayor Erickson opened the public hearing at 6:20 p.m.

No one wished to speak, and City Secretary Marisa Spencer stated no written comments were submitted.

Mayor Erickson closed the public hearing at 6:21 p.m.

3. Adoption of Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets:

3.1. Resolution No. 506-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 General Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve Resolution No. 506-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 General Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3.2. Resolution No. 507-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Water Company Operation and Maintenance Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Valdez, seconded by Councilmember Bower, to approve Resolution No. 507-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Water Company Operation and Maintenance Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3.3. Resolution No. 508-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Interest and Sinking Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Arvidson, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, to approve Resolution No. 508-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Interest and Sinking Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3.4. Resolution No. 509-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvements Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to approve Resolution No. 509-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvements Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

3.5. Resolution No. 510-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Water/Sewer Capital Improvements Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, seconded by Councilmember Valdez, to approve Resolution No. 510-082023 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, approving Fiscal Year 2024 Water/Sewer Capital Improvements Fund Budget for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Ratify the property tax increase of \$43,152.00 as reflected in the Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge General Fund and Interest and Sinking Fund.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Bower, seconded by Councilmember Arvidson, to ratify the property tax increase of \$43,152.00 as reflected in the Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge General Fund and Interest and Sinking Fund. The City Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Citizen Comment Period: No one wished to speak.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Monday, August 14, 2023, City Council special meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m. by Mayor Erickson.

ATTEST

Robb Erickson
Mayor

Marisa Spencer
City Secretary

CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE**MONTHLY ACCOUNT BALANCES & INTEREST RATES**

PERIOD ENDED AS OF 07/31/2023

CITY FUNDS	BALANCE	CURRENT INTEREST RATE
GF OPERATING ACCOUNT	350,597.36	0.40%
GF MONEY MARKET	829,977.85	3.67%
PEG CAPITAL FEES	46,436.23	3.67%
TEXPOOL INVESTMENTS	3,099,313.55	5.12%
2017 I&S	130.01	3.66%
2012 I&S	32,893.95	3.67%
2012 REFI	71,427.45	3.67%
2015 I&S	50,399.19	3.67%
TEXPOOL WATER IMPACT FEES	178,160.04	5.12%
TEXPOOL STREET IMPACT FEES	61,657.89	5.12%
AMERICAN RECOVERY ACCT	356,505.04	3.67%
TEXPOOL AMERICAN RECOVERY ACCT	513,293.03	5.12%
ASSET/FORFEITURE - STATE	2,024.65	0.10%
ASSET/FORFEITURE - FED	135,794.11	3.67%
TOTAL CITY FUNDS	\$ 5,728,610.35	

WATER FUNDS	BALANCE	CURRENT INTEREST RATE
OPERATING ACCOUNT	641,011.51	3.67%
WATER SURCHARGE	153,512.41	3.67%
TEXPOOL WATER INVEST	1,240,486.87	5.12%
SIB LOAN I&S	1,081.25	3.67%
SIB RESERVE	30,692.27	3.67%
SIB LOAN FUNDS (TXDOT)	325,128.20	3.67%
TOTAL WATER FUNDS	\$ 2,391,912.51	

TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS	\$ 8,120,522.86	
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CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE
CASH & INVESTMENTS STATEMENT
PERIOD ENDED AS OF 07/31/23

GENERAL FUND	BALANCE
GF Operational Checking	\$ 350,597.36
GF Money Market	829,977.85
GF Peg Capital Fund	46,436.23
TexPool Investments	3,099,313.55
Restricted Amounts:	(205,645.38)
(Including GF Peg Capital Fund)	
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 4,120,679.61

WATER FUND	BALANCE
Operational Checking	\$ 641,011.51
TexPool Water Invest	1,240,486.87
Water Surcharge	153,512.41
Restricted Amounts	(15,163.96)
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 2,019,846.83

CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
PERIOD ENDING AS OF 07/31/2023

GENERAL FUND	Jul-23	YTD	FY 2023 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	BUDGET BALANCE
REVENUES	\$ 111,153.83	\$ 3,240,179.03	\$ 3,516,302.00	92.1%	\$ 276,122.97
EXPENDITURES					
ADMINISTRATION	59,224.03	737,779.82	1,098,414.00	67.2%	360,634.18
COURT	7,380.37	77,378.91	99,826.00	77.5%	22,447.09
POLICE	94,726.85	1,022,336.34	1,462,202.00	69.9%	439,865.66
PUBLIC FACILITIES	51,321.97	494,960.85	658,098.00	75.2%	163,137.15
COMMUNITY CENTER	11,909.82	73,273.17	83,984.00	87.2%	10,710.83
LIBRARY	6,132.30	84,432.54	113,674.00	74.3%	29,241.46
FUND CHANGES/XFER	-	-	-	0.0%	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	230,695.34	2,490,161.63	3,516,198.00	70.8%	1,026,036.37
NET POSITION	\$ (119,541.51)	\$ 750,017.40	\$ 104.00		\$ (749,913.40)

WATER FUND	Jul-23	YTD	FY 2023 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	BUDGET BALANCE
REVENUES	\$ 316,547.13	\$ 1,775,405.86	\$ 2,210,571.00	80.3%	\$ 435,165.14
EXPENDITURES					
BOND PRINCIPLE PAYMENTS	-	520,559.11	523,985.00		3,425.89
ALL OTHER EXPENDITURES	103,262.72	1,036,937.68	1,477,854.00		440,916.32
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	103,262.72	1,557,496.79	2,001,839.00	77.8%	444,342.21
REVENUE +/- EXPENDITURES	213,284.41	217,909.07	208,732.00		(9,177.07)

CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - COMMUNITY CENTER

PERIOD ENDING AS OF 07/31/2023

REVENUES	YTD	Budget
RENTALS	\$ 60,590.00	48,000.00
DEPOSITS	29,250.00	24,000.00
CLEAN-UP FEES	4,375.00	5,550.00
DEPOSITS REFUNDED	(22,775.00)	(18,360.00)
DONATIONS	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	71,440.00	59,190.00
EXPENDITURES		
PAYROLL/TAXES/RETIREMENT	2,225.16	3,124.00
MANAGER FEES	25,470.00	22,800.00
COMPUTER/INTERNET	1,504.91	1,680.00
TELEPHONE	500.00	600.00
UTILITIES	9,033.58	15,820.00
MAINTENANCE	4,224.37	8,000.00
SUPPLIES	1,690.15	1,200.00
CLEANING	5,850.00	6,400.00
EQUIPMENT	-	6,000.00
MARKETING	-	-
DONATION EXPENDITURES	-	-
FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	50,498.17	65,624.00
NET POSITION	\$ 20,941.83	\$ (6,434.00)

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations – 7/31/2023

GENERAL FUND

Cash

Total available funds as of July 31, 2023, are \$4,120,680

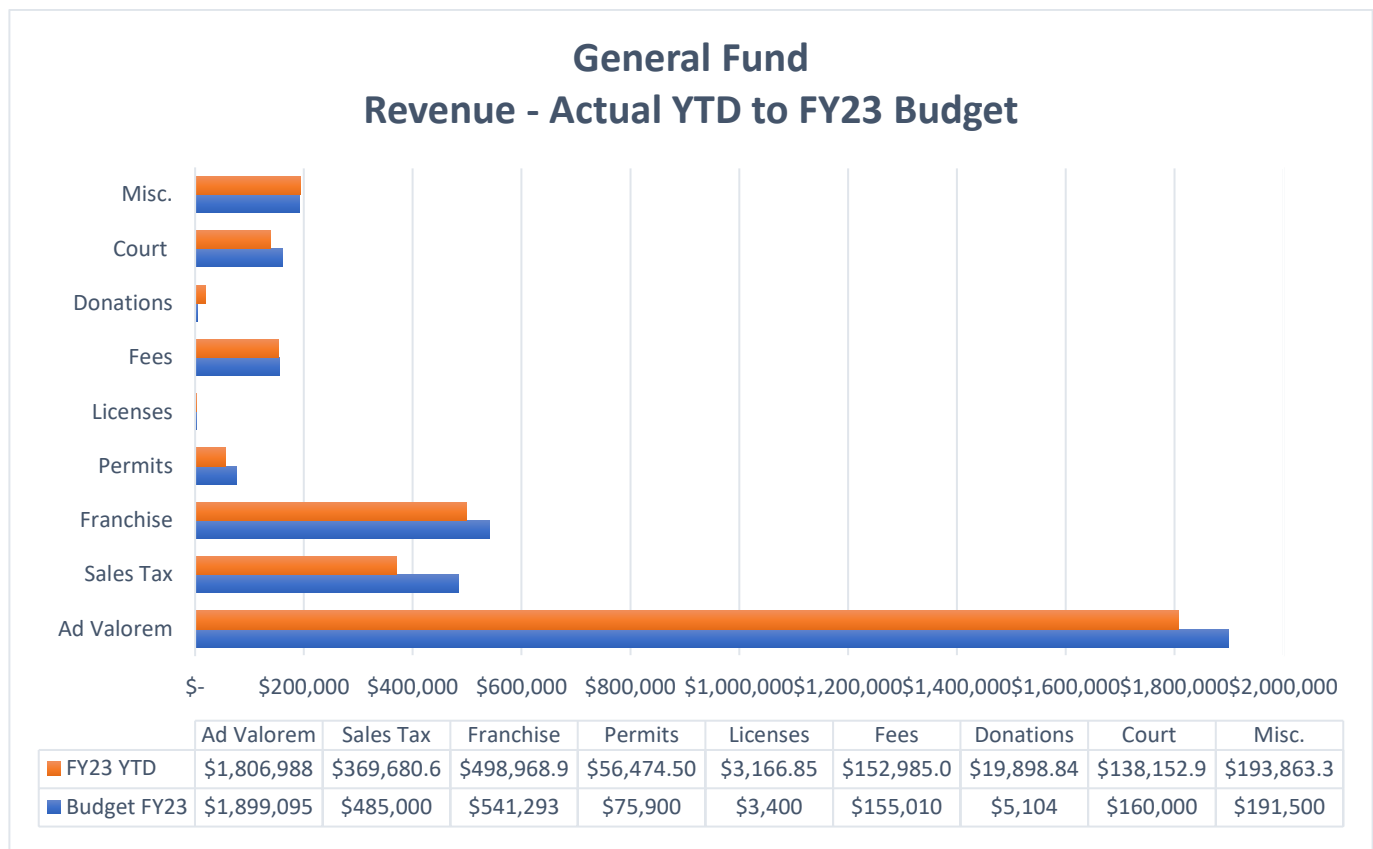
Revenue

Ad Valorem Tax received for July totals \$23,121. YTD collections total \$1,806,988 or 95% of the FY23 budget of \$1,899,095

Sale Tax Revenue received during the month of July totals \$31,727 for FY23. YTD totals \$369,681 or 76% of the \$485,000 budgeted for FY23.

Annual Building Permits revenue totals \$55,370 or 74% of the \$75,000 budgeted for FY23.

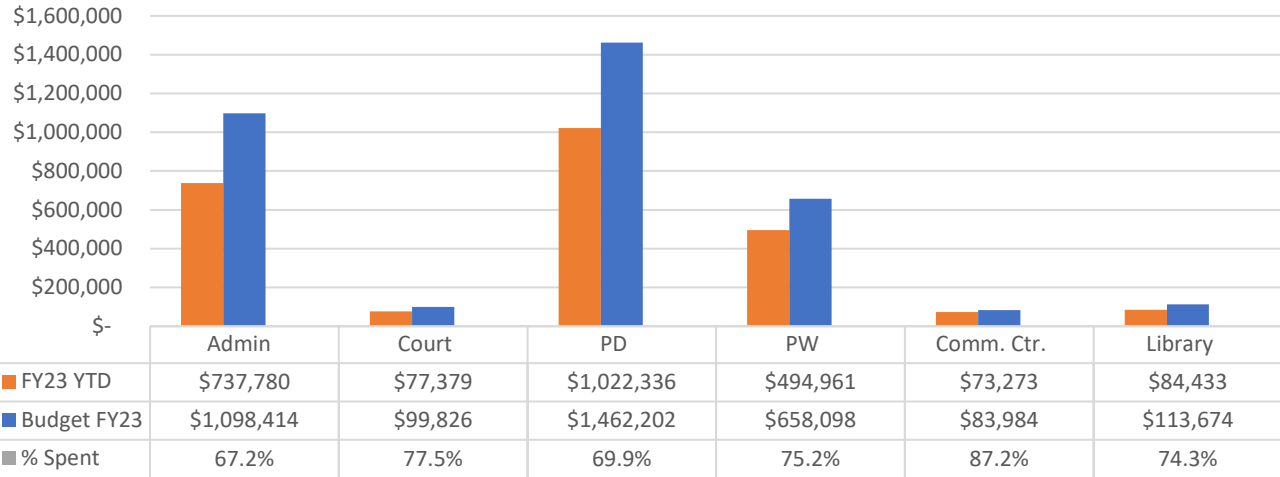
Trash Collection YTD totals \$89,150 or 405% of the \$22,000 budgeted for FY23. The anticipated dumpster fees for May, July & September events will be deducted here to bring us closer to the budgeted amount.



Expenditures

All departments are operating within the FY23 budget.

General Fund Expenditures - Actual YTD to FY23 Budget



WATER FUND

Meters

Current meters for July 2023 total 1690 vs 1681 for July 2022.

Cash

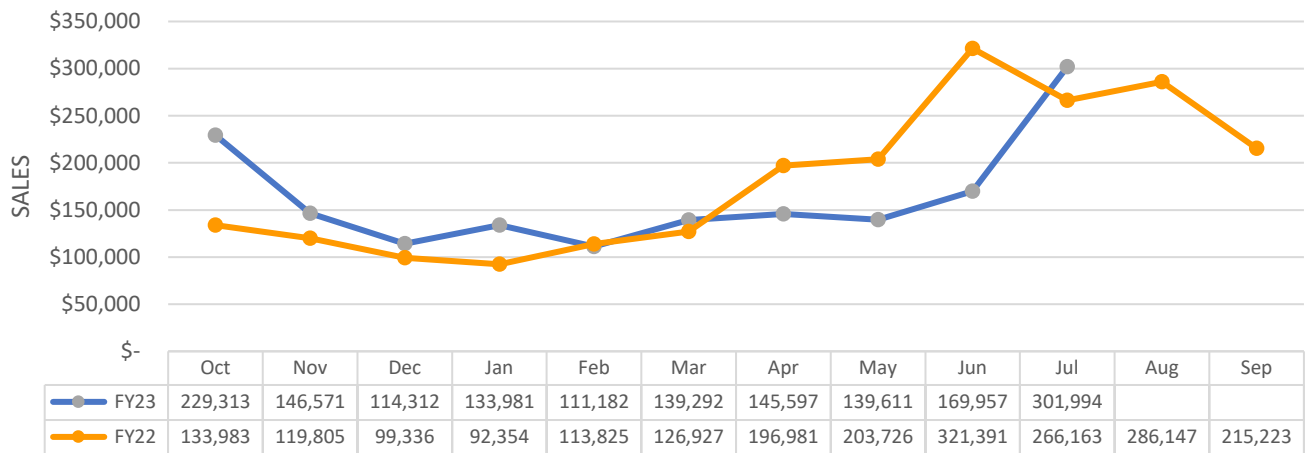
Total available funds as of July 31, 2023, are \$2,019,847.

Revenue

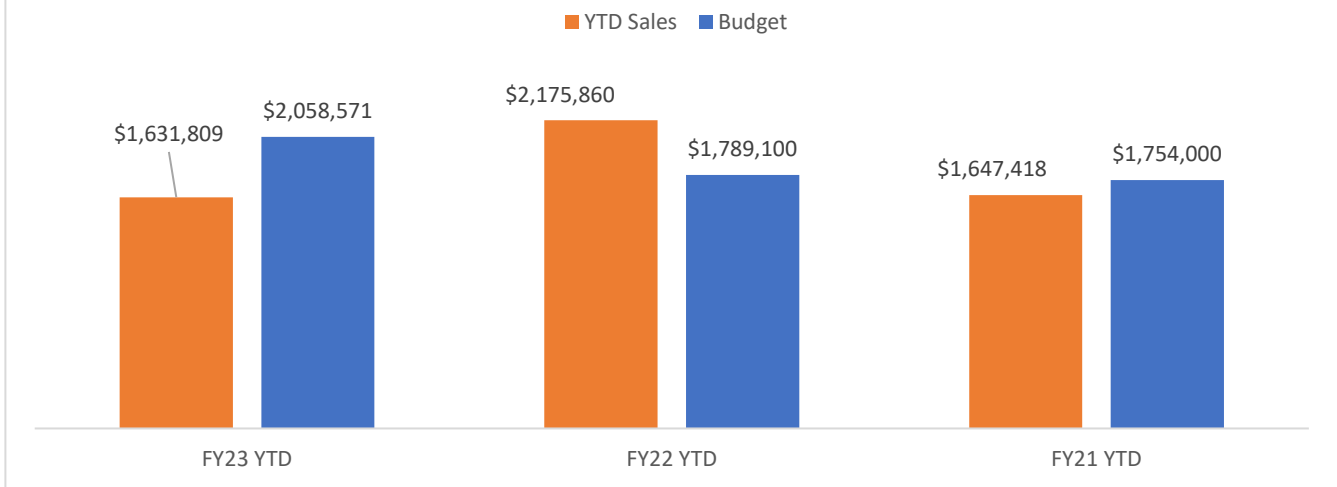
Revenue YTD totals \$1,775,406 or 80% of the \$2,210,571 budgeted for FY23. Total revenue for the same period last year was \$1,758,327.

Water Sales for the month total \$301,994. YTD water sales total \$1,631,809 or 79% of the \$2,058,571 budgeted for FY23.

WATER SALES - FY23 VS FY22 VARIANCE \$



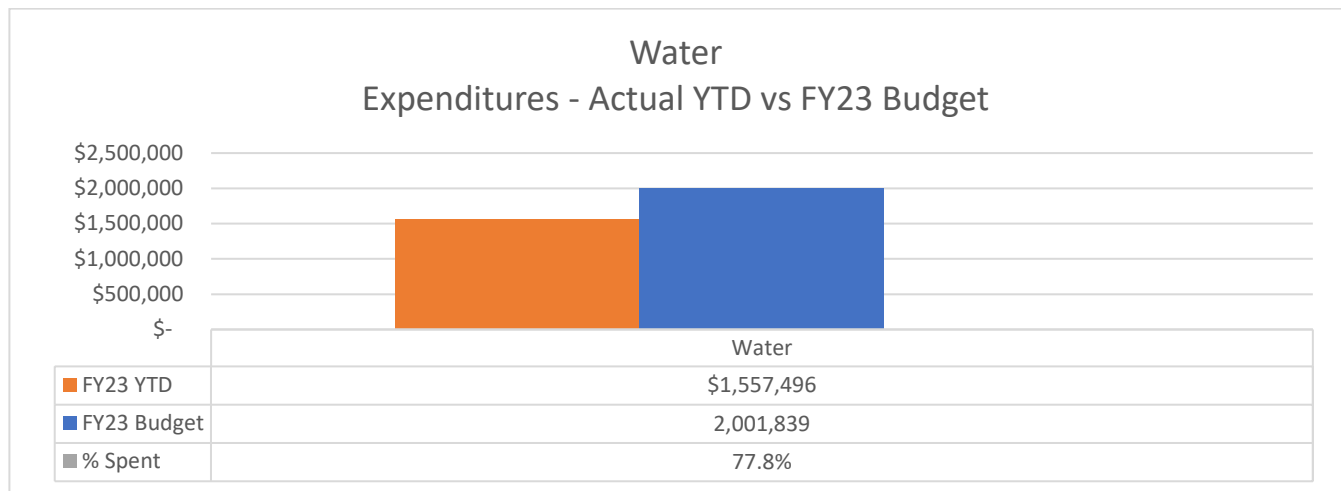
Water Sales Actual vs Budget



Meter installation revenue YTD totals \$5,300 or 53% of the \$10,000 budgeted for FY23.

Expenditures

Expenditures for the month total \$103,263. YTD expenditures for FY23 total \$1,557,497 or 78% of the \$2,001,839 budget.



Interest & Sinking Fund

Revenue

Ad Valorem Tax collections YTD total \$695,666 of the \$664,217 budgeted for FY23.

Expenditures

No expenditures for the month. Next bond payments are due in August 2023.

Capital Improvements Fund – (all accounts are restricted)**Cash Balance**

Water Impact Fee Balance is \$178,160.

Street Impact Balance is \$61,658.

American Recovery Acct. Balance is \$869,798.

Revenue

No new revenue other than monthly interest which is included in the balances above to report for the month.

Asset Seizure Fund**Cash Balance**

The Restricted Fund Balance is \$137,819.

Revenue

No new revenue other than monthly interest which is included in the balances above to report for the month.

Expenditures

Month expenditures to report is \$2,600

Summary

The City of Garden Ridge is financially sound and operating within the Budget set forth by City Council.

City Secretary

From: City Administrator
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2023 9:12 AM
To: City Secretary
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Linda Crosland

Add to Aug Council packet please.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Camilla Weeks
Date: July 14, 2023 at 8:49:54 AM CDT
To: City Administrator <administrator@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Linda Crosland

Good morning,

I wanted to let you know that Mrs. Crosland is an excellent librarian. My husband and I were helped the moment we walked into the library. Mrs. Crosland is a knowledgeable, professional person. A valued member of the Garden Ridge community.

v/r,
Camilla Weeks

Sent from my iPhone

Garden Ridge Police,

Today at 21765 Forest Waters Cir. a Police Officer came by my house in reference to sprinklers. (right day, wrong hours). My 12 year old answered the door while I listened on the door bell cam.

please tell the officer thank you. He was kind and professional during his interaction with my daughter (who was very nervous) you continue to be professionals with all today's challenges. Keep up the great work !!

Thank you

Joshua T Themann
(915) 504-9143

City Secretary

From: City Administrator
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 8:57 AM
To: City Secretary
Subject: RE: Employee Recognition

Michelle deserves the recognition, and it is so very true. This needs to be included in the September Council packet.



NANCY CAIN CITY MANAGER

Office: 210-651-6632
Fax: 210-651-9638
administrator@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us
9400 Municipal Parkway
Garden Ridge, TX 78266
www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

From: City Secretary <CitySecretary@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 6:09 PM
To: City Administrator <administrator@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us>
Subject: Employee Recognition

I received a voicemail today from a resident, Pat Cifelli, praising Michelle Hinojosa and it was such a sweet and refreshing message that I wanted to share it and have in writing. The voicemail stated, "I really appreciate everything Michelle does. Michelle is always so sweet and takes care of everything right away, so I really want to recognize and thank her for being the way she is. She is the perfect example of good people in this world that I've seen in a long time."



Marisa Spencer CITY SECRETARY

Office: 210-651-6632
Fax: 210-651-9638
CitySecretary@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us
9400 Municipal Parkway
Garden Ridge, TX 78266
www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us



CITY OF GREY FOREST

18502 SCENIC LOOP ROAD
GREY FOREST, TEXAS 78023
(210) 695-3261

August 10, 2023

City of City of Garden Ridge
Attn: Marisa Spencer
9400 Municipal Parkway
Garden Ridge, Texas 78266

Email: CitySecretary@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

Dear Marisa Spencer:

The members of the 2023 TMCA Scholarship Committee commend your dedicated efforts to continue to pursue your educational and professional development by participating in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program. On behalf of the members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to extend congratulations to you for being selected to receive a **\$500 Major Scholarship**.

Scholarship awards will be presented at the Advanced Institute held on October 26-27, 2023, in Frisco, Texas. You will be formally recognized as the scholarship recipient during the TMCA Annual Awards Ceremony on October 26, 2023.

Please confirm your attendance to the TMCA Awards Ceremony scheduled for October 26, 2023, to citysecretary@greyforest-tx.gov so we can make appropriate arrangements on your recognition. I look forward to your response.

Best wishes for your continued success and once again, congratulations.

Sincerely,



Miguel Cantu, TRMC
2023 TMCA Scholarship Committee Chair

Cc: Janette Goodall, TRMC, Inc. President
Miriam Sheehan, TMCA/TMCCP Administrative Director
Scholarship Committee Members:
April Hilbrich, TRMC, Victoria
Bobby Jo Taylor, TRMC, Ovilla
Amber Villareal, TRMC, Waxahachie
Lisa Cabrera, TRMC, Krum
Maria Rodriguez, TRMC, Webster
Amanda Morales, TRMC La Feria
Gretchen Mercer, TRMC, Canyon, Board Liaison



Marisa Spencer
9400 Municipal Parkway
Garden Ridge, TX 78266

Dear Marisa Spencer:

Congratulations on earning a place on the **2023 Municipal Clerks Honor Roll** hosted by General Code since 2001.

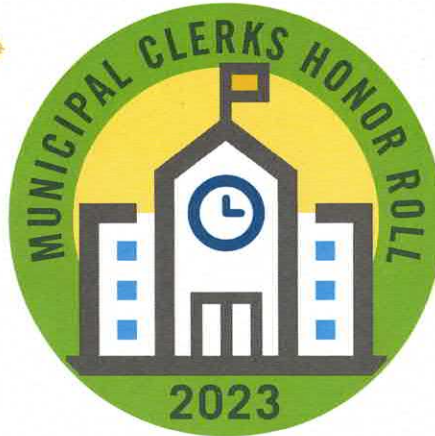
Enclosed is your certificate and a commemorative pin given only to the honorees.

We created the Honor Roll more than 20 years ago to give municipal officials and community residents a chance to recognize individual Municipal Clerks for a job well done. Reading each of the nominations continues to inspire and further enhance our own regard and appreciation of the work and dedication that Clerks like you devote to our communities on a daily basis.

To view the full list of honorees, visit **MunicipalClerksHonorRoll.com**.

It is an honor for all of us at General Code to host the Municipal Clerks Honor Roll again this year.

Best regards,
General Code and our family of companies



In appreciation of outstanding and dedicated service as
City Secretary of the City of Garden Ridge,
this Certificate of Recognition is awarded to

Marisa Spencer

**GENERAL
CODE**

A Member of the ICC Family of Solutions

Garden Ridge Community and Event Center
Monthly Report
August 1st thru August 31st 2023

Utilization (by Days)

FY 22-23 (Current Month)	FY 21-22 (Current Month)	FY 22-23 (Year to Date)	FY 21-22 (Year to Date)
17	14	263	271

Wildflower (Booked Current Month)	Bluebonnet (Booked Current Month)
10	7

Category Count (by Events)	(Current Month)	(Year to Date)
1. Resident / Non-Resident	8	67
2. City Chartered Non-Profit Organizations	0	28
3. Non-Profit Service Organizations	3	62
4. Non-Profit Associations	3	62
5. City Use	3	44

Administrative Operations and Upcoming Events

City Hall Office Hours

- Monday/Wednesday/Thursday: 8am-5pm, Tuesday: 8am-6pm, and Friday: 8am-4pm.
- Upcoming Holidays (City Hall Closed): Monday October 9th.
- After hours emergency phone number: 210-651-6831.

Disposing Waste & Recycling Bins/Cans/Containers

- Residents who wish to dispose of their old waste and recycling bins/cans/containers may bring these items to the drop off site located at the end of Municipal Parkway through Friday, September 29th. See City website or monthly Grapevine for schedule of hours and a map showing where the drop off site is located.

Utility Billing Update

- The September bills reflect the new rates for trash and recycling service, the dumpster fee, and any additional cart fees for those that requested additional containers. Email water@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us if you have any billing related questions.

First Friday

- Join the Mayor and City Council at Paul Davis Park for First Friday on Friday, October 6th, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm for fun and conversation. October's theme is "Let the Ghoul Times Roll" This is a great opportunity for the community to come together, and we truly hope to see you there.

November Election

- The City of Garden Ridge is a polling location for the November uniform election date. The last day to register to vote is Tuesday, October 10th. Early Voting will be conducted in the City Council Chambers beginning on Monday, October 23rd through Friday, November 3rd. Election Day Voting will be conducted at the Community and Event Center on Tuesday, November 7th. For additional information about this election, visit the Comal County Clerk's Office Elections and Voter Registration website.

Communication Efforts

Garden Ridge Emergency Alert System: G.R.E.A.S. enhances the City's ability to communicate with residents during an emergency by sending direct notifications to your phone. Go to the City's website and click on the "Emergency Alerts" graphic button on the homepage to SIGN UP/MODIFY your communication preferences.

Notify Me: Stay up-to-date with general news and information from the City by subscribing to Notify Me email and text notifications. By signing up, you can receive automatic notifications for agenda postings, calendar events, general announcements, and other website updates. Go to the City's website and click on the "Emergency Alerts" graphic button on the homepage to SIGN UP/MODIFY your communication preferences.

Streaming of Meetings: City Council - 182 views / Commissions – 40 views

Public Information Act Summary	
Year	Number of Requests
2023	85
2022	166
2021	146
2020	207
2019	276
2018	225





POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

August 1 to August 31

Calls for Service

Dispatched: 193

City Ordinance: 42 (Water 19)

False Alarms: 10

Arrests

- * 1 – Driving While Intoxicated
- * 1 – Outstanding Warrant for Possession of Marijuana <2oz
- * 1 – Possession of a Controlled Substance PG3<28g
- * 1 – Warrant for Failure to Report- Felony with Serious Bodily Injury or Death Results
- * 1 – Outstanding Warrant for Possession of a Controlled Substance PG1, <1 Gram
- * 1 – Possession of a Prohibited Substance in a Correctional Facility

Traffic Enforcement

Crashes: 2

Citations: 86

Warnings: 119

Total: 207

Training

- * Sgt Thoemke – Active Shooter Phases and Prevention
- * Ofc. Valdez – Narcotics / Dangerous Drug Investigations
- * Police Department Weapons Qualification

Outreach Efforts

- * GRCPAAA Volunteer hours: 50
- * Coffee with the Cops (Monthly)
- * School back in session / traffic monitoring shows great improvement

Administrative Comments

- * Purchased new DEA truck
- * Still recruiting for new officers



City of Garden Ridge

"A way of life, not just a place to live"

MONTHLY PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

August 2023

Activities for the month

Public Works Tasks Completed: 570

Steven Steinmetz
Public Works
Director

Eric Lowman
Public Facilities
Foreman

Stanley Georg
Manuel Troncoso
Ryan Furgason
Andrew Klein

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Parks maintenance
- Facilities maintenance
- Streets
- All public facilities grass and right-of-way's
- Storm water Drainage
- Animal Control
- Oak Wilt monitoring

Upcoming Events

September Dumpster
Schedule

Sept 2nd. & 3rd.

Sept 9th. & 10th.

Sept 16th. & 17th.

Sept 23rd. & 24th.

Storm Water Drainage Facility and Easement Maintenance

- Inspected 10 outfalls.
- Inspected 18 detention ponds.
- Stormwater public outreach: 2 message displayed on FM 2252 sign.
- Trash removed from Right of ways by volunteers: 7lbs
- Trash removed from Right of Ways by employees: 60lbs
- Rain fall total : 0.65 in.

Street Maintenance

- Replace street sign on Hickory Bend.
- Replace traffic cones with traffic delineators on Municipal Parkway
- Slope asphalt road edge on Schoenthal.

Parks Maintenance

- Replaced broken playground piece.
- Drag the ballfield three times.
- Cut down and removed three large dead trees.
- Replaced leaking ball valve for Davis Park rear water service.

City Facility/Property Maintenance

- Replaced City Hall dusk to dawn sensor
- Replaced all A/C filters.
- Replace the broken restroom door latch at the shop.
- Community Center automatic door repair and adjustment

Equipment Maintenance

- Replaced two tires on small bobcat.
- Installed a 75gal truck bed mounted diesel transfer tank, and ordered a second.

Oak Wilt

- Scheduling a meeting with all parties to discuss trench path.

Education

- Andrew and Ryan took Confined Space/Field Operations Safety Training.

Future Projects or Needs

- Sound system upgrades for the Community Center and Paul Davis Park.
- City Hall needs a new chiller plant.
- More storage space required.
- Covered equipment storage.

Animal Services Monthly Activities

- 7 deer carcasses were disposed of, which makes for the year 64.
- 0 live trap loaned out this month, 17 trap loaned out year-to-date .
- 261 registered/reregistered animals for the year.
- 0 Nuisance complaints received.
- 0 Animal reported bites.

Adoptions

- 0 Dog; 3 year-to-date.
- 0 Cats; 2 year-to-date.

Returned To Owners

- 5 Dogs; 23 year-to-date.
- 0 Cats; 0 year-to-date.

Transferred To Other Agencies

- 0 Dogs for month; 7 year-to-date.
- 0 Cats for month; 5 year-to-date.

Currently In City Care

- 5 Dogs; 6 Kittens; 4 Cats

Ready For Adoption

- 2 Dogs; 0 Cats



Year to Date Wildlife Report

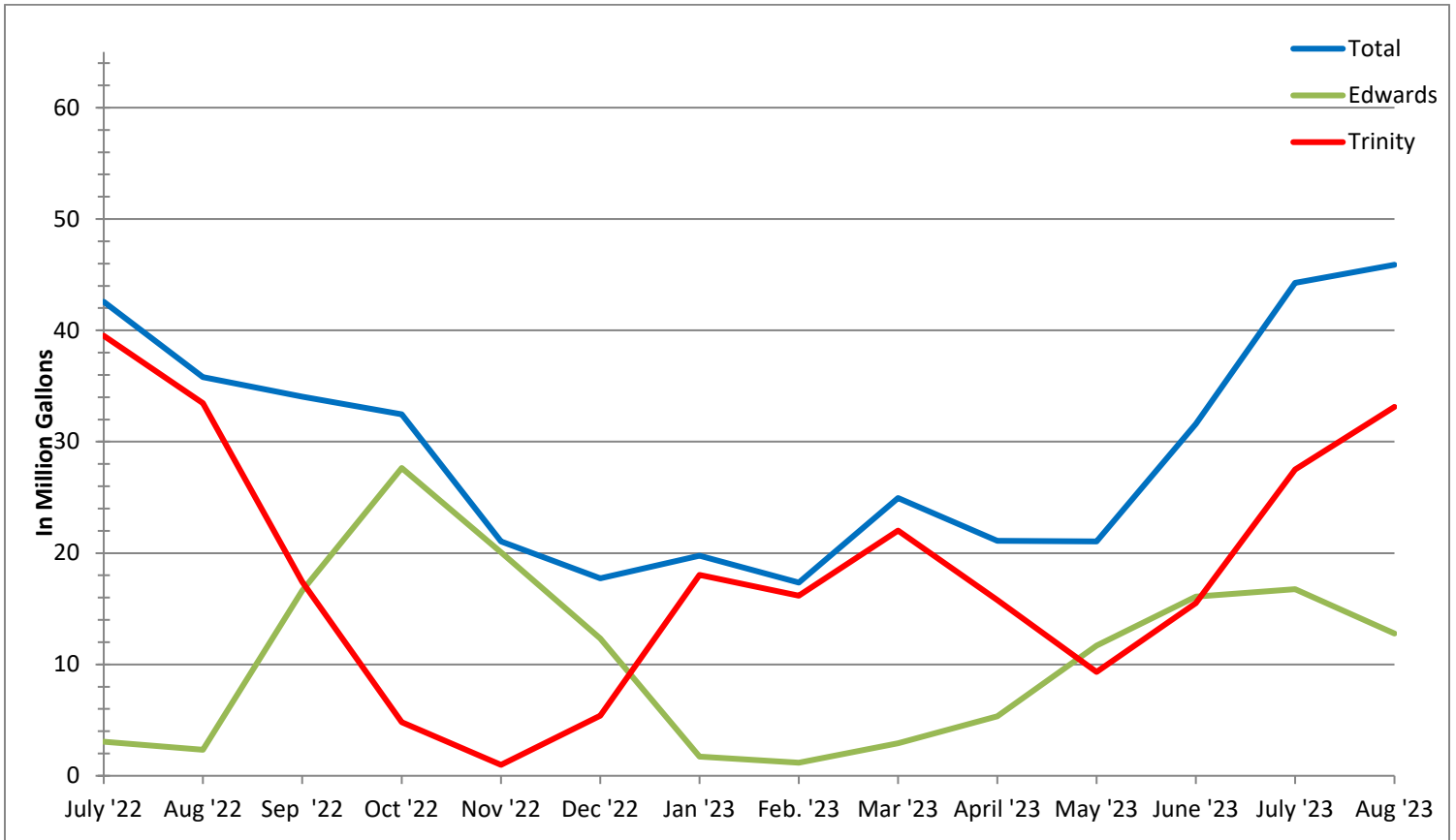
	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul	Aug.	Sep.	Oct	Nov	Dec.	Total
Deer	4	2	12	6	11	15	5	7					62
Raccoons	2	9	3	3	7	9	5	6					44
Opossums	2		7	3	5	4	3	1					25
Skunks	11	5	3	1	3		4	1					28
Wild hogs					8								8
Turtles					1								1
Squirrels		1	4	7	3	6		4					25
Foxes		1		1				4					6
Armadillos	3		2	1	1	4		1					12
Hawks			1										1
Bats			1										1
Coyotes													
Buzzards	1		1										2
Ringtails			1		1								2
Snakes				1	2	2	1						6
Duck			1										1
Porcupine								1					1
Rabbit	1												1
Totals	24	18	36	23	42	40	13	27					221



Utilities Department Report

As of August 31, 2023

City of Garden Ridge Aquifer Usage

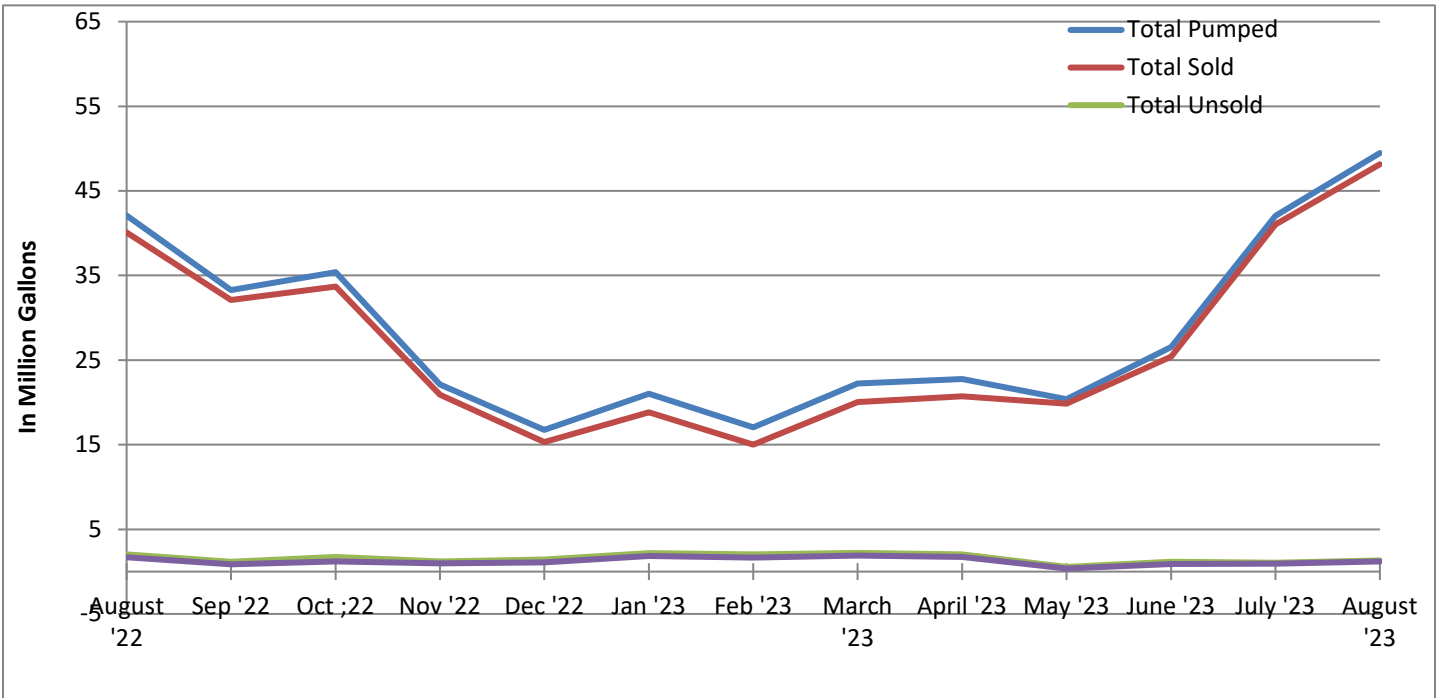


	Month:	Year:	Available:	Stage:
Edwards Well Usage AC/FT:	39.17	210.13	291.40	4
Trinity Well Usage AC/FT:	101.65	483.24	N/A	0

Water Quality

Backteriological Samples	Due :	Missed:	Passed:	Failed:
Distribution Samples :	6	0	6	0
Speacial Samples :	0	0	0	0
Chlorine Residual Test:	31	0	31	0

2022 – 2023 Pumping Report



	Total Pumped (Thousands)	Total Sold (Thousands)	Total Unsold (Thousands)	Unaccountable Unsold (Thousands)	Unaccountable Unsold %
Aug '22	42,087	40,066	2,021	1,687	4.0%
Sep '22	33,266	32,087	1,179	879	2.6%
Oct '22	35,400	33,684	1,716	1,204	3.4%
Nov '22	22,132	20,924	1,208	988	4.5%
Dec '22	16,749	15,305	1,444	1,094	6.5%
Jan '23	21,033	18,840	2,193	1,843	8.8%
Feb '23	17,052	15,007	2,045	1,645	9.6%
Mar '23	22,232	20,020	2,212	1,895	8.5%
April '23	22,754	20,702	2,052	1,742	7.7%
May '23	20,386	19,834	5,526	362	1.8%
June '23	26,548	25,389	1,159	909	3.4%
July '23	42,053	41,019	1,034	944	2.0%
August '23	49,472	48,143	1,329	1,203	2.4%
Yearly Average	27,980	27,002	1,932	1,261	5.0%
	Yearly national average				16%

Utilities Department Monthly Activities:

New Installed Meters	0	Work Orders	332
Meter Replacements	0	Locates	87
City Owned Leaks	0	Irrigations Permits Issued	0
Meters Read	1697	Total Rebates	0
Meter Tests	0		

AMI Information

	July				July		
Total AMI Notifications	1578	1705	↑ 127	Abnormal Usage	266	181	↓ 85
Automatic Draft Customers	693	693	same	Continuous Flow	98	102	↑ 4
AMI Customer Portal Profiles	771	771	same	Leak Info Code	149	166	↑ 17
E-Billing Customers	404	404	same	Usage Trend	259	339	↑ 80

Stage 2 restriction alerts

August alerts 917

Up 111 from July

*Active Leak Info Code Alerts – The firmware on the meter is measuring the flow rate through the meter and will only be triggered if water is flowing continuously above the configurable parameter of the meter’s max-flow rate threshold for 24 hours. The city has set a standard max-flow rate of .1% and is notified of any triggered alert.

Leak Adjustments

New Requests	4	Waiting for Customer	0	Approved	3	Amount Approved	529.67	Denied	1	Sent to Water Commission	0
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Garden Ridge Library

Volume VI, Issue 12
September 6, 2023

Monthly Library Update

By Linda Crosland, Library Director

For leisure, for learning, for life!

Upcoming Activities for September

Children's Activities

Tuesdays, Lego Robotics, 3:15-4:15 pm

Wednesdays, Mad about Science Club, 3:15-4:15

Lego Robotics for Home Schoolers, 10:30-11:30 am

Thursdays, MakerSpace, 3:15-4:15 pm

Fridays, Preschool Storytime, 10:30 am with Stay & Play immediately following

Adults' Activities

***1st Tuesdays**, Cards for Troops, 1:00 PM

*This month Cards for Troops will meet on the second Tuesday, September 12

3rd Tuesdays, Card-making, 1:00 PM

Thursdays, Adult Coloring, 1:00 PM

Special Activities

Lunch-n-Learn, September 21, 12:00 Noon, "Plant Propagation"

We are happy to announce that our library has once again earned our Accreditation for the year.

Department Statistics for August

Visits to the Library	1,427
Items Checked Out	2,735
\$ Saved by checking out hardcopy books	
during month	\$14,550.10
\$ Saved by using Libby	\$19,175.50
New Patrons Added	11
New Items Added, Physical books	93
-Libby Books + Libby Advantage	
-SimplyE	1,448
Volunteer Hours	159

Activity Statistics

Children's Preschool Storytime	90
Children's Lego Robotics & Kid Crafts	27
Adult Classes—Coloring, Graceland,	
Book club, crafts, Lunch-n-Learn	61
Interactive Movie Night	61

Activity Totals 239

A day without reading is like...just kidding. I have no idea.







memorandum

To: Garden Ridge City Council
From: Trihydro Corporation
cc: Ms. Nancy Cain, City Administrator, City of Garden Ridge
Date: August 25, 2023
Re: Engineering Report for September 2023 Council Meeting

FM 2252 TxDOT Project

- Construction has started along FM 2252

City of Garden Ridge Sewer System

- Force main discharge
 - Revisited the utilization of City of Schertz sewer mains to serve the City

Land Development Projects

- Potential Developments: The City Engineer has responded to inquiries from developers regarding potential development projects along FM 2252.

00000-000-0000



FM 2252 WATER LINE RELOCATION

Comal County, TX
September 06, 2023



**GARDEN
RIDGE**

Naturally Home.

PROJECT SITE OVERVIEW



WATER LINE INSTALLATION



Water Line

Approximately STA. 237+36 to STA. 238+54



12-inch 11.25 Degree Bend

Approximately installed at STA. 237+44

WATER LINE INSTALLATION (CONT.)



**Bored 24-inch Steel Casing Under
Arrowood Drainage Structure**
Approximately STA. 236+87



Water Line
Approximately STA. 236+87 to STA.
237+44

WATER LINE INSTALLATION (CONT.)



Compacted Backfill

Approximately STA. 237+43 to STA.
238+54



Warning Tape

Approximately STA. 236+14 to STA.
236+50

WATER LINE INSTALLATION (CONT.)



CenterPoint Gas Line Crossing
Approximately STA. 233+00



PVC Casing Under Driveway
Approximately STA. 232+50

WATER LINE INSTALLATION (CONT.)



AT&T Utility Crossing

Approximately STA. 234+16



Hickory Bend Bore Pit Excavation

Approximately STA. 227+13

WATER LINE INSTALLATION (CONT.)



Tonkawa Pass Bore Pit Excavation
Approximately STA. 181+91



**Bored 24-inch Steel Casing Under
Tonkawa Pass**
Approximately STA. 181+91

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

#	YEAR MONTH	2023																								2024											
		MAY				JULY				AUGUST				SEPTEMBER				OCTOBER				NOVEMBER				DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY			
		15-19	17-21	24-28	31-4	7-11	14-18	21-25	28-1	4-8	11-15	18-22	25-29	2-6	9-13	16-20	23-27	30-3	6-10	13-17	20-24	27-1	4-8	11-15	18-22	25-29	1-5	8-12	15-19	22-26	29-2	5-9	12-16	19-23	26-29		
1	Pre-Construction May 17.2023	X	X																																		
2	Submittals																																				
3	SWPPP																																				
4	Traffic Control																																				
5	12" PVC C909 Water Main																																				
6	24" Bore with Steel Casing																																				
7	24" Steel Split Casing																																				
8	Abandone & Remove Existing Water Lines																																				
9	Repair Asphalt Driveway																																				
10	Repair Concrete Structure																																				
11	Revegetation																																				

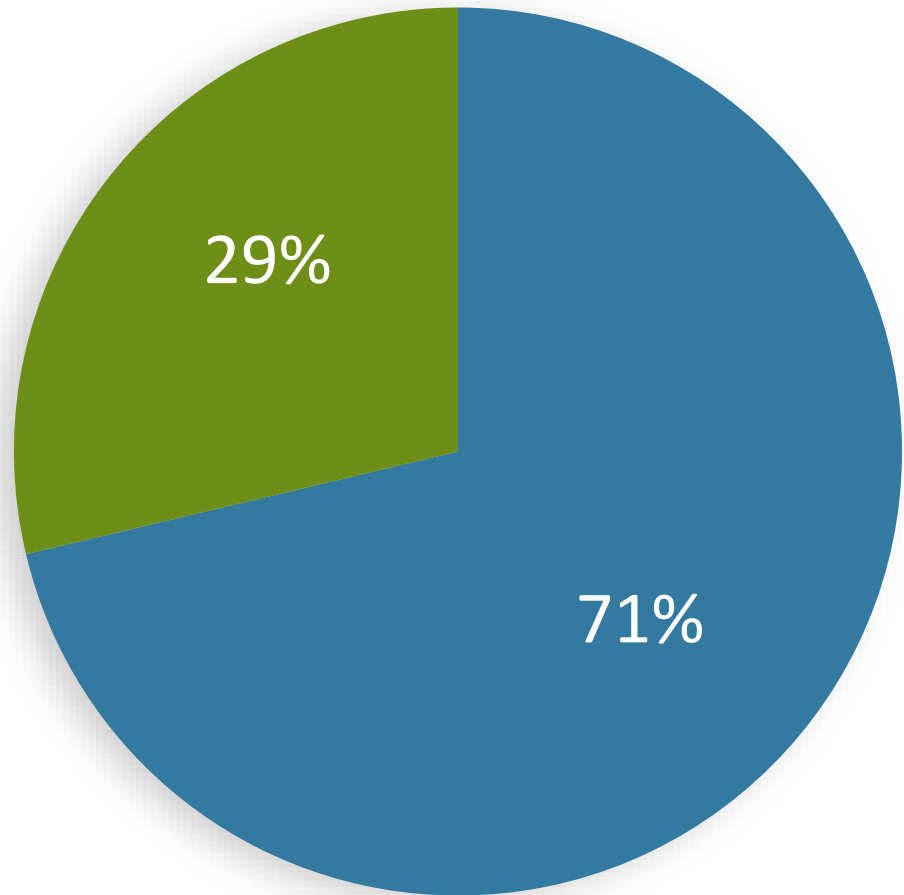
PERCENTAGE OF WORK

29%

Project completion to
date.

71%

Project completion
required to finish.



Questions?

WHAT

WHY

WHERE

WHEN

WHO

HOW



JULY 2023

Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Report



825 South Saint Mary's Street
San Antonio, TX 78205



www.alamoareampo.org



(210) 227-8651

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INTRODUCTION

The Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) conducts Active Transportation Planning to support development of an equitable and sustainable transportation system for the Alamo Area. AAMPO recognizes the need to plan for people of all ages and abilities and for all transportation modes. A system designed to accommodate people walking and biking improves safety, not only for these users, but every user of the transportation system.

The Active Transportation Program supports the following AAMPO goals:

- Meet needs of a growing region while advancing alternative modes of transportation and increasing accessibility for all users;
- Facilitate the involvement and participation of communities, agencies, organizations and the general public in the transportation planning process; and
- Maintain a focus on safety.

The Walkable Community Workshop (WCW) component, of the Active Transportation Program, is designed to engage residents in the planning process for their neighborhoods. It is modeled after a national program that encourages communities to design a comprehensive and coordinated system that is safe and welcoming for people walking and biking. Community leaders and residents who identify a need within a specific geographic area may apply for a Walkable Community Workshop. Workshops are intended to:

- Educate participants about the benefits of active transportation;
- Assist communities in identifying policy and infrastructure improvements that support walking and bicycling; and
- Provide the community with an opportunity for two-way communication with local transportation agency staff.

Benefits of Walkability

Neighborhoods and streets that are safe and welcoming for people walking have many broader benefits for the community. They can:

- Increase safety for all users
- Provide transportation choices
- Increase quality of life
- Support economic development
- Improve health by providing greater opportunities for exercise
- Improve air quality by reducing the need to drive alone
- Conserve energy and natural resources
- Reduce automobile ownership costs
- Provide opportunities for community engagement

Walkable communities typically have sidewalks, trails, shared use paths, pedestrian amenities (such as benches), sufficient lighting, shade, and good access to destinations.

BACKGROUND

The City of Garden Ridge submitted an application to AAMPO to organize a Walkable Community Workshop for its residents in January 2023. This report details the process taken to gather public input on barriers to walkability within their community and outlines infrastructure improvements that can be implemented to mitigate for those barriers.

STUDY AREA

The City of Garden Ridge is located northeast of downtown San Antonio, TX in Comal County. The Study Area, which is smaller than the city limits, is bound by the cities of Selma and Schertz to the south, the local quarry to the northeast, unincorporated Comal County to the north, and the unincorporated community of Bracken to the southwest (see Figure 1).

LAND USE AND CIVIC AMENITIES

The study area is primarily zoned as Residential Estates (RE) with minimum lot areas of 3/4 acre. The community is served by a public water supply, private sewerage facilities, and is located over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. Municipal and civic facilities including the community and events center, elementary school, and city hall can be found on the northeast side of FM 3009. Paul Davis Park, 20685 Grass Creek Road, is embedded in a residential area and only accessible from the main entrance, limiting its accessibility and connectivity. Davenport High School is located on the southwest side of FM 3009, and is inaccessible from the rest of the city due to the development of a gated community. FM 3009, FM 2252, Bat Cave Road, and Schoenthal Road act as barriers for pedestrians and cyclists coming from the neighborhoods to parks, civic amenities, schools, and shopping. Further planned residential development just northwest of Garden Ridge city limits along Bat

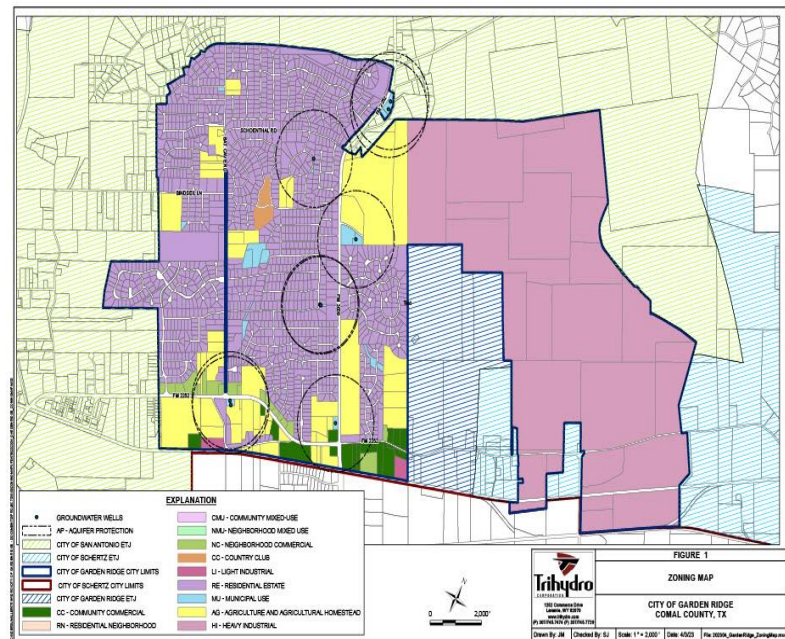


Figure 1: City of Garden Ridge Zoning Map

Cave Road will increase vehicular traffic along the corridor, with potential impacts to Schoenthal Road.

CURRENT BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Throughout the city of Garden Ridge, there is a general lack of sidewalks and other pedestrian facilities. Cyclists and pedestrians traverse neighborhood streets and wide shoulders along major thoroughfares with no protection or separation from automobiles. The Federal Highway Administration recommends sidewalks or side paths. Although, wide shoulders along rural highways are acceptable with a 6-foot wide minimum, entire neighborhoods with no sidewalks or paths are not good practice, according to FHWA.¹

TRAFFIC COUNTS

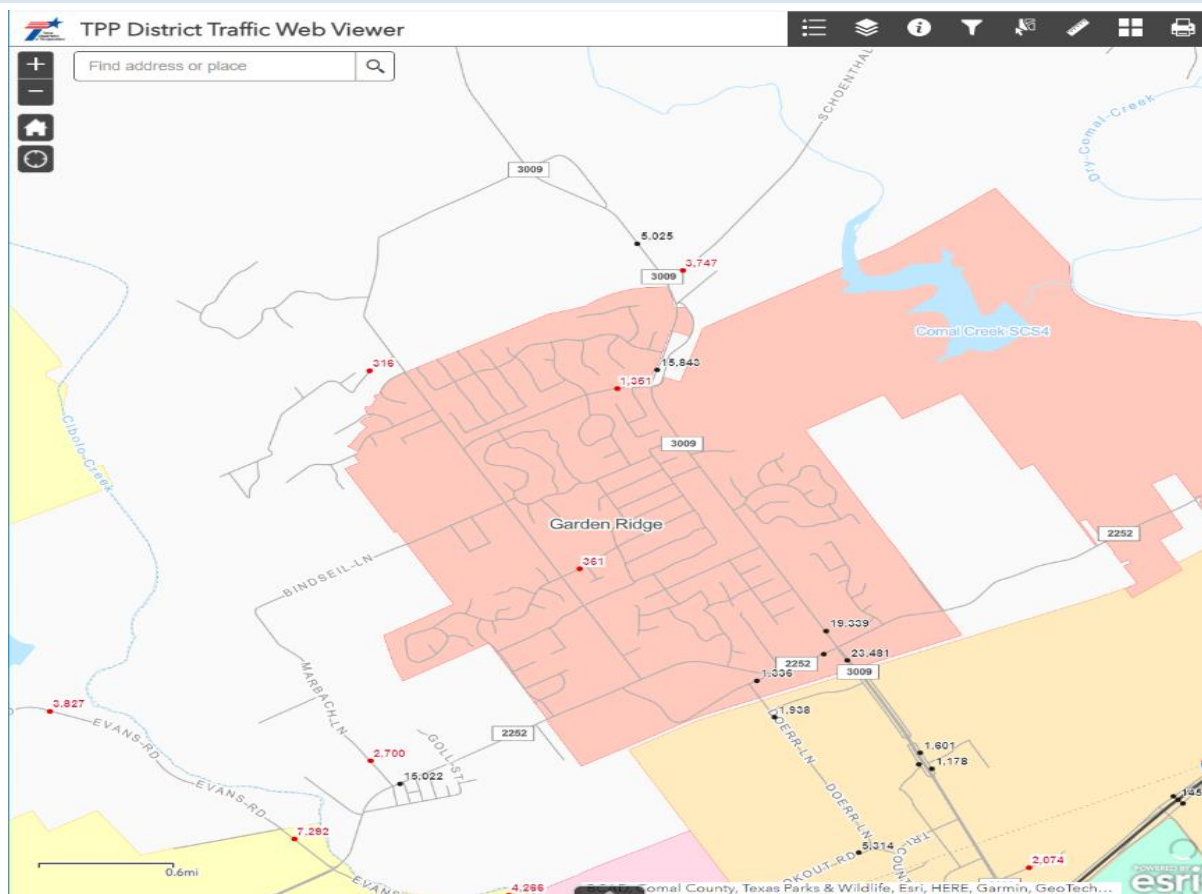


Figure 2: TxDOT Average Daily Traffic (2021)

¹ Pedestrian Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System (2013). Retrieved May 2023, from http://www.pedbikesafe.org/pedsafe/resources_guidelines_sidewalkwalkways.cfm.

Traffic counts within Garden Ridge neighborhoods are low, with higher numbers along streets that connect to FM 3009. Neighborhood streets may be comfortable to walk on without sidewalks as a result of the low amount of traffic, but vehicle speeds and the lack of traffic-calming (speed reducing) measures play a more significant role in terms of pedestrian safety and comfort. FM 3009 and FM 2252 have the highest traffic counts within the city, particularly at their intersection. Automobile traffic is primarily using these corridors as through-streets, with high traffic counts along FM 3009 going towards Davenport High School and truck traffic to the adjacent quarry along FM 2252. As a result of the traffic counts along these thoroughfares, and speed limits of 45 miles per hour or more along these corridors, suggested treatments for pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure will mostly be off-street. These infrastructure improvements will require a physical barrier for the upmost safety, with street crossings and intersections requiring a greater significance of infrastructure to separate transportation modes. Areas within the neighborhoods with lower traffic counts and speed limits will require less physical infrastructure (e.g., restriping, buffers, etc.) as the context allows for greater transportation mode cooperation.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EARLY ENGAGEMENT

FLYERS AND NOTICES

Leading up to the workshop, AAMPO and City of Garden Ridge staff shared materials to encourage participation in the initiative. AAMPO created a webpage, e-mail notices for distribution by local schools, water bill inserts, and flyers (see Appendix B) advertising the

AAMPO

WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Join the Alamo Area MPO and the City of Garden Ridge to identify infrastructure improvements that encourage walking or bicycling to restaurants, schools, businesses and parks in the City of Garden Ridge. We want to know your transportation concerns.

Tuesday, June 27, 2023
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Community & Events Center
9500 Municipal Pkwy | Garden Ridge, TX 78260

Provide your input online through June 18, 2023
www.alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge

For more information, contact Sonia Jiménez, AAMPO's Deputy (210) 227-8651 or at jimenez@alamoareampo.org.

GARDEN RIDGE

WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

The City of Garden Ridge wants your input on how the area can become more walkable. Please join the City and the Alamo Area MPO at Garden Ridge Market Days on June 10, 2023 from 9 AM - 2:30 PM to provide your comments and ideas related to walkability in the area.

Input will be accepted online through Sunday, June 18, 2023.

alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge **AAMPO**

Figure 3: Outreach Materials

Walkable Community Workshop. AAMPO also participated in the Garden Ridge Market Days, mapping community concerns on the crowdsourcing map, showing others how to map their input on their own, and advertised the upcoming workshop. While the crowdsourcing tool could be accessed on one's own time, the Market Days and Walkable Community Workshop at the Garden Ridge Community and Event Center heightens awareness of the effort and allows the City to gain a diverse perspective from area residents as well as visitors.

NEWS ARTICLES

The City of Garden Ridge notified local news media of the walkability events and the workshop. The article, shown in Figure 4, advertised the online crowdsourcing map as well as participation at the Garden Ridge Market Days and the Walkable Community Workshop.

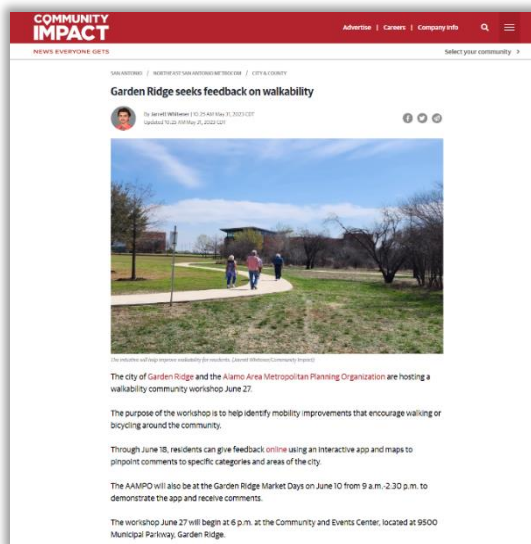


Figure 4: Local News Article

WEBPAGE



Figure 5: AAMPO-Hosted Webpage

A landing page for the City of Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop was created by AAMPO to help the community understand how to provide input, advertise the schedule, provide information about Complete Streets, and showcase access to the Walkable Community Workshop Crowdsourcing Tool. The crowdsourcing tool was listed under “Provide Your Input Online”.

CROWDSOURCING TOOL

The crowdsourcing tool was featured on AAMPO’s website alongside information about engagement opportunities. The digital map was split into five sections: Aesthetics and Geography, Bicycle Facilities, Intersection Safety, Pedestrian Facilities, and Recommended Mobility Improvements. In total, over fifty online entries were received including requests for

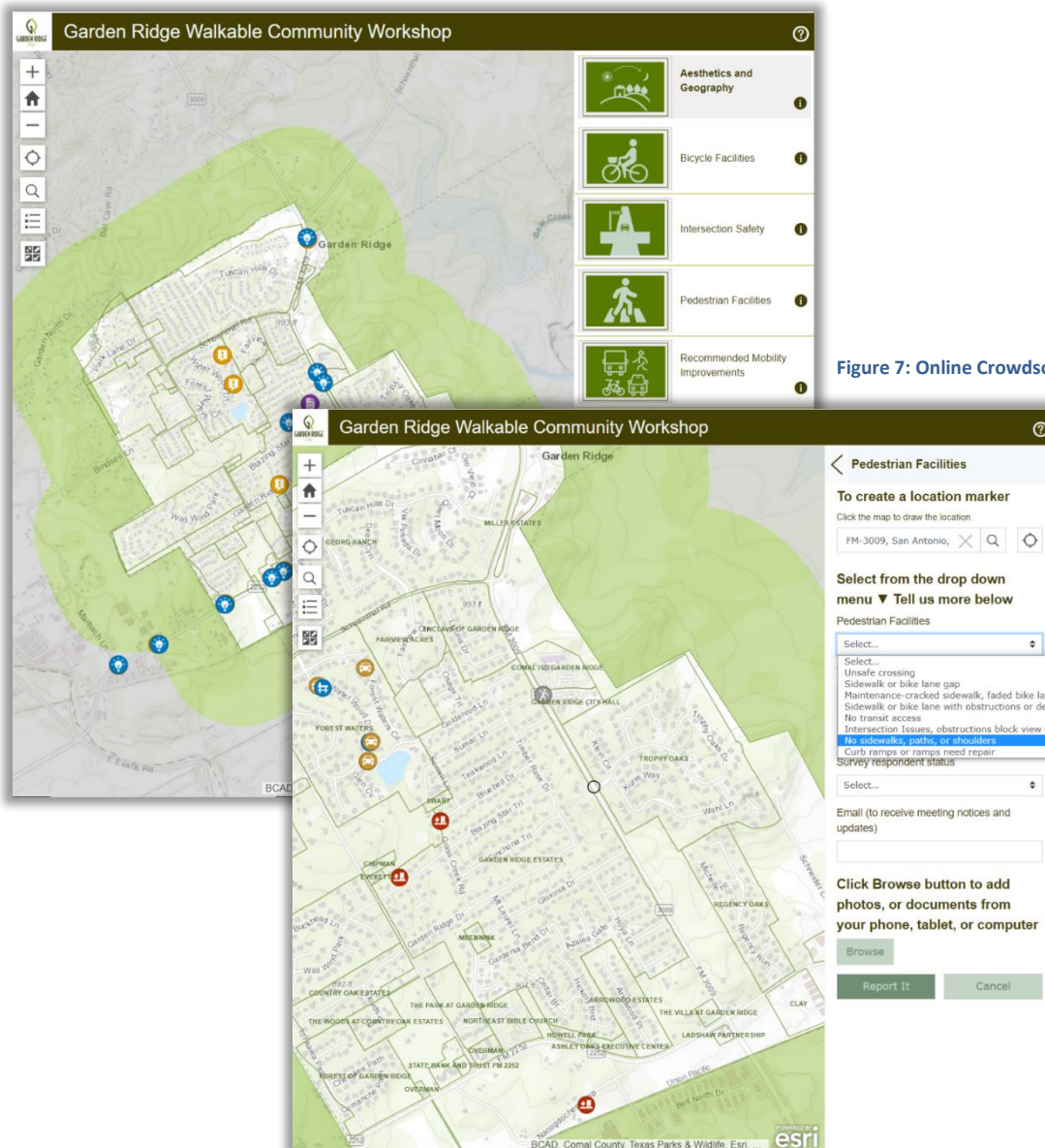


Figure 7: Online Crowdsourcing Tool

improvements with lighting, connectivity, and more. All entries and comments have been taken into account within the table below.

City of Garden Ridge Walkability/Bikeability Concerns AAMPO Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Crowdsourcing Tool Results	
Area of Interest	Concern
Pedestrian Facilities	Lack of comfortable pedestrian facilities, reducing connectivity along: • FM 2252 • FM 3009 • Bat Cave Road • Schoenthal Rd • Municipal Parkway
	Disjointed street network reduces connectivity around Paul Davis Park, potential off-street facilities at these locations could make walking more comfortable: • Adjacent to Bat Cave Rd • Adjacent to FM 3009 • Along high-voltage electric right-of-way • Along creek beds throughout the city
	Lack of off-street walking and biking infrastructure. One resident noted that these facilities should be paved and smooth. Most residents that suggested building pedestrian facilities wanted off-street infrastructure as opposed to sidewalks or wide shoulders.
Driver Behavior	Drivers cut corners at intersections within the neighborhoods, increasing vehicular speeds and the possibility for a collision.
	Aggressive drivers were reported, particularly along FM 3009, FM 2252, Schoenthal Rd, and Bat Cave Rd.
	Development north of Garden Ridge may increase vehicular traffic along: • Bat Cave Rd • Schoenthal Rd • FM 3009
	Speed limits of 30mph within the neighborhoods are too high.
	Speed limit of 45mph on FM 2252 near the quarry is too high.
	Traffic calming requested on neighborhood entrance streets.
Crossing and Intersection Safety	Wide, high-speed roadways with limited safe crossing points pose risks to pedestrians. Safe crossings are needed at: • FM 3009 and Municipal Parkway • FM 3009 and Schoenthal Rd

City of Garden Ridge Walkability/Bikeability Concerns AAMPO Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Crowdsourcing Tool Results	
	• FM 3009 and Davenport High School • FM 3009 and Trophy Oaks Dr • FM 2252 and Hickory Bend • FM 2252 and Regency Run • Bat Cave Rd and Garden Arbor • Bat Cave Rd and Bindseil Ln • Bat Cave Rd and Blazing Star Trail • Bat Cave Rd and Garden Ridge Dr • Schoenthal Rd and Deer Canyon Many residents requested a pedestrian bridge connecting Garden Ridge Elementary and city amenities across FM 3009. Additional pedestrian safety measures could be taken at FM 3009 and FM 2252 neighborhood entrances. Traffic lights at: • Major intersections along FM 3009 • Bat Cave Rd and FM 2252
Bicycle Facilities	Bicycle facilities requested on: • FM 2252 • FM 3009 • Bat Cave Rd • Schoenthal Rd • Tonkawa Pass • Numerous potential off-street trailways
Micromobility Facilities	Interest on the possibility of providing infrastructure, such as off-street trailways that accommodate for golf carts.
Lighting	No street lighting reduces visibility, particularly along: • FM 2252 • FM 3009 • Bat Cave Rd • Schoenthal Rd
Comfort	Trees lining roadways could help reduce speeds, create a physical barrier, and provide shade for pedestrian facilities. Traffic calming throughout neighborhoods would dramatically improve pedestrian safety and comfort.

City of Garden Ridge Walkability/Bikeability Concerns AAMPO Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Crowdsourcing Tool Results	
	Resident noted a lack of dog waste facilities.
Parks & Recreation	Lack of connections to Paul Davis Park
	No trails or connections to regional trailways
	No wayfinding signage to Paul Davis Park
	New recreational area desired at Bat Cave Rd and Bindseil Ln to reduce distances to parks
	New public open space between Garden Ridge Estates Neighborhood and Arrowhead Estates Neighborhood
	New recreational area desired near Tonkawa Pass and FM 2252
Connectivity	Desired connections to Garden Ridge Elementary School from: • Regency Run • Trophy Oaks Dr • Schneider Ln • Sumac Cir
	Desired connections to Davenport High School from: • Cinnabar Ct • Schoenthal Rd • Neighborhoods along Bat Cave Rd
	Desired connections to Paul Davis Park from: • Wild Wind Park • Glen Cove • Creekview Oaks • Georg Ranch Neighborhood • The Woods of Garden Ridge Neighborhood

WALK AUDIT

A walk audit was conducted in which AAMPO and City of Garden Ridge staff traveled segments of the area as a pedestrian and noted barriers within the experience. The walk audit routes were chosen based on the stated goals of the City of Garden Ridge councilmembers and staff and within existing transportation corridors. Routes surrounding the park and other green



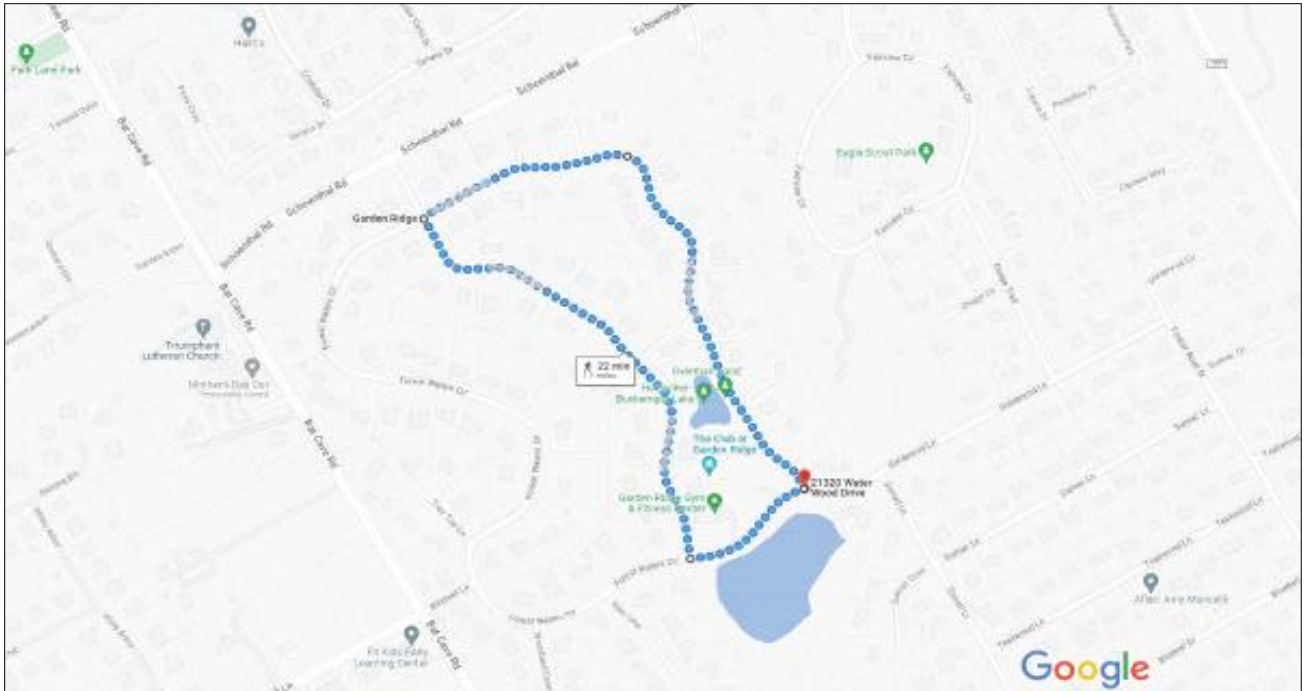


Figure 9: Walk Audit Route 2 - Country Club

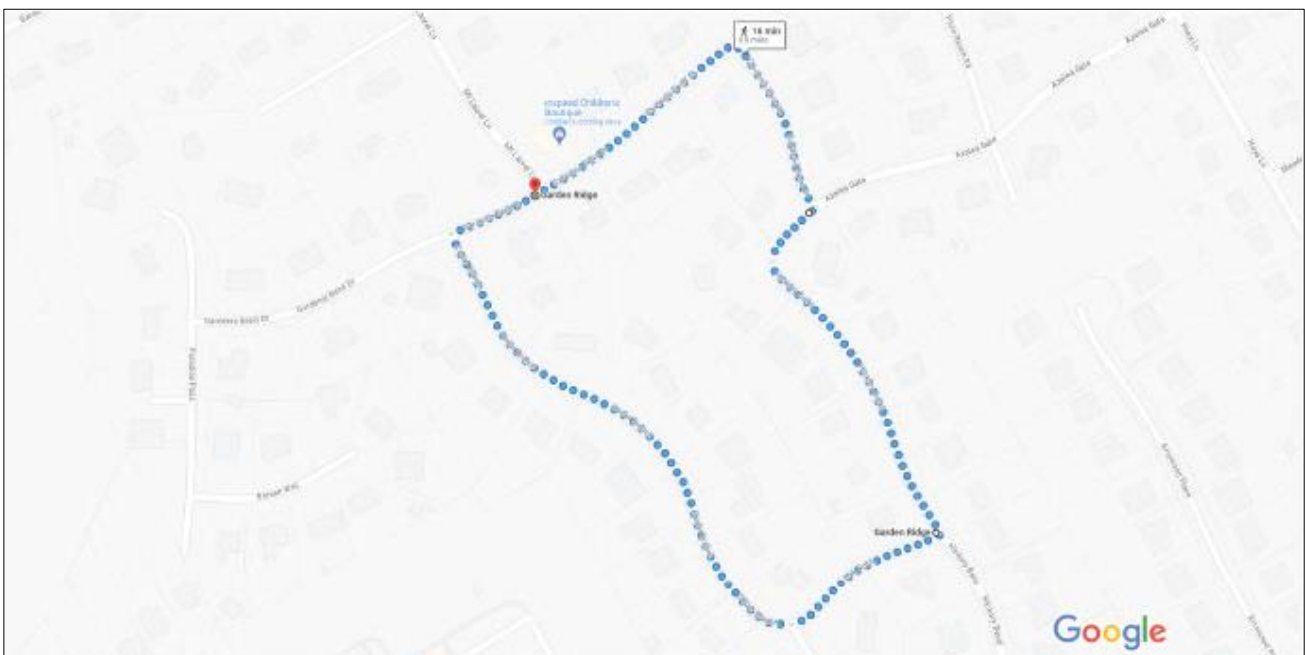


Figure 10: Walk Audit 3 - Neighborhood

GARDEN RIDGE MARKET DAYS

A walk-up “workshop” was held at Garden Ridge Market Days at Northeast Bible Church on Saturday June 10, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Participants were given the opportunity to talk with AAMPO staff about the benefits of a walkable and bikeable community, along with recording their areas of concerns/needed improvement via the online crowdsourcing map. Overall, the Market Day effort yielded over a dozen in-person comments, which have been included within the crowdsourcing tool results table.



Source: <https://gardenridgemarketdays.com/>

WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

The workshop was held at the Jay F. Feibelman Garden Ridge Community and Event Center located at 9400 Municipal Pkwy, Garden Ridge, TX 78266 on June 27, 2023 at 6 p.m. The workshop agenda consisted of summary background information and goals for the workshop, a presentation on walkability and AAMPO’s Walkable Community Program with highlights from the crowdsourcing tool, followed by the workshop session with facilitated table groups and report outs of priority concerns, and closed with next steps. For more information, see Appendix A. Approximately 25 participants attended the event, in addition to AAMPO and Great Springs Project staff and City of Garden Ridge elected officials and other personnel.



The workshop session had attendees split into three groups – one to cover half of the WCW study area, another to cover the other half of the area, and a third to review and comment on Great Springs Project plans. The two groups covering the Garden Ridge WCW study areas provided table facilitators with input on areas that need improvement, desired connectivity, and overall topics of comfort and safety as it relates to the community. In addition to identifying issues in the neighborhood, workshop attendees were asked to work in groups and prioritize their most pressing concerns. A list of priority concerns is shown in the table below.



Table 1: City of Garden Ridge Priority Concerns	
Priority Rank	Issue
1	Lack of walk and bike connections to Garden Ridge Elementary
2	Lack of walk and bike facilities along and across Bat Cave Rd and Schoenthal Rd
3	Lack of walk and bike connections to Paul Davis Park
4	Lack of walk and bike connections to Davenport High School
5	Safe crossings across FM 3009 and FM 2252

IMPROVING WALKABILITY AND BIKEABILITY

Based on the desire to improve pedestrian access and safety within neighborhoods and throughout the community, the following infrastructure improvements may be appropriate.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Off-Street Multi-Use Paths/Trails

Multi-use paths and trails would provide people with space to travel completely separated from motor vehicles. These trails have the potential to connect disjointed street networks with pedestrian and bicycle access while decreasing travel distance. Trails often serve active transportation modes most effectively in areas with low population density and/or high automobile traffic. Multi-use paths should be well connected to neighborhood amenities and be fully accessible to all users, including those in wheelchairs.

Paths can be easily aligned in a developed area by way of utility and stormwater easements. Paths adjacent to a high-traffic or high-speed roadway should include trees, street lighting, a curb, or guard-rails, and a physical element separating the path from automobile traffic. Small-scale lighting may be considered for trails intended for commuting, such as trails connecting to schools and area destinations. Trails crossing streets should be well marked and may require traffic calming elements and street lighting. Trails would increase pedestrian and bicyclist access, safety, and comfort to local destinations while maintaining a small town feel in the City of Garden Ridge.



Trails provide an off-street option for pedestrians and cyclists to travel without conflicts with automobiles.

Sidewalks and Walkways

Sidewalks and walkways provide people with space to travel within the public right-of-way that is separated from motor vehicles by a vertical curb. Wider sidewalks should be installed near schools, parks, civic amenities, or anywhere high concentrations of pedestrians exist. Sidewalks should be continuous along both sides of a street and sidewalks should be fully accessible to all pedestrians, including those in wheelchairs. Sidewalks along high traffic roads should be set back from the curb and may include trees and lighting to increase comfort



Sidewalks provide a safe space to travel on foot.

and safety. Sidewalks or walkways would increase pedestrian comfort in the City of Garden Ridge, particularly on Municipal Parkway or to connect cul-de-sacs to the larger area within a neighborhood.

Marked Crosswalks

Marked crosswalks indicate optimal or preferred locations for pedestrians to cross and help delineate where vehicles are to stop so as not to interfere with the pedestrian crossing. Marked crosswalks can increase visibility of people walking and encourage yielding among people driving. Marked crosswalks can be especially useful at transit stops or other pedestrian generators located on long blocks, where the distance between existing marked crosswalks is greater than 1,000 feet. This treatment would be useful along residential streets to nearby parks, at trail crossings, and other civic destinations.



Marked crosswalks indicate a preferred crossing location and increase pedestrian visibility.

Crossing Islands/Pedestrian Refuge Islands

Crossing islands (also known as pedestrian refuge islands) are raised islands placed in the center of the street at intersections or mid-block. Crossing islands allow pedestrians to deal with only one direction of traffic at a time by enabling them to stop halfway across the street and wait for an adequate gap in traffic before crossing the second half of the street. They are especially effective at reducing crashes at uncontrolled locations on busy roadways where gaps are difficult to find, particularly for slower pedestrians, such as pedestrians with disabilities, older pedestrians, and children. Roads with high-speed or multi-lane traffic should include a pedestrian hybrid beacon (see below), in addition to a pedestrian refuge island, to increase vehicular awareness. Crossing islands would increase pedestrian comfort when crossing wide roadways such as FM 2252 or FM 3009.



Crossing islands provide refuge for people crossing the street and enable them to cross a single direction of traffic at a time.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons

Pedestrian hybrid beacons allow for additional safety when crossing a street mid-block, particularly on roads with high-speed or multi-lane traffic. This overhead stoplight activates only when a pedestrian is present and pushes the cross button. Pedestrian signal indicators tell

the pedestrian when the stop-lights are activated for automobile traffic and the amount of time in seconds that is available to safely cross, in addition to the “DO NOT WALK” phase. As vehicles approach shortly after the cross button is pushed, the lights will turn yellow, similar to a standard traffic light. A solid red signal is the same as a standard red-light, in which the walk-sign will enable for the pedestrian to cross. Shortly thereafter, the solid red signal transition into a flashing red sign, indicating that the crosswalk should be treated by vehicular traffic as a stop sign and wait for pedestrians to finish crossing before continuing through the intersection, one-vehicle per lane at a time. After the flashing-red phase is complete, the light will simply turn off, allowing automobile traffic to continue through the crosswalk uninterrupted. Pedestrian hybrid beacons would increase pedestrian comfort and safety when crossing roads such as FM 3009 and FM 2252.



Pedestrian hybrid beacons offer clear guidance on when pedestrians may cross the street at a mid-block crosswalk and raise awareness to automobile traffic

Pedestrian Signal Indicators

Pedestrian signal indicators ensure pedestrians will know when the signal phasing allows them to cross and when they should not be crossing. Countdown pedestrian signals inform pedestrians of the amount of time in seconds that is available to safely cross during the flashing “DO NOT WALK” phase. This device is particularly useful at crosswalks with long crossing distances. The walk phase should allocate enough time for pedestrians of all abilities to safely cross the roadway. In cases with a high number of pedestrians crossing or along roads with a long crossing distance, a leading pedestrian interval (allowing pedestrians a three-second walk phase head start prior to the automobile lane lights turning green) may help increase pedestrian safety and driver awareness. Additional pedestrian signals along FM 3009 and FM 2252 would facilitate safer crossing of major streets.



Pedestrian crossing signals provide clear guidance on when people walking may cross the street.

Chicanes

Chicanes are a traffic calming measure that divert the path of travel along a roadway, causing vehicles to slow in order to make lateral shifts and/or pass through a narrowed section of roadway. Chicanes can take the form of curb extensions, center islands, or staggered on-street

parking. On low-speed and low-volume residential streets, chicanes are often mid-block curb extensions used to slow traffic by introducing lateral shifts to both sides of the roadway, at times resulting in one-lane of travel. They are most effective on long, straight neighborhood streets with little to no truck traffic.

Mini-Traffic Circles

Mini-traffic circles are circular islands installed in the center of appropriate residential street intersections to reduce traffic speeds and collisions. Traffic circles require people driving to slow down while allowing continuous traffic flow. They can be installed in lieu of signals or stop signs, especially in residential areas where streets make sudden directional changes (also known as modified T-intersections). Mini-traffic circles can be an effective traffic calming measure where cut-through or speeding traffic is common. This treatment could be a useful tool for reducing speeding within residential areas. Traffic circles, compared to signalized intersections, require less maintenance and because they do not rely on electricity or overhead structures to be effective, they are considered resilient in the face of extreme conditions (wind, power failure, etc.).

Choker/Pinch Point

Chokers, or pinch points, can be an effective traffic calming measure where speeding traffic is common. They are curb extensions that reduce the width of the road to a narrow two-lane channel or to one lane. They are installed mid-block of an appropriate residential street to reduce traffic speeds. Pinch points require people driving to slow down as the travel lane's width decreases, some larger vehicles may even need to yield the right-of-way to ensure their vehicle has adequate space to continue. They can be installed in conjunction with marked crosswalks to reduce vehicular speeds and decrease the crossing distance for



Chicanes compel people driving to slow down on neighborhood streets.



Mini traffic circles help slow vehicular traffic on residential streets.



Chokers serve to reduce the width of travel lanes, slowing down vehicular traffic. They can be used in conjunction with marked crosswalks to reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians.

pedestrians. This treatment could be a useful tool for traffic calming in the City of Garden Ridge.

Raised Crosswalks

Raised crosswalks are highly effective at reducing vehicle speeds and increasing driver awareness. The pedestrian crossing is generally flat and at the same height as the sidewalk, whereas a raised crosswalk ramps up. In that way, the raised crosswalk acts as a speed table, ensuring pedestrians are given priority on the crossing. This treatment is especially effective in areas of low to medium car traffic or on right-turn slip-lanes, connecting the main sidewalk to the pedestrian island. When used on a right-turn slip lane, it increases attention by drivers, who may be looking to their left when merging into traffic, inadvertently ignoring the pedestrian crossing. Raised crosswalks may be most effective along the FM 3009 and FM 2252 corridors.



Raised crosswalks raise awareness and lower vehicular speeds on the approach to a crosswalk, particularly in areas like slip lanes.

Curb Radius Reduction

In areas with high curb radii, vehicles are allowed to turn at higher speeds, similar in function to a slip-lane. This gives less time for vehicles to react to the surrounding environment, encourages higher-speed travel, and increases the crossing distance for pedestrians. Reducing the curb radius is highly effective in residential areas or corridors where greater pedestrian traffic is expected. It forces drivers to take extra caution on turns, giving more time for driver attention and decreases crossing distances for pedestrians. It is important to understand the type of traffic that frequents the intersection as high-volume truck traffic may require greater turning radii. Curb radius reductions would be beneficial to much of the residential areas throughout Garden Ridge.



Reducing the curb radius, even in places without sidewalks, reduces the crossing distance for pedestrians and requires vehicles take the turn at slower speeds.

POLICY

Mixed-Use Zoning

Mixed-use zoning is a type of zoning that, in smaller town contexts, can be used to develop a town center or along major corridors to encourage denser development conducive to walking, cycling, and a high density of businesses and amenities. When used over a larger area, mixed-use development is highly effective at reducing car dependency and creating a wider range of viable transportation options. Overall, increasing the population density of an area will increase the economic viability for commercial development, decreasing the distance between areas of interest. Generally, mixed-use districts are between 2-5 stories, but single-story developments can also be effective in town centers. Larger lot sizes, setbacks, and Euclidean zoning (separation of land uses by type—residential, commercial, retail, industrial, etc.), as currently seen within the City of Garden Ridge, increase the distance between destinations and results in an area being less walkable.² This policy change is overseen by the City of Garden Ridge Planning and Zoning Commission and may require City Council involvement.



Mixed use developments are conducive to a “town center” built environment and increases population density around amenities, decreasing walking distances.

Reducing Speed Limits

Vehicular speed is one of the most significant factors in relation to the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. As vehicle speed increases, its momentum increases exponentially, especially along roadways with a large volume of truck traffic. Reducing speed limits are most effective in areas near amenities such as schools, parks, libraries, or around areas with pedestrian crosswalks. According to the Federal Highway Administration, a vehicle traveling at 30 mph has a 45% chance of killing or seriously injuring a pedestrian, while at



Reducing speed limits around areas of interest allows pedestrians and bicyclists to traverse the areas more safely.

² Guide to Community Preventive Services. *Physical Activity: Built Environment Approaches Combining Transportation System Interventions with Land Use and Environmental Design*. (2017) <https://www.thecommunityguide.org/findings/physical-activity-built-environment-approaches.html#print>.

20 mph this change drops to 5%³. Reducing speed limits may be most successful in areas with high pedestrian activity, but roads with a wide right-of-way may see non-compliant drivers as the built environment is conducive to higher speeds. This policy change may require City Council involvement, partnership with state and county agencies, and a number of Homeowner's Associations to ensure consistency throughout the city. Currently, cities within Texas may not reduce speed limits below 25 mph without conducting a traffic study. However, current legislation is aiming to reduce the traffic study threshold to 20 mph.

IMPLEMENTATION

Arguably the most difficult part of a plan is implementation. Variables outside of the municipality's control can make projects difficult to implement. Developing a coalition of local and regional organizations may help convince agencies to support and sponsor Garden Ridge's efforts. If the priorities of a road outside of Garden Ridge's jurisdiction do not align with the City's priorities, it may be best to look into off-street infrastructure options. In addition, the creation of implementation committees has generally resulted in greater efforts to complete plans in a timely manner. On top of an implementation committee, Garden Ridge may wish to identify pedestrian corridors, prioritizing infrastructure improvements to these areas first. In finding priority areas, the City would be giving safer pedestrian access in a timelier manner to corridors where the greatest number of people would benefit. Overall, implementing changes to the transportation system will require support from the Texas Department of Transportation, local officials, community organizations, businesses, property owners, residents, and the public.

³ Pilkington P. (2000). Reducing the speed limit to 20 mph in urban areas. Child deaths and injuries would be decreased. *BMJ (Clinical research ed.)*, 320(7243), 1160.
<https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.320.7243.1160>

REMINDERS



A combination of infrastructure improvements may serve to increase safety and comfort for pedestrians (and cyclists). The image above is a raised, mid-block crosswalk with protected bicycle intersection and pinch point for vehicular traffic.

A combination of infrastructure and policy improvements can serve to further the goals of Garden Ridge’s effort to increase walkability, specifically when connecting residents to amenities and trail crossings. It is pertinent that all tools are considered and that improvements are based on a **priority of safety** when looking to increase walkability in an area. On through-streets, particularly on roads not owned by the City of Garden Ridge, it is important to work with the governing entity to express the interests of the area.

FUNDING SOURCES

Funding is not guaranteed for projects identified through the Walkable Community Workshop Program. Rather, the workshop is intended to bring together community members, transportation agency representatives, and other stakeholders to identify and prioritize transportation needs. This report is a way for the community to speak with one voice to assist decision makers in identifying transportation solutions specific to the local community.

Leveraging various funding sources can be helpful in getting desired projects implemented. Some examples of various funding sources are listed below. This is not an exhaustive list, and some funding sources may only be relevant for certain types of projects. Local government

representatives and staff are encouraged to work with community members and other stakeholders to identify funding opportunities for projects that address the needs listed in this report.

The funding sources listed below involve a competitive process for funding awards, either through a project call or notice of funding opportunity for grants. It is important to note that AAMPO, and others, may allow for additional points to be earned during the competitive process, as a result of planning for improvements listed in this report. The City is encouraged to reach out to these entities and request being added to their information distribution database.

Potential Project Funding Sources		
Source	Program	Description
Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ)	CMAQ is a reimbursable federal funding program for construction costs focused on reducing congestion and improving air quality to help meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act. Examples of eligible projects include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit improvements, congestion reduction, traffic flow improvements, and freight. All applicable federal rules apply. For more information, contact aampo@alamoareampo.org .
	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)	The STBG is AAMPO's broadest federal funding program. Projects are selected on a competitive basis. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, improvements to major roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and public transportation projects. STBG is a reimbursable program for construction costs and all applicable federal rules apply. For more information, contact aampo@alamoareampo.org .
	Transportation Alternatives	Transportation Alternatives is a federal funding program that is specifically for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit projects. This is a reimbursable program for construction costs and all applicable federal rules apply. For more information, contact aampo@alamoareampo.org .
Texas Department of Transportation	District Discretionary Funds	These funds address miscellaneous projects selected at the TxDOT San Antonio District's discretion. Projects must be on the state highway system. For more information, visit http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/san-antonio.html .

	Transportation Alternatives	Transportation Alternatives is a federal funding program that is specifically for bicycle and pedestrian projects. This is a reimbursable program for construction costs and all applicable federal rules apply. TxDOT administers TA funds to projects independently from AAMPO. More information available at: https://www.txdot.gov/business/grants-and-funding/bicycle-pedestrian-local-federal-funding-programs.html .
Texas Parks and Wildlife	Local Parks Grants	The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas. The program provides 50% matching grants on a reimbursement basis to sites that are dedicated as parkland. More information available at: https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/about-local-parks-grants .
	Recreational Trails Grants	Administered under the approval of Federal Highway Administration, this federally funded program reimburses cities up to 80% of project cost. Awards are limited to \$300,000 for non-motorized trails or \$600,000 for motorized trail grants. More information available at: https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/recreational-trails-grants .
United States Department of Transportation	Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program (SS4A)	These funds support initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Counties, cities, transit agencies, MPOs, and Tribal governments are eligible to apply. More information available at: https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A
	Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant (RAISE)	A competitive grant process for numerous transportation projects, including highway, bridge, or other road projects. The federal cost share may not exceed 80% of total project cost. Minimum rural awards for capital projects are \$1 million; minimum urban awards for capital projects are \$5 million. More information available at: https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants .

NEXT STEPS

AAMPO will provide copies of this report to the elected officials and appropriate departments within the City of Garden Ridge, Comal County, Alamo Area Council of Governments, and Texas Department of Transportation. This report will also be available on AAMPO's website at <https://www.alamoareampo.org/ActiveTransportation/>.

Here are some steps community members can take after the Walkable Community Workshop to build momentum and get desired results:

- Share the report. Talk to neighbors, community leaders, and other stakeholders who could not attend the workshop.
- Identify community and individual actions that can help move ideas toward implementation.
- Use this report as a resource. It includes contact information for agencies and individuals who can answer questions and provide guidance.
- Partner with local groups on events that promote safety and accessibility for non-motorized transportation.
- Advocate for policy changes that support safe and walkable communities.
- Work with the City to include provisions for non-motorized facilities in future plans and projects.
- Attend government meetings to express interest in improving walking and biking infrastructure.
- Contact your local elected representatives and officials to voice specific concerns in your area.

Improving a neighborhood takes time, funding, and dedication, and planning for the future is an ever-changing process. Planning for a safe walking and biking environment contributes to a healthy and vibrant community. AAMPO supports the City of Garden Ridge in its efforts to improve walkability, safety, and quality of life for its residents.

For more information on the Walkable Community Workshop Program, contact Matthew Moreno at (210) 230-6931 or moreno@alamoareampo.org.

APPENDIX A

GARDEN RIDGE WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP, WORKSHOP AGENDA JUNE 27, 2023



City of Garden Ridge
Walkable Community Workshop
Garden Ridge Community and Event Center
9400 Municipal Pkwy, San Antonio, TX 78266
Tuesday, June 27, 2023
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Background

This workshop seeks to identify transportation and land-use concerns in the area that pose a barrier to the community being pedestrian and cyclist friendly. It is intended to help prepare the City of Garden Ridge for future pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements by identifying and prioritizing the areas of need and explore potential solutions. Any potential solutions will require further study and engineering and will be based on need and feasibility.

Goals for Today's Workshop

- Inform the public on what walkability is, how it is beneficial, and why Garden Ridge is participating in this workshop.
- Map walkability and bikeability concerns using AAMPO's online crowdsourcing tool findings and physical maps.
- Identify community priority areas for improvements and explore potential solutions.

Agenda

- 6:00 p.m.** Welcome and Introductions – City of Garden Ridge and Alamo Area MPO
- City of Garden Ridge Master Land Use Plan and Goals for Walkability – City of Garden Ridge
- What is AAMPO, Walkability, and the Walkable Community Program? – Matthew Moreno, AAMPO
- Mapping Concerns and Ideas Within the Workshop – Matthew Moreno, AAMPO
- 6:30 p.m.** Facilitated Group Discussion and Mapping
- 7:30 p.m.** Group Reports
- 7:50 p.m.** Next Steps and Closing Remarks

For more information, please visit <https://alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge/>, use the QR code, or contact Matthew Moreno at (210) 230-6931 or moreno@alamoareampo.org



APPENDIX B

GARDEN RIDGE WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP, FLYER 2023

AAMPO

GARDEN RIDGE

WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP



The City of Garden Ridge and the Alamo Area MPO (AAMPO) are hosting a Walkable Community Workshop to help identify mobility improvements that encourage walking or bicycling to schools, businesses, and recreation. This workshop brings the community and partner agencies together to discuss barriers to walking and biking and developing concepts to overcome these barriers.

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Community and Events Center

9500 Municipal Pkwy

Garden Ridge, TX 78266



AAMPO has developed an interactive online app to gather input for active transportation mobility improvements. **AAMPO will also be at Garden Ridge Market Days on June 10, 2023 from 9 AM – 2:30 PM** demonstrating the app and capturing comments related to walkability in the area.

We encourage you to visit www.alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge/. Input will be accepted online through Sunday, June 18, 2023 and at the workshop.

For more information, contact Sonia Jiménez at (210) 668-3614 or jimenez@alamoareampo.org.

APPENDIX C

GARDEN RIDGE WALKABLE COMMUNITY
WORKSHOP, ALAMO AREA MPO
PRESENTATION
JUNE 27, 2023



GARDEN RIDGE WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

JUNE 27, 2023

Matthew Moreno, Multimodal Transportation Planner

www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

OVERVIEW

What is the AAMPO?

What is Walkability?

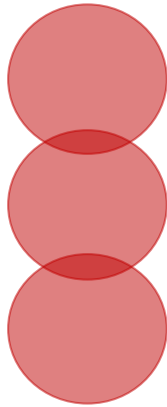
What is a Walkable Community Workshop?

What is Next?

www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

We Plan to Keep you Moving



Cooperative: No single agency has responsibility for the entire transportation system

Comprehensive: Encompassing all transportation modes, as well as local land use/economic development plans

Continuous: Ongoing planning to address short and long term transportation vision and needs

MPO PLANS AND DOCUMENTS



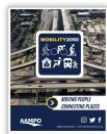
Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

AAMPO staff budget and smaller regional planning studies over a two year timeframe



Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Short-range planning document highlighting funded transportation projects/programs within a four-year timeframe



Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

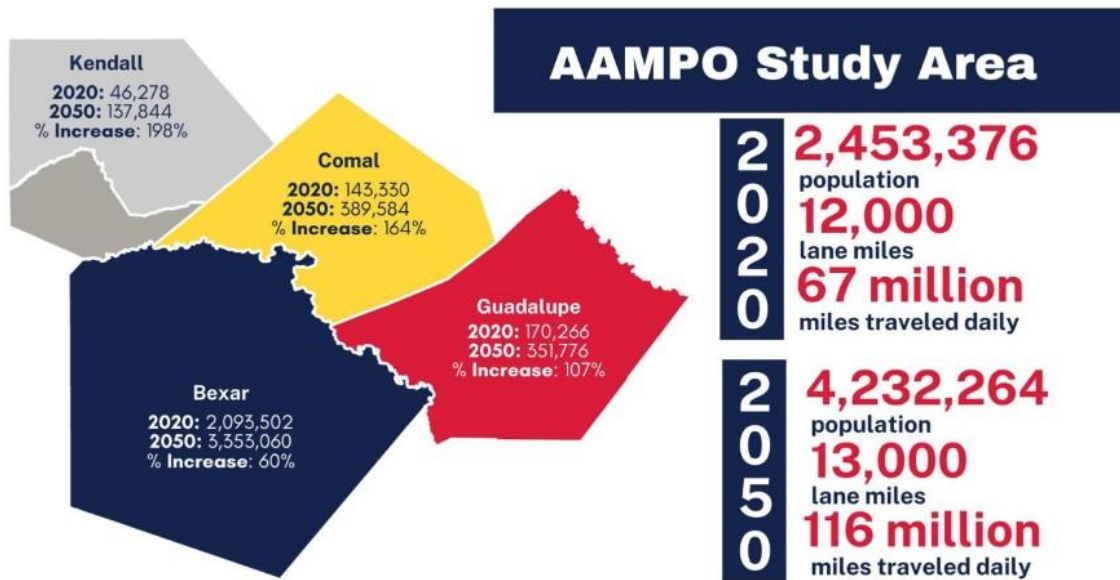
Long-range planning document outlining future goals, strategies, and transportation projects for 20-25 years



Transportation Conformity Document (TCD)

Evaluates future transportation projects to ensure they cause no further harm to air quality; approved through a significant interagency consultation process.

Study Area



www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

WHAT IS WALKABILITY?



Walkability is a measure of how friendly an area is to pedestrians.

Walkable communities are pedestrian-friendly and where local trips can be made without a car.

WHY IS WALKABILITY IMPORTANT?

- Exercise
- Cleaner air
- Cleaner water
- Reduced automobile costs
- Energy and natural resource conservation
- Social engagement
- Economic development
- Increased safety
- Transportation choices/equity
- Greater quality of life



THE DEMAND FOR WALKABILITY

56.9%

of respondents say **connectivity**

and **walkability**

are **needed**

CHARACTERISTICS OF WALKABLE COMMUNITIES

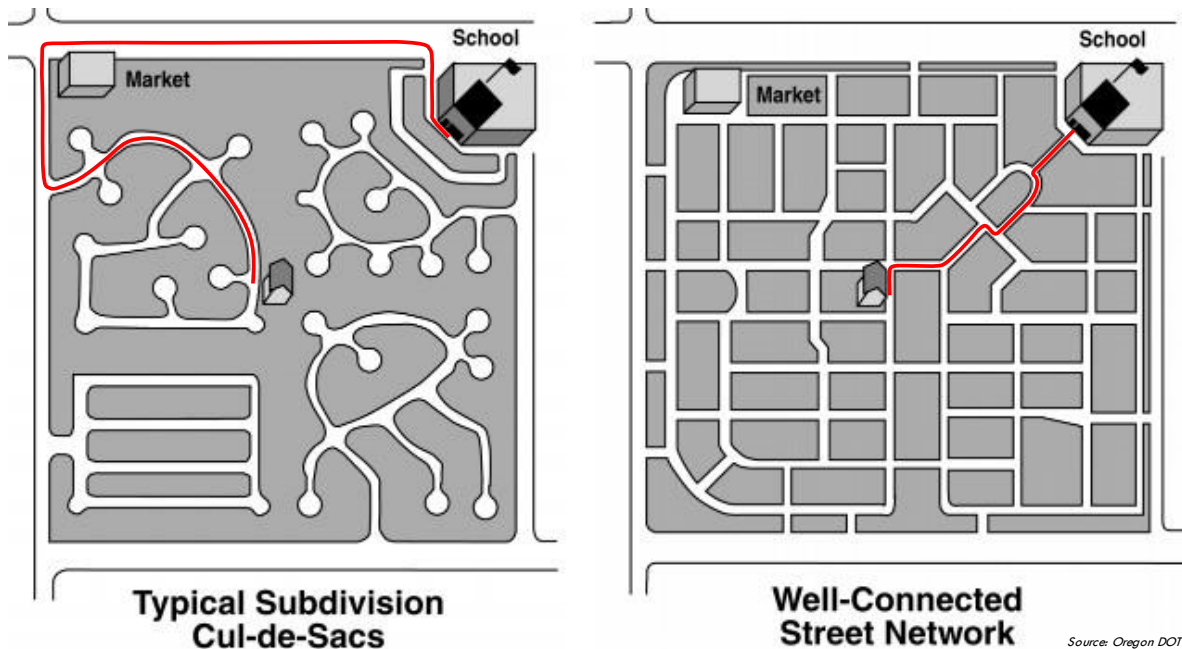
Multimodal transportation system

A variety of modes are available, and connections exist between modes.



CHARACTERISTICS OF WALKABLE COMMUNITIES

Street and sidewalk connectivity



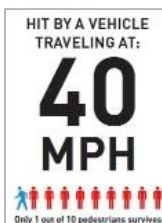
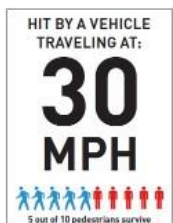
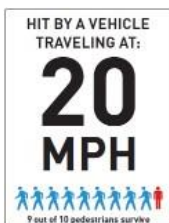
CHARACTERISTICS OF WALKABLE COMMUNITIES



Connectivity
Safety
Comfort

WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS - SAFETY

VEHICLE SPEED IS THE **GREATEST FACTOR** IN PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



SIGHTLINES AND REACTION
TIME DECREASE AS SPEED
INCREASES



CHECK YOUR LOCAL PLANS

City of Garden Ridge Master Land Use Plan 2018



<https://www.ci.gardenridge.tx.us/DocumentCenter/View/2471/GardenRidgeMasterLandUsePlan>



www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Walkable Community Workshops help plan for active transportation modes (walking/biking/micromobility).

Discuss barriers to walking and biking in the area.

Documenting these issues in an AAMPO study raises awareness. It is not a guarantee that projects will be completed.

If a project from this workshop were to be submitted for AAMPO funding, it would receive extra points.

www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

GARDEN RIDGE WCW

AAMPO

GARDEN RIDGE WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

The City of Garden Ridge and the Alamo Area MPO (AAMPO) are hosting a Walkable Community Workshop to help identify mobility improvements that encourage walking or bicycling to schools, businesses, and recreation. This workshop brings the community and partner agencies together to discuss barriers to walking and biking and developing concepts to overcome these barriers.

Tuesday, June 27, 2023
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Community and Events Center
9500 Municipal Pkwy
Garden Ridge, TX 78266

 SCAN ME

AAMPO has developed an interactive online app to gather input for active transportation mobility improvements. AAMPO will also be at Garden Ridge Market Days on June 10, 2023 from 9 AM - 2:30 PM demonstrating the app and capturing comments related to walkability in the area.

We encourage you to visit www.alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge/. Input will be accepted online through Sunday, June 18, 2023 and at the workshop.

For more information, contact Sonia Jimenez at (214) 658-2614 or sonia.jimenez@alamoareampo.org.



www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

MAPPING YOUR CONCERNS

Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop

Aesthetics and Geography

Bicycle Facilities

Intersection Safety

Pedestrian Facilities

Recommendations

Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop

Pedestrian Facilities

To create a location marker
 Click the map to define the location.
 111-0330, San Antonio, TX

Select from the drop down menu. Tell us more below.

Pedestrian Facilities

Select...

Intersecting streets, dead-end streets, etc.

Click the map to define the location.

Submit...

Email (to receive meeting notices and updates)

Click Browse button to add photos, or documents from your phone, tablet, or computer.

Browse...

Report it

Cancel

<http://alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge/>

www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO

GARDEN RIDGE WCW



Goals

1. Inform the public on what walkability is, how it is beneficial, and why Garden Ridge is participating in this workshop.
2. Map walkability and bikeability concerns using AAMPO's online crowdsourcing tool findings and physical maps.
3. Identify community priority areas for improvements and explore potential solutions.

NEXT STEPS AFTER WORKSHOP

AAMPO staff will develop workshop report

AAMPO will present findings to Zoning Commission and City Council

AAMPO will submit report to TxDOT and partner agencies

Area leadership works with partner agencies to identify funding for projects

STAY CONNECTED



www.alamoareampo.org



aampo@alamoareampo.org



825 South Saint Mary's Street
San Antonio, Texas 78205



www.facebook.com/alamoareampo



www.twitter.com/AlamoAreaMPO



www.youtube.com/thealamoareampo



www.instagram.com/alamoareampo

www.alamoareampo.org

AAMPO



THANK YOU!

Matthew Moreno
AAMPO Multimodal Transportation Planner
moreno@alamoareampo.org
210-230-6931



Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop

City of Garden Ridge
City Council
September 6, 2023



Agenda

- Walkable Community Workshops (WCW)
- City of Garden Ridge WCW
 - Garden Ridge WCW Engagement
 - Walk Audit
 - Walkable Community Workshop and Report
- Next Steps
- Requested Action

Walkable Community Workshops

Walkable Community Workshops help plan for active transportation modes (walking/biking/micromobility).

Discuss barriers to walking and biking in the area.

Document issues in an AAMPO study. It is not a guarantee that projects will be funded or completed.

If a project from the workshop report were to be submitted for AAMPO funding, it may receive extra points during the competitive project selection process.

Garden Ridge WCW Engagement

AAMPO

GARDEN RIDGE WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP



The City of Garden Ridge and the Alamo Area MPO (AAMPO) are hosting a Walkable Community Workshop to help identify mobility improvements that encourage walking or bicycling to schools, businesses, and recreation. This workshop brings the community and partner agencies together to discuss barriers to walking and biking and developing concepts to overcome these barriers.

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

**Community and Events Center
9500 Municipal Pkwy
Garden Ridge, TX 78266**



SCAN ME

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For more information, contact Sonia Jiménez at (210) 668-3614 or jimenez@alamoareampo.org.

AAMPO

GARDEN RIDGE



Introduction	Objectives	2023.06.02 Walking Audit	2023.06.03 Market Days	2023.06.03 Workshop	Provide Your Input Online	Results & Next Steps	Additional Resources
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Introduction

Join the City of Garden Ridge and the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) in helping to identify infrastructure improvements in Garden Ridge to encourage walking and bicycling to restaurants, schools, businesses, and parks.

The program brings you together with transportation partner agency staff to discuss transportation issues and concerns in the area that pose a barrier to the community being walkable and bike friendly. You'll be able to input issues involving transportation or allied concerns, like code compliance issues or lighting, in person or online, whichever is more convenient.

Following the public input period for the Walkable Community Workshop (WCW), AAMPO will summarize the WCW results and provide this to elected officials and our transportation partner agencies for planning purposes. The reports can launch a meaningful dialogue between you and your community leaders.

Online input period will close on June 18, 2023.



AAMPO

Contact Us
Alamo Area MPO
625 South Saint Mary's Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
Phone: (210) 222-8633
Fax: (210) 227-9521
Email:
www@alamoareampo.org

Quick Links
→ Alamo Communities
→ GIS Maps & Data
→ Join Our Team
→ Meetings & Agendas
→ Plans & Programs
→ Press Releases &
Announcements
→ Regional Planning
→ TSP 13 & Public
Information Requests

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Market Days

Outreach Goals

- Discuss what makes a community walkable and bikeable
- Receive and log feedback on current walkability and bikeability issues in Garden Ridge area



Walk Audit

Goals

- Assess and log walkability and bikeability issues in different areas around Garden Ridge
- Have a direct conversation with elected officials and staff about walkability and bikeability issues



Walkable Community Workshop

Goals

- Inform the public on what walkability is, how it is beneficial, and why Garden Ridge is participating in this workshop.
- Map walkability and bikeability concerns using AAMPO's online crowdsourcing tool findings and physical maps.
- Identify community priority areas for improvements and explore potential solutions.



Workshop Findings Highlights

Lack of comfortable pedestrian facilities, reducing connectivity along:

- FM 2252
- FM 3009
- Bat Cave Road
- Schoenthal Rd
- Municipal Parkway

Development north of Garden Ridge may increase vehicular traffic along:

- Bat Cave Rd
- Schoenthal Rd
- FM 3009

New recreational areas are desired at:

- Bat Cave Rd and Bindseil Ln
- Tonkawa Pass and FM 2252

<https://alamoareampo.org/yourmove/gardenridge/>

Desired connections to Garden Ridge Elementary School from:

- Regency Run
- Trophy Oaks Dr
- Schneider Ln
- Sumac Cir

Traffic calming throughout neighborhoods would dramatically improve pedestrian safety and comfort.

Speed limits of 30 mph within the neighborhoods are too high.

Workshop Report



Main Topics

Study Area Background

- Land Use and Current Facilities
- Traffic Counts

The Workshop

- Community Outreach
- Webpage
- Crowdsourcing Map
- Market Days
- Walk audit
- List of Concerns

Improving Walkability and Bikeability

- Potential Infrastructure and Policy Treatments
- Implementation
- Funding Sources

Next Steps

- GR WCW Report

Next Steps

AAMPO
presented to
Planning &
Zoning
Commission
(8/9/2023)

AAMPO
presentation
to City
Council
(9/6/2023)

AAMPO will
submit report
to TxDOT and
partner
agencies

Area
leadership
advances
ideas to
concepts and
plans

Identify and
pursue
funding
opportunities

Requested Action

Motion to approve the Garden Ridge Walkable Community Workshop Report as an official document for use in future planning efforts within the municipality.

AAAMPO

A red swoosh graphic that starts under the first 'A' and curves upwards and to the right, ending under the 'O'.

Matthew Moreno | Multimodal Transportation Planner
p: 210.230.6931 | e: moreno@alamoareampo.org
w: alamoareampo.org

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TERMS OF OFFICE

Name	Place	Appointment & Expiration	Appointment & Expiration	Appointment & Expiration	Appointment & Expiration	Appointment & Expiration
Dr. Jim Miller	1	March 2016 September 2017	September 2017 September 2019	September 2019 September 2021	September 2021 September 2023	
Karen Diaz (Appointed Chair October 2021-current)	2	October 2017 September 2018	September 2018 September 2020	October 2020 September 2022	September 2022 September 2024	
Kerim Jacaman (Appointed Vice-Chair October 2021-current)	3	July 2019 September 2020	October 2020 September 2022	September 2022 September 2024		
Joe Maloney	4	February 2023 September 2023				
Michael Crow	5	March 2022 September 2023				
Roy Leatherberry	6	September 2021 September 2023				
Darren Bates	7	April 2022 September 2022	September 2022 September 2024			

2023 Tax Rate Proposal

Tax Year	Adjusted Taxable Value	M&O Rate	Debt Rate	Total Tax Rate	Tax Revenue	General Fund Revenue	Required Actions	Average Home Value (AHV)	Taxes Paid on Average Home Value
2022	\$932,431,613	0.200091	0.069472	0.269563	\$2,513,491	\$1,865,712		\$592,725	\$1,597.77
2023									
No New Revenue Rate	\$1,004,550,674	0.185426	0.064895	0.250321	\$2,514,601	\$1,862,698	No Public Hearing	\$656,234	\$1,642.69
Voter Approval Rate (No New Revenue + 3.5%)	\$1,004,550,674	0.192839	0.064895	0.257734	\$2,589,069	\$1,937,165	Public Hearing	\$656,234	\$1,691.34
De minimus Rate	\$1,004,550,674	0.23571	0.064895	0.300605	\$3,019,730	\$2,367,826	Public Hearing & Subject to Petition for Election	\$656,234	\$1,972.67
2023 Tax Rate Proposed									
Voter Approval Rate (No New Revenue + 3.5%)	\$1,004,550,674	0.192839	0.064895	0.257734	\$2,589,069	\$1,937,165	Public Hearing	\$656,234	\$1,691.34

\$167,293,343 Taxable Value remains under protest

\$7,743,040 New Value (not included in Adjusted Taxable Value) = \$14,931 additional General Fund Revenue at proposed M&O rate of \$0.192839

If property remained at 2022 Average Home Value of \$592,725 taxes paid at 2023 Proposed Tax Rate of \$0.257734 would be \$1,527.65

Proposed 2023 Tax Rate is a \$0.011829 decrease from 2022 Tax Rate M&O rate decreases \$0.007252 Debt Rate decreases \$0.004577

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

PROPOSED TAX RATE \$0.257734 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE \$0.250321 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE \$0.257734 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 6, 2023, at 6:00 PM in the City of Garden Ridge City Council Chambers, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the City of Garden Ridge at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

(List names of all members of the governing body below, showing how each voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase or, if one or more were absent, indicating absences.)

FOR the proposal: Mayor Pro-Tem Lisa Swint, Place 2; Councilmember Jesús Valdez, Place 3;
Councilmember Todd Arvidson, Place 4; and Councilmember Kay Bower, Place 5

AGAINST the proposal:
PRESENT and not voting: Mayor Robb Erickson
ABSENT: Councilmember Kelly Smith, Place 1

Visit www.Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state. The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average homestead by CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average homestead by CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE this year.

	2022	2023	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.269563	\$0.257734	4.38% decrease
Average homestead taxable value	\$594,859	\$656,234	10.31% increase
Tax on average homestead	\$1,603	\$1,691	5.48% increase
Total tax levy on all properties	\$2,506,292	\$2,609,025	4.09% increase

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE at 830-221-1353 or hoytk@co.comal.tx.us, or visit www.co.comal.tx.us/tax for more information.

This is to certify that I, Marisa Spencer, posted this Legal Notice at 12:00 p.m. on August 16, 2023, on the bulletin board located at the entrance to the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas.


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary



ORDINANCE NO. 239-092023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE, TEXAS, ADOPTING A TAX RATE OF \$0.257734 PER ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) CONSISTING OF THE APPROVED MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION RATE AND DEBT SERVICE RATE OF ASSESSED VALUATION FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2023 TAX YEAR (FISCAL YEAR 2024).

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, has duly approved a General Fund Budget for maintenance and operation for Fiscal Year 2024 and an Interest and Sinking Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 beginning October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is necessary to levy an ad valorem tax on all property, both real and personal, within the corporate limits of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, in accordance with such budget and the Texas Tax Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Tax Code, Chapter 26, the appropriate notices were published and the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, conducted a public hearing as required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF TAX RATE.

The City Council of the City of Garden Ridge, Texas, does hereby adopt the tax rate of \$0.257734 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation for the 2023 tax year with said rate being composed of the following elements:

1. A tax rate of \$0.192839 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation for the General Fund maintenance and operations:

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

and

THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 3.9982 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$7.41.

2. A tax rate of \$0.064895 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation for the retirement of debt service through the Interest and Sinking Fund.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

The findings set out herein are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted by the City Council and made a part of this Ordinance for all purposes.

SECTION 3. CUMULATIVE AND SAVINGS.

All ordinances or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and remain controlling as to the matters herein.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the City Council hereby declares that this Ordinance would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

SECTION 5. PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.

It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Notice was also provided as required by Chapter 52 of the Texas Local Government Code.

SECTION 6. RECORD VOTE.

Pursuant to Texas Tax Code §26.05(b), this ordinance must be a record vote; which is reflected below:

Councilmember Smith, Place 1	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Abstain	☐ Absent
Mayor Pro-Tem Swint, Place 2	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Abstain	☐ Absent
Councilmember Valdez, Place 3	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Abstain	☐ Absent
Councilmember Arvidson, Place 4	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Abstain	☐ Absent
Councilmember Bower, Place 5	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Abstain	☐ Absent

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after its final passage, and any publication required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON this 6th day of September, 2023.

Robb Erickson
Mayor

ATTEST:

Marisa Spencer
City Secretary

ORDINANCE NO. 13-032023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE, TEXAS, ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND ZONING ORDINANCE; ESTABLISHING A PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND A BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT; SETTING RULES AND REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code empowers the City of Garden Ridge (“the City”) to enact zoning codes and regulations and provide for their administration, enforcement, and amendment; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously deemed it necessary and desirable to adopt zoning regulations to provide for the orderly development of property within the City in order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents; and

WHEREAS, the City has given appropriate and reasonable consideration to the zoning regulations and other associated code provision amendments and find them most appropriate for the City; and

WHEREAS, the regulation of zoning districts and all buildings in both residential and commercial areas by the City of Garden Ridge is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to set minimum standards to safeguard the public safety, health, and welfare, insofar as they are affected by zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge finds that repealing and replacing the zoning regulations as provided for in this Ordinance are compliant with the requisites of the state law, including Texas Local Government Code as well as making the necessary associated amendments on signs, vegetation, and planning; and

WHEREAS, after notice on the proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinance was provided to each owner, as indicated by the most recently approved municipal tax roll of real property and a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission on September 14, 2021, the Planning and Zoning Commission has considered and recommended approval of the replacement of the zoning regulations as provided for herein; and

WHEREAS, after notice on the proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinance was provided to each owner, as indicated by the most recently approved municipal tax roll of real property and a public hearing before City Council on March 27, 2023, the City Council considered the revisions of the zoning regulations as provided for herein; and

WHEREAS, after consideration of public input received at the public hearings, the information provided by staff, consideration of the Comprehensive Land Plan and all other information presented, and the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, the City Council finds it is in the public interest to approve the revisions of the zoning regulations as provided for herein; and

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Section 2. Zoning Regulations

Subsection 2.01. Zoning Districts

2.01.01. Zoning Districts Established

A. Purpose

The purpose of this section is to create zoning districts, to specify the nature and components of the permitted development within them, and to establish regulations regarding the physical character and intensity of development in order to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare.

B. Zoning Districts Established

The City is hereby divided into zones, or districts, and the boundaries of zoning districts set out herein are delineated upon the Official Zoning District Map. All land within the corporate limits shall be classified into the following zoning districts.

Table 2

Residential Zoning Districts

- 2.02.01.** Agriculture and Agricultural Homestead (AG) District
- 2.02.02.** Residential Estate (RE) District
- 2.02.03.** Residential Neighborhood (RN) District

Nonresidential and Mixed-Use Zoning Districts

- 2.03.01.** Neighborhood Commercial (NC) District
- 2.03.02.** Community Commercial (CC) District
- 2.03.03.** Neighborhood Mixed-Use (NMU) Overlay District
- 2.03.04.** Community Mixed-Use (CMU) Overlay District
- 2.03.05.** Light Industrial (LI) District
- 2.03.06.** Heavy Industrial (HI) District
- 2.03.07.** Public and Institutional (P) District

Special Zoning Districts

- 2.04.01.** Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District
- 2.04.02.** Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District
- 2.04.03.** Planned Use Development (PUD)

Subsection 2.04. Special Zoning Districts

2.04.01. Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District

A. Intent

The Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District provides for the protection of City public water supply well sites and aquifer recharge features from biological and chemical contamination. Within the APO District, no use or activity is permitted that presents a danger of bacteriologic, chemical, or radiologic pollution of the ground water aquifer.

B. Boundaries and Location

The APO District consists of a one thousand five hundred (1,500) foot radius around each City public water supply well site and geologic recharge feature within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

C. Procedures and Standards are provided in 2.06.14. Development in the Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District.

2.04.02. Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District

A. Intent

The purpose of the Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District is to retain the rural and natural character of FM 3009 and FM 2252 while still allowing for future growth in a responsible manner.

B. Boundaries and Location

The NFO District consists of all properties contiguous to FM 3009 and FM 2252 creating a two hundred (200) foot overlay in these areas. The overlay only applies to the first two hundred feet (200') of property adjacent to the roadway measured from the property line.

C. Procedures and Standards are provided in 2.06.15. Development in the Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District.

2.04.03. Planned Use Development (PUD)

A. Intent

A Planned Use Development (PUD) is a zoning overlay district that may be used to permit new or innovative concepts in land utilization, master-planned communities, mixed use development that other Zoning Districts do not accommodate, and to provide site-specific compatibility standards. While greater flexibility is given to allow special conditions or restrictions that would not otherwise allow the development to occur, procedures are established to ensure against misuse of increased flexibility. PUDs are appropriate in areas where the Comprehensive Plan reflects the specific uses proposed in the PUD or where the Comprehensive Plan reflects mixed-use as a land use category.

2.06.13. Nuisances

The following regulations serve to supplement regulations in Ordinance 162 and in the event of a conflict between Ordinance 162 and the provisions detailed below, the more stringent requirement shall prevail.

Proposed land uses shall be compatible in intensity, appearance, and operation with surrounding land uses in the area, and it shall not unduly impair the usefulness, enjoyment, or value of adjacent property due to the generation of excessive noise, dust, smoke, glare, spillover lighting, or other forms of environmental or visual pollution.

The storage of hazardous waste is found to be a nuisance and is prohibited within the city limits.

2.06.14. Development in the Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District

A. Applicability

Unless otherwise stated in this section, the following regulations apply to all properties within the Aquifer Protection Overlay (APO) District. The APO District is an overlay district, and the following regulations are in addition to the underlying base district regulations. In the event of a conflict, the more restrictive regulations shall apply.

B. Activities Prohibited

No use or activity is permitted that presents a danger of bacteriologic, chemical, or radiologic pollution of the ground water aquifer. Specific prohibitions include: cemeteries; liquid transmission pipelines; petroleum and chemical processing, production, mixing, transmission or transfer facilities; petroleum or chemical storage tanks and vats; wood treatment facilities; sewage treatment plants, wet wells, pumping stations or drainage ditch for industrial waste discharges or wastes from sewage treatment systems, sewage sludge disposal; livestock and animal pens, feedlots, or abandoned and improperly sealed wells.

2.06.15. Development in the Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District

A. Applicability

Unless otherwise stated in this section, the following regulations apply to all properties within the Natural Features Overlay (NFO) District. The intent of this district is to preserve existing trees and landscaping to those areas that serve as gateways to the City. The following regulations are in addition to the underlying base district regulations. In the event of a conflict, the more restrictive regulations shall apply.

B. Buildings and Site Development

1. Street Frontage Buffer

In addition to the requirements of 2.06.01. Landscaping, a street frontage buffer forty (40) feet in width shall be provided along the Right-of-Way of each designated corridor. This street frontage buffer shall increase to sixty (60) feet to each side where a public or private street intersects the designated corridor.

- a. Parking areas are prohibited within this buffer.
- b. Eighty percent (80%) of Protected Trees or Heritage Trees shall be preserved in the street frontage buffer.
- c. Driveways shall incorporate a divided median at least twenty (20) feet in width for the entire depth of the street frontage buffer.
- d. The street frontage buffer shall be left in its natural state, except that it shall be augmented with additional trees and landscaping for each one hundred fifty (150) linear feet (or fraction thereof) of the street frontage buffer to achieve the following through combination of existing vegetation and new plantings:
 - i. A minimum of six (6) Shade Trees, of which at least four (4) shall be evergreen trees and no single tree species shall constitute more than one-third (1/3) of all required trees.
 - ii. A minimum of four (4) Ornamental Trees.
 - iii. A minimum of thirty (30) Shrubs.
 - iv. Certification of the street frontage buffer as a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Texas Wildscape shall serve in lieu of ii. and iii. and shall reduce the number of required Shade Trees by fifty (50) percent.

2. Alternative Street Frontage Buffer Compliance

- a. Where conformance with the Street Frontage Buffer requirements above is not feasible or where doing so would be detrimental to the feel and function of the NFO district or compromise its purpose and intent, the applicant may request alternative compliance.
- b. The request for alternative compliance shall be accompanied by exhibits illustrating what strict compliance would look like on the site as well as what alternative is being proposed.
- c. A request for alternative compliance may be approved by City Council with a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Administrator or his/her designee.

- d. In acting on a request for alternative compliance, the following criteria should be considered:
- i. The proposed alternative does not reduce a standard unless it is, to the greatest extent practical, equally mitigated or improved by increasing standards or other requirements;
 - ii. The proposed alternative preserves and enhances quality existing landscaping to the greatest reasonable extent;
 - iii. The proposed alternative is in agreement with, and shall promote, the recommendations and policies within the City's Comprehensive Plan;
 - iv. The proposed alternative enhances the site, and therefore, the overall built environment of the City; and
 - v. The proposed alternative meets the spirit and intent of the NFO overlay district.

3. Streetscape

- a. In addition to all other City Ordinances pertaining to signs, all lighted signs must use reverse channel lettering (i.e., backlighting) or fully shielded downward-facing lamps (i.e., gooseneck lighting).

Reverse Channel Lettering (Top) and Downward-Facing Lamps (Bottom)



C. Site Design Elements

All buildings or sites must incorporate at least four (4) of the following design elements:

1. Stained wood building accents (e.g., columns, shutters, trim).
2. No parking located in front of the building face.
3. Covered porch at least ten (10) feet deep and at least fifty (50) percent of the building face width (porch may extend into the required buffer above and must have a roof material consistent with remainder of structure).
4. Bicycle parking within fifty (50) feet of the main entrance, with dedicated spaces accessible without moving another bicycle to accommodate at least:
 - a. Five (5) bicycles for buildings less than seven thousand (7,000) square feet.
 - b. Ten (10) bicycles for buildings between seven thousand (7,000) and thirty thousand (30,000) square feet.
 - c. Twenty (20) bicycles for buildings larger than thirty thousand (30,000) square feet.
5. All hardscape in front of the building face constructed entirely of an enhanced design, such as stained concrete, pavers, or stone.
6. Pedestrian open space such as a park, square, piazza, green, or plaza. Pedestrian open space shall be programmed appropriately with seating and landscaping as to activate the space for pedestrian oriented activity.
7. Provide public art equivalent to one percent (1%) or more of the overall project cost. Examples of public art include but are not limited to sculpture, mosaics, earthworks, and wall murals. Public art must be outside and visually and physically accessible to the public. Public art shall not contain advertisements for businesses or products.
8. Achieve the requirements of 2.06.11. C Low-Impact Site Development.