



Mayor's Message – June 2021

After a healthy rainy month in May – we head into sizzling Texas summer with hopes that the heat will be gentle as we venture outdoors to embrace normal life again. Check out the [City's Website](#) for info on burn ban, lot mowing, and summer water conservation efforts.

City News

Speaking of water – YOUR Utility Team was recognized with the **River Hero Award** by the Lower Colorado River Authority for their consistent water conservation efforts. We are blessed to have all of our City departments work hard daily to protect the quality of life we experience. A June 3 ceremony will applaud the Community Services/Utility team. We are all so proud!

The **TOWN HALL** on May 11th filled the Yacht Club ballroom, allowing residents to hear City updates and enjoy the showcased departments. Each “station” had staff members, information, ‘goodies’ such as staff harvested honey/wildflower seeds, golf cart towels, chocolate ‘justice’ from Municipal Court, gun locks, and even a strawberry/chocolate fondue showing off the softer side of the Fire Department. (The Finance team did NOT give away money!) Please join us next year for this fun celebration of our City Staff who support us. [CIVIC READY](#) sign ups were available...so if you missed, please go online to get connected. Beyond the community alerts, with the potential for home fires, floods, or security issues – the staff needs to be able to reach you. **Be sure your info is current before heading out on vacation.**

We are ever grateful that **Jerry Gray**, veteran [City Council](#) Member, agreed to return and complete Kent Graham’s term. We could think of no one who brings more wisdom and care to this role....and who the citizens have already showed their trust in with 2 prior elections. I feel so fortunate to work with this diverse, highly competent Council. Thanks Jerry!

It's that time of year for upgrades/cleaning. Go to the City's website <http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=360> for a list of streets to be included in the 1.6 mile upgrade (ribbon curbed). Once a street has the equivalent of 15 houses per mile (sometimes that is one house on a cul de sac), it is included in our next upgrade. With a mile costing over \$1 million, we have to wait until we have a cumulative amount of street work to get the best price break. A more specific calendar/time frame by street will be shared when work begins.

I mentioned last month that the City is honoring the original development plan for **Summit Rock** with some expanded home site ‘kick start’ efforts where it has stalled. The City benefits by getting its investment (YOUR tax dollars) paid back (with anticipated significant savings in interest fees). It also allows for the much delayed Summit Rock Clubhouse to move forward with an actual community POA of neighbors as Harbor Homes partners with the original investors. All boundaries are in place to guard against negative impact to other neighborhoods – and since the original investment provided for infrastructure, there will be no stress on city resources or current quality of life as we stay committed to truly managed growth.

A few have asked about the development of two **new high rise units near the Yacht Club**. It is important to remember that prior to us becoming a City, there were zoning/building agreements already in place. As soon as the City was formed, ordinances were put in place to 'freeze' current zoning. Along with that came some height restrictions so that the shoreline and water views would not be fully diminished. However, a couple of remaining zoned areas (such as these) were vested ("grandfathered") and retain the rights of their original zoning. This is similar to the lot at the end of my own street which is oddly zoned "commercial". (* if it must be commercial - we are hoping for a drive-thru ice cream shop!).

Where possible, the City works with lot owners/developers to get agreements to change the zoning where it seems out of line with our **Future Land Use Map/FLUM preferences** developed by community committees. One successful example would be the Hidden Coves off of Faultline. This was originally zoned commercial with the potential to be a marina/restaurant (about 30 feet across the water inlet from residences). The developer agreed to shift gears and create a residential community on this property. Similarly, the acreage on Golden Nugget (near Broken Hills) was zoned multi-family. Neighbors feared negative impacts of density, water runoff, traffic and parking in the more hill country/rural area. This development was eventually bought and generously donated to what you will now see as [The HSB Nature Park](#). No special conditions are given to the Resort (or any lot owner) – and all variances and/or zoning change requests must go through the citizen-led [Board of Adjustment or Planning/Zoning Commission](#).



What? Who? How? There are always questions about the TRULY confusing relationship of [WHO DOES WHAT in the city of Horseshoe Bay](#). Because our community (celebrating its 50th anniversary last month) existed for 35 years prior to incorporating as a City in 2005 – the original developers (declarants) formed a POA with a separate standing Architectural Control Committee (ACC). The guidelines established in this POA have very restrictive change options (80% of all lot owners must sign off on changes). The original developer (declarant) determined a percentage of the POA dues would be set aside in a 'maintenance' fund to care for common areas (entrances, litter on main thoroughfare, golf courses, etc.). As the development expanded, POA dues were set differently for new areas (though they operated through the same ACC). Over time, new developers/declarants emerged (ex: Trails, Escondido, Hills) who invested in their own infrastructure and set their own POA/ACC guidelines.

When the City formed in 2005, it did not have authority over the existing development or the POAs. Varied communities (POAs) within the original development DID decide to make an agreement with the City to manage varied tasks such as road maintenance, deer management, lot mowing, etc. (though others chose to maintain their own). The City is paid by the POA funds for these agreements at a proportional rate (depending on community size) for these functions. All four of the entities (the City, POAs, ACCs, and Declarants) operate separately. In an attempt to give a brief understanding of this complex relationship, a [Partners in Horseshoe Bay document](#) has been posted on the [City Website](#). Don't be misled though – even with efforts for



clarity, **it will still make your head spin!** But as YOUR City, we continue to work with all 'partners' to the benefit of each POA's/community's unique needs.

Note: Speaking of celebrating our 50 years as a community – put a \$20 bill in your pocket for the **Independence Day event** this year where a community-written **History of Horseshoe Bay book** will be hot off the press. What a great gift for new to Horseshoe Bayers....or friends and family who will want to reminisce and/or giggle at the pictures of current residents! (Add an extra \$20 in your pocket for lunch and donations if you choose - more info in July newsletter)

Community News

Boogie at the Bay(at Quail Point) kicks off again with a full 5 week season – starting June 2nd at 6 pm. We are a community of active, life embracing, healthy friends...and the Boogie is a great place to connect, relax, sip/nibble (BYOpicnic basket) and watch a Texas sunset with music in the air! Thanks to HSBay Business Alliance and sponsors for making 'normal' feel so good again. <https://www.shoplocalhsb.com/events/boogie-at-the-bay/> for details on dates/music artists.

Normal also means 'start preparing your floats' as the **annual Independence Day celebration** returns complete with parade (land and water), Quail Point activities and program, and full out fireworks show at sunset! Put on your red/white/blue pride, gather friends/family, and get involved. All POAs (all residents of the City of Horseshoe Bay) are welcome! For more info (or to volunteer), contact: <https://www.hsbpoa.org/default.php>.

We continue to celebrate deepening our social experiences as gatherings ([church, trivia, bingo, pilates, game groups, and happy hour/dinner](#)) bring us back together. I know we are all delighted to see the **opening of Cap Rock Dining, as well as the success of Bay View Restaurant** in our partner neighbor city of Cottonwood Shores. Both keep us close to home (limited driving after a drink or two!), supportive of local businesses, and engaged with our neighbors/friends.

Community Care Spotlight

[Phoenix Center](#) is a dedicated group who provide care for children of trauma all year long at the new facilities on Hwy 71 (Horseshoe Bay ETJ). Individuals or businesses can join their "Fan Club" to offer support! Everyone who joins the Fan Club before June 9th will be entered into a **RAFFLE to win a fabulous 4-night stay for 12 in Angel Fire, New Mexico** valued at over **\$2,000!** For only \$7/month you can support the Whole Child! Join here: <https://bit.ly/2OgULDr> or just \$25/month, support the Whole Family! Join here: <https://bit.ly/2vmQNY>

Finally (your favorite word, I know)....we have had a few car accidents this Spring. As we head into a summer with lots of visitors (and a few parties) – be extra careful in looking out for yourself. Be safe on the water, watch out for my errant drive on the golf course, and take time to look out for neighbors in need. After gratefully honoring those who have served our country this Memorial Weekend, we head to a summer of celebrations of Dads, Independence, and the blessing of living in our hometown HSB! Drink plenty of water and Sunscreen up!



Cynthia Cline Smith, Mayor

City Website - www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov