

City of Anna Staff's Weekly Highlights May 4 – May 8

The Mission of the Anna City Government is to provide exceptional city services and facilities in a financially responsible and neighbor-focused way through a high performing, professional city team that provides results in adding value to neighbors' lives

Growing the Anna Economy

- Staff participated in the first meeting of the University of Texas at Dallas Economic Development Advisory Committee.
- Economic Development staff served as panelists on a Halff Associates Economic Development webinar.
- On Thursday, May 7, the CDC/EDC held their Board Meeting. The Board opted to develop a program to help small businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Anna – A Great Place to Live

- Police officers continue to be a visible presence in the neighborhoods. Over the course of the past week, officers have addressed numerous parking issues and other traffic related complaints. Patrol officers issued over 100 warnings for various parking and city ordinance violations. Staff will continue to address these and other neighborhood related issues as the department increases their neighborhood patrols.
- The Code Compliance Division issued 82 notices of violations (69 for rental registrations and 13 violations for property maintenance).
- In association with the new Executive Order issued by the Governor's office expanding the reopening of businesses, the Code Compliance Division patrolled the City educating businesses and ensuring compliance. The Code Compliance Division also coordinated with the County Health Department on the swimming pool requirements in the new Executive Order.
- The Community Services Department and Code Compliance Division added extra amendments to the Ordinance adopting the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code. The additional amendments were made to tighten up the language relating to high grass and weeds, tree height, outside storage and parking on unimproved surfaces. One more pass is being made to the Ordinance and amendments prior to it going to the City Council for consideration.
- The Community Services Department and Parks Division worked on capital project budget requests from the Parks Development Fund that encompass improvements in all city parks.
- The Community Services Department worked on an ordinance expanding the use of the Parks Development Fund to allow 10% of the fund to be used for events, recreational programming and promotion. This ordinance will be considered by the City Council at a future City Council meeting.

Sustainable Anna Community Through Planned Managed Growth

- On Monday, May 4, the Planning & Zoning Commission met and recommended approval of two public hearing items:
 1. Centurion America's multi-family & commercial multi-use zoning request located on the westside of US Hwy 75 frontage road south of future Rosamond Parkway.
 2. Residential replat in the ETJ to allow for the subdivision of a residential lot into two lots.
- The Commission also approved six non-public hearing items. The non-public hearing items are scheduled for the May 12, 2020 City Council Meeting while the public hearing items will be scheduled for the May 26, 2020 Council Meeting.
- This past Wednesday, May 5, two new development plats were submitted to the Planning Department. These plats, in addition to a zoning request that was continued at the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting, will be placed on the June 2020 Planning & Zoning and City Council Meeting agendas.
- The Director of Development Services and Director of Human Resources conducted three interviews this week with qualified candidates for the open position of Building Official.
- For the Month of April, the City issued/released a total 43 new Single Family housing permits.
- Over the last two (2) weeks the Building Department has conducted a total of 229 inspections (report runs from Friday-Thursday).
 - April 24 – April 30 = 109 inspections
 - May 1 – May 7 = 120 inspections
- The Public Works Department began working to clear debris starting at 11 PM on Thursday night (May 7) and worked all day Friday (May 8) to clear debris and assist neighbors as possible. Work will continue next week until all debris has been properly picked up and disposed by either the City or Bradshaw & Sons trash service.
- The Bloomdale Water Pump Station in McKinney suffered a major failure of their transformers in the storms early Friday morning which caused the station to go offline. The pump station is the sole provider of treated surface water for Anna, Van Alstyne, Howe, and most of Melissa. Staff assisted GTUA by attempting to source a generator through the PWERT (Public Works Emergency Response Team) coalition of cities, and coordinating with Oncor staff on GTUA's behalf to speed up transformer replacement and electrical repairs.
- Staff met with developer of Camden Park Phase 4 regarding the additional infrastructure they are required to install due to Phase 3 not being done prior to Phase 4 (different owner/developer). In accordance with City Ordinance, the additional costs of water/wastewater improvements not in the CIP, but which solely benefit Phase 3 are eligible for a Pro-Rata reimbursement. This means the Phase 3 developer would pay the City a fixed amount per lot, which would be reimbursed to the developer of Phase 4. Staff is investigating and may bring a pro-rata agreement to Council for approval in the near future.
- Staff held preconstruction meeting on Friday, May 8 for West Crossing Phase 8. Bloomfield expects to start construction in the next 2 weeks.
- Public Works Staff held their bi-monthly meeting with TxDOT staff and have the following updates:

- Sign Change for US 75/FM 455 from “Anna-Weston Road to White Street” – TxDOT is waiting to receive costs from contractor for proposed sign changes (the requested change will require six large signs to be changed out).
- Green Ribbon Project – Staff held calls with both TxDOT and design team. Public Works is officially taking over management of project, and pushing for contractor to come to Anna to install conduit if there are any hold ups on their first site (Prosper). Staff will hold bi-weekly phone calls with TxDOT project manager to keep pushing for any possible way to shorten timeline for the Anna portion of the project.
- No U-turn signs on FM 455 at US 75 overpass – Signs have been ordered and will be installed upon arrival by TxDOT.
- TxDOT signals on SH 5 – Signals will go live in the next 30 days. TxDOT is currently resolving some electrical problems on the project.
- US 75 North Widening – TxDOT is considering the project from Rosamond to County line as a strong candidate for a stimulus project if the State gets stimulus money due to limited utility relocations needed and straightforward scope. Public Works and TxDOT are working on how to make project shovel ready if funds become available.
- Truck turns on frontage road near US 75/FM 455 – Staff coordinated with TxDOT staff regarding changes to lane markings to address issue of trucks turning left out of center lane.
- Truck Parking on US 75 frontage roads near FM 455 – TxDOT has ordered no parking signs and will install upon arrival, which will allow enforcement to be done.
- SH 5/CR371/CR376 Intersection – Turn lane installation complete. City requested TxDOT to provide us with timeline for signal construction start.
- The addendum to the Solid Waste RFP was issued on Friday, May 8, in response to questions from vendors. Opening of proposals will occur on Friday, May 15.
- Pier installation for Fire Station foundation is complete at the Municipal Complex site. Lee Lewis is beginning select fill installation and pier work for Municipal Building

High Performing, Professional City

- The Police Department’s five-year strategic plan is now complete. The plan identifies areas and programs the department staff will focus on to help address crime trends and growth. The strategic plan is a cumulation of strategic planning meetings with police department staff, city staff, and community input received through a variety of sources over the past two years. The final document will be presented to Council in the coming months. This is the first such written plan the police department has ever had.
- The Police Department is nearing completion of the development of the Community 2 Police portal. Upon initial rollout, this portal will allow our neighbors to complete and submit non-violent, not-in-progress crime reports via the City website. The reporting system will allow neighbors to report crimes such as lost property, theft, burglary to motor vehicles, damage to property, fraud/forgery, and identity theft. This portal is one component the department’s community policing program.

- The Police Department staff completed the biennial Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) compliance training. This training is a component of cyber training that is required to ensure the safety and security of our Information Technology infrastructure and network.
- The Police Department welcomed Officer Hunter Templeton to the police force on Monday, May 4. Hunter completed all the preliminary coursework and onboarding activities this past week. He will begin field training on Monday, May 11. A formal swearing-in ceremony will occur when COVID-19 related restrictions end.
- Fire Administration developed the department's first ever Engineer Testing Process for internal firefighter applicants. Firefighters will be testing for this important rank over the coming months. The Driver/Operator/Engineer testing process is a standard promotional exam in all professional fire departments and helps establish a scalable organization. It also builds the basic rank foundation for future department officers and leaders.
- Engine 1 returned to service after annual preventative maintenance was completed. Brush 2 returned to service after repairs were made for an electrical short.
- The City Manager's Office, Finance staff, and the Fire Chief participated in an exploratory call a consultant from CohnReznick Advisory which was hired by the Texas Department of Emergency Management to work with cities on expenditures related to COVID-19 pandemic, DR-4485.
- Finance continues to work with departments on their FY 2020 budget estimates, FY 2021 base budget, and their supplemental requests (decision packages).
- Finance staff received the sales tax numbers for sales for the month of March which is received in May. Sales tax were up by 26%. Finance staff will continue monitoring the sales tax to determine if the budget will or will not be impacted by the pandemic.
- Finance Staff and the IT Manager participated in a software demo for the Financial applications and Utility Billing on Wednesday, May 6, and Thursday, May 8.
- The Court Administrator has been staying abreast of the guidance for court proceedings when the court resumes and has been in communication with our Judge.
- Finance Staff and Public Works staff continued to work through the Utility Rate Study with the rate study consultants, NewGen. The rate study models which were derived by the consultants will be presented to Council at the Tuesday, May 12 Council Meeting.
- The Director of Human Resources is continuing to review the City of Anna personnel policy and draft recommendations for review. This is a strategic plan item and will go before council in July 2020.
- The Director of Human Resources is finishing up the City of Anna Award Program for release to staff in June 2020.
- The Director of Human Resources conducted three interviews to fill a maintenance position in the Parks Division. A decision on the candidate selected in the hiring process will be made next week.