



The Cross Roads Times

Volume 22 , Issue 4

THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TX.

February 2022



T. Lynn Tompkins Jr,
Mayor of Cross Roads

From the Mayor's Desk

By T. Lynn Tompkins Jr, Mayor

2021 was a busy year for the Town of Cross Roads and the start of the new year is a good time to recall the major accomplishments and successes.

One of the best decisions for Cross Roads in 2021 was the hiring of Kristi Gilbert as the new Town Administrator. She brings nearly twenty years experience in local government, with a master's degree in public administration and the Certified Public Manager designation by the State of Texas in 2009. Ms. Gilbert has re-organized staff so that the Town operates more efficiently by eliminating the Director of Finance position and creating two new positions, Accounting Technician/Payroll Specialist and Permit Technician. These new positions are aligned to the needs of a growing town. Ms. Gil-

bert and her staff evaluated the Town fee structure and saw that our rates had not been reviewed or adjusted in many years. A plan was proposed and approved by the Council. Our fees now better align with surrounding communities and will result in net revenue gains for our Town.

Under Ms. Gilbert's guidance, the Town also transitioned from QuickBooks software to a government fund accounting software. This improvement strengthens the Town's financial management and ensures compliance with government reporting standards and transparency in operations. Another much needed upgrade was an overhaul of the Town's website, funded by the Municipal Development District. The MDD derives its funds from a .25 percent retail sales tax collected within the Town and within the Town's extraterritorial jurisdiction. If you have not done so, check out the new look at crossroadstx.gov which features a Cross Roads longhorn on the home page.

Another great staffing decision was the hiring of Chief Shaun Short to establish the Cross Roads Police Department. Chief Short worked diligently with Town Staff to convert the Town Hall into our new Police Station, hiring a great team of experienced officers and ensuring the safety of Cross Roads

residents, businesses, and visitors. With our Chief, 2 Sergeants and 6 Officers, all dedicated to Cross Roads, we enjoy greater protection than ever before. We appreciate our law enforcement officers and staff – thank you for becoming a part of our Town!



Cross Roads also transitioned to Little Elm Fire and EMS Services in 2021, after the Town Council evaluated all local providers to determine what was best for the citizens of Cross Roads. Little Elm Fire and EMS is 100% staffed by Paramedic Certified Firefighters. LEFD is rated Class 1, the highest rating, by the Insurance Services Office.

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Municipal Development District (MDD)

What is Cross Roads MDD and how does it serve Cross Roads?

In 2013, the Town Council ordered an election for the creation of the Cross Roads Municipal Development District (CRMDD) to focus on economic development and growth. The election was held on May 11, 2013, and the voters of Cross Roads approved the creation of the MDD.

The MDD was ordained by the Town Council on September 16, 2013. Section 1 (Creation of the District) of the Town of Cross Roads ordinance 2013-0916-03 allowed for the authorization of a sales and use tax (1/4 of 1%) to be imposed for the purpose of financing development projects beneficial to the District.

Section 2 (Powers of District) states: The MDD may recommend to the Town Council to accept grants; acquire, buy, sell, convey, lease, and otherwise dispose of property; enter into contracts with public and private parties...etc.

There are five members of the Cross Roads MDD, including John Knox, President; Mady Killfoil, Allan Neubauer; Greg Gaalema and William Berry.

The MDD promotes the retention, and expansion of existing business for a sustainable economy leading to job creation.

As a part of the Town’s Vision

2035 work, MDD created a mission statement:

The mission of the MDD is to continue to grow the tax base by attracting new business, creating a family-oriented, safe Town environment while preserving the small town country living, making the community a better place to do business, live and work.

In an effort to accomplish this mission, MDD has a focus on direct feedback from the Cross Roads Vision 2035 survey where community members clearly articulated their desire for diversity of restaurants, boutique services and shops, a local/organic focused grocery store, venue for public events, and a gathering place for the community – a Town Square/Town Centre.

ing desires to make the website a go to place for the Town’s information.

- In keeping with the expressed desire of the community and the MDD Vision, the MDD recently acquired approximately 2.42 acres at 1151 FM 424.

This is a strategic purchase of land adjacent to the Cross Roads Police Department and Municipal Court that gives the Town many options for the future.

This acquisition of this property in Cross Roads is a step towards having influence in potentially creating a community center or retail space that reflects the unique character of Cross Roads.

“MDD is very proud to have made this investment in providing for the future of the Town Cross Roads. We will carefully evaluate the



MDD’s completed projects:

- The MDD authorized the update and maintenance of the Cross Roads website. There are ongoing

highest use for this property to serve the residents of Cross Roads.”, says John Knox, President of MDD.



Continue From the Mayor's desk

LEFD is led by Fire Chief Paul Rust.

The LEFD has already become a presence in Cross Roads with Chief Rust's monthly reports to the Council and attendance at neighborhood events as well as frequent drive throughs as his crews expand their knowledge of Cross Roads. Santa arriving on a fire engine was a highlight for young and old this Christmas season!

Chief Rust is already hiring additional personnel and deploying new resources to better serve Cross Roads. Plans for a new fire station on FM 720, on Cross Roads' doorstep have been accelerated to move construction forward with the hiring of an architecture firm in the next few weeks for the station design.



Next, with all the changes in the Highway 380 corridor, the Town also kicked off the Town Vision 2035 project

with Debbie Womack of Greater Yield to better understand the changing needs of the community. This was a time for residents to provide feedback on what they want for the future.

After in-person and online meetings with residents, all Town Committees, Town Council, the Cross Roads Town Vision is as follows:

Moving forward, the Town is using the feedback from the Vision 2035 project to guide us with residents, developers, and businesses.

We currently have a request for proposal out to expand on the Vision 2035 project to establish a strategic plan to implement goals

“The Town of Cross Roads is a thriving community built on small-town country charm that is committed to an excellent quality of life for our community, citizens, businesses and visitors. We seek sustainable growth that protects our natural and historic resources while preserving our values, qualities, and culture. A strong and multi-generational population enjoys its spirit of community.”

to help us realize our vision. In 2022 we will maintain our focus on attracting developers and businesses that meet the needs of the community and draw visitors seeking a unique shopping and dining experience.

The expansion of 380 in Cross Roads commenced this month. The changes will expand 380 from four to six lanes, add raised medians with turn lanes and elevate 380 as it passes over the FM 720 intersection. Traffic will be rerouted to the north side while construction on the south side is done, then vice versa for construction on the north



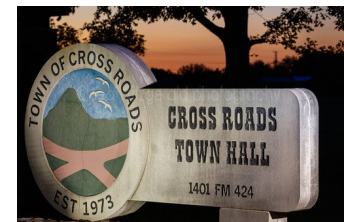
side. This project will continue into 2023. There is a separate, longer-term project under consideration realigning 380. Construction on that project is several years off, we will keep you informed as it progresses.



And last of all, looking to the new year, **I am happy to report that Q1 of FY21/22 shows sales tax revenue increased by nearly 24% over the same period for FY20/21 and is exceeding budgeted projections** with the opening of new businesses including Atwoods Ranch and Home, Rosa's Café, and Raising Cane's. Dunkin Donuts, Baskin Robbins, Firehouse Subs, Mod Pizza and an expansion to Rustic Furniture are planned to open in the coming months, bringing with them the expectation our revenue will once again exceed expectations.

This new year will bring new and continuing challenges. Your Town government is prepared to meet those challenges. If you would like more information on any issue or wish to share a concern, please email me at

l.tompkins@crossroadstx.gov.





Parks & Rec. Board Updates

In 2021, the Parks and Recreation board was re-established with all new members and managed to have an eventful and successful year.

We started with:

- Eggstravaganza event in April for Easter.
- Town clean up event.
- Memorial Day in the Park in May.
- Summer markets.
- Labor Day in the Park in September.
- Three Holiday Markets. October, November and December.

Year 2022 will bring some big plans for the park.

We will begin planning for the much requested **permanent bathrooms** at the park. This was identified as Phase 2 of the 2015 Master Plan for the park. We hope to fi-

Park Board Mission:

Enhancing the quality of life by providing for safe, well-maintained parks and public places, preserving historic resources and strengthening the bonds of community through programs and special events. We create opportunities for renewal, growth, and enrichment, while actively caring for and protecting our urban forest to create a beautiful, livable town for the benefit of a community of people who live, work and visit the Town of Cross Roads. These services will be facilitated and delivered through passionate, professional and proactive response to community interests and identified values.

nalize plans and identify potential grants to fund the construction improvements in the upcoming year.

The board’s other plans for 2022 are the same as last year but maybe adding a movie night in the park, a bingo night, and decorating the park for Veteran’s Day.

Please watch the Town Social Media site, the Park and Recreation Face book page for more event details throughout the year.

Parks and Recreation Board Ron Zohfeld, Chair



US 380 Improvement Project Kicks Off in Denton County

WHERE: 10.5 miles of roadway from US 377 to west of County Road 26 (Collin County line).

WHEN: Beginning Monday, Jan. 10, 2022.

WHAT: Construction will begin on US 380 in Denton County east of US 377 to the Collin County line.

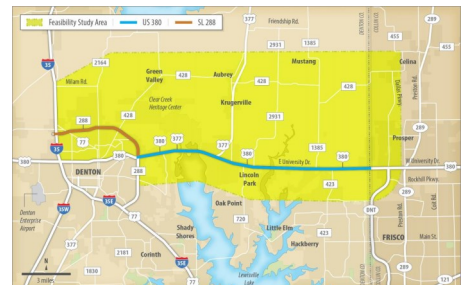
The improvement project will widen US 380 from four to six lanes, add a curbed median, sidewalks

and grade separations at major intersections including:

- FM 720/Oak Grove Lane
- Navo Road/Union Park Boulevard
- FM 423/Gee Road
- Teel Parkway/Championship Drive
- Legacy Drive.

Zachry Construction Corporation is the contractor for the estimated \$140 million project. Construction

is expected to be complete in spring 2025, weather permitting.
<https://www.crossroadstx.gov/US380>



Meet Our New Police Officer



Officer Martinez joined our police force last December. He came from The Texas Health Hospital in Dallas where he was an officer for 9 years.

We are excited to welcome him to our team. Please welcome him when you see him around.

CRPD Mission:

The Mission of the Cross Roads Police Department is to serve as guardians of the Cross Roads community by protecting life and property, enforcing the law, detecting and deterring crime, preserving the peace and the rights of all people as guided by the Constitution of the United States of America and through collaborate partnership within the community.



THE COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

BITS AND PIECES Did You Know???

- The Town of Cross Roads moved into their new office at 3201 US Hwy 80, Suite 105 Cross Roads.
- We have a new Pizza company opening up soon, Mod Pizza, next to the Pilates place.
- That the applications to become a candidate for Mayor or Council Member are due by 5PM on Friday February 18, 2022. Municipal elections will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022.
- To be considered to serve on the Town Board or Committee, please complete a volunteer application, available on the Town website.
- The Salvation Army Red Cross Kettle Mayor's Challenge had set a goal of \$2000 for the Town. With the generosity of the Cross Roads Community we raised \$3,019. Thank you Bell Ringers for beating the cold that day.

You can contact the editor of Cross Roads Times by sending an email to editor@crossroadstx.gov.



THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TX.

*T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr. Mayor
David Meek, Mayor Pro Tem
Wendy White Stevens, Council
Member*

Bobby Phillips, Council Member

Ron King, Council Member

Greg Gaalema, Council Member

*Kristi Gilbert, Town
Administrator*

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Town Council meetings are on the first and third Monday of each month, 7:00 pm. at our old Town Hall/Police Station and on Zoom. Please join us and become involved in your Town.
- Planning and Zoning Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm. at our old Town Hall/Police station and on Zoom.
- Park and Recreation Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. at our old Town Hall/Police Station.
- Municipal Development District Meeting meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. at our old Town Hall.

All meetings are posted on the Town Hall bulletin board at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. For additional information, please contact the Town Secretary.

The Cross Road Times
3201 US HWY 380,
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