

CROSS ROADS MONTHLY

OCTOBER 2023



PRESENTED BY THE CROSS ROADS
MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK



**T. LYNN TOMPKINS, JR.
MAYOR OF CROSS ROADS**

Founders Day – we celebrated like it was 1973!

Thank you to all the community members who joined together to celebrate the founding of the Town of Cross Roads 50 years ago. Denton ISD was a wonderful host and a huge thanks to our platinum sponsor, Rustic Furniture!

There were over 75 vendors participating which included Brass Tap, Eden Hill Winery, four food trucks, blacksmith demos, Denton ISD’s Career & Technology Education program from LaGrone Academy, “Baby Clay” – the world’s largest brick - and pottery from the historic beehive kiln. We were entertained by many local performance groups and had a “Prize Passport” game where attendees collected passport stamps to be entered into a drawing of prizes from local businesses. There was a timeline of Cross Roads history, our Little Elm Fire and EMS partner was present and of course CRPD keeping everything safe for all to enjoy.

The grand finale of the night was Emerald City’s band Party Machine who got the crowd up dancing and grooving!

I cannot name the countless volunteers from Denton Bible Church and Relate Church, Town Staff, Boards, Council Members and residents who are all about giving back to the community that made this event possible. And last of all, but not least, Kristi Gilbert and Donna Butler who put much effort into planning and organizing Founders Day.

Fiscal Responsibility delivered

One of the most important responsibilities as Mayor of Cross Roads is ensuring that we run the Town in a manner to maintain NO TOWN PROPERTY TAX. In the Town Vision 2035 maintaining that status was the top ranked desire of the community members and it has been my stated goal since before I was elected.

Running the Town without the guaranteed revenue generated by a Town property tax means we are dependent upon mostly sales tax revenue to fund critical Town functions such as staffing of Town Hall, providing police and fire protection and maintaining roads. This means that Town Council must make informed decisions to provide the best services possible to the community while protecting the bottom line.

With the expansion and construction of US 380, the Town has been anticipating a reduction in sales tax revenue and budgets were set with that in mind. With one month left to go in the fiscal year, we have achieved 98% of the budgeted revenue of \$3,838,900, indicating we will exceed the budgeted amount. On the flipside of revenues, the Town Council, Staff and I have worked hard to control expenses. With one month of the fiscal year remaining, we have spent only \$2,679,113 of the budgeted \$3,189,697 and are expecting a surplus.

I am proud of the impact the Town’s financial management has had on the Town’s bottom line over the last few years.

REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES (SOURCE: TOWN OF CROSS ROADS AUDITED FINANCIALS)

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
-\$446,208	-\$429,473	\$241,067	\$453,339	\$1,525,253	\$1,728,758

It is the opinion of both myself and the current Council Members that we will continue to manage the budget so that we are maintaining the appropriate Town reserves each year, ensuring that our resident continue to enjoy the extra money in their pockets.

CROSS ROADS MDD

Cross Roads Municipal Development District (CRMDD)

The Cross Roads Municipal Development is an economic development entity whose members are appointed by the Town Council. The CRMDD is funded through a quarter of a cent sales tax from businesses within the Town of Cross Roads and within the Town’s extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Cross Roads Municipal Development District promotes the retention, and expansion of existing business for a sustainable economy leading to job creation. We partner with elected officials, administration officials, other Town committees, and Towns people to achieve this goal.”

With that mission in mind, the CRMDD has assumed the responsibility of funding the Town’s monthly newsletter in an effort to help promote the Town’s businesses. Future newsletters will contain highlights of businesses in our community in addition to the regular information that has been included in The Cross Roads Times. If you are interested in having your Cross Roads business featured in a future newsletter, please contact news@crossroadstx.gov.

Mayor’s Letter *(continued from Page 1)*

Cross Roads Veterans Advisory Committee

Some local Cross Roads residents have officially incorporated as a non-profit to form the Cross Roads Veterans Advisory Committee. The CRVAC’s mission is “To develop a committee of engaged citizens, actively developing and supporting a growing veteran community. With a focus on developing policies and programs that will honor veterans and establish Cross Roads as a Veteran-ready community.”

As we get ready to observe Veteran’s Day next month, please take the time to research this new group at crveterans.org.

Respectfully,

Mayor T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr.

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FOUNDER'S DAY

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (MDD) BOARD

The Cross Roads MDD supported and participated in this year's Founder's Day event. Residents are encouraged to visit the local businesses that sponsored or provided gifts for the event drawings.

Cross Roads Sponsors:

- Rustic Furniture
- Brass Tap
- Fifth Gear

Gifts provided by:

- Villa Grande
- Starbucks
- Bottle Cap
- Jacob's Liquor
- MOD Pizza
- Raising Canes
- Palio's
- Majestic Nails



THANK YOU SPONSORS!

PLATINUM



GOLD



Cross Roads
Municipal
Development District



SILVER



BRONZE

Oncor
Half Associates
AT&T

FOUNDER'S FRIEND

Mayor Tompkins
Irving Family
Local Circuit



FOUNDER'S DAY



Photo credit to Nicholas Cruz

AROUND TOWN

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

10-28-1975

The Town Council discussed the necessity for the Town to be represented at the meetings of the Small Cities Association. Wendell and Sandra Linton were appointed as Cross Roads representatives.

10-24-1988

The Town Council approved consideration to place load and speed signs on the south side of 377 and north side of US 380 on Pottershop Road. This motion was approved to place a load limit sign for 8,000 pounds and a speed limit sign of 30 miles per hour.

10-20-1997

At the Town Council Meeting, the Town’s new Comprehensive Zoning Map was explained. This map was created to be in accordance with Texas State law requiring any town to have a Comprehensive Zoning Map by September 1, 1997. This was the third Cross Roads Comprehensive Zoning Map to be created. The first in 1977 and the second in 1980.

10-25-2005

The policy and procedures for the regulation of the permitting and construction of swimming pools and fencing was approved by the Town Council.

10-15-2012

The Town Council approved the permits for locations of Walmart and CVS Pharmacy in Cross Roads.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2023 is an exciting year for Cross Roads as we celebrate 50 Years!

In 1973, with a population of about 300, James Cundall and Jerry Burns, with the financial help of Denton Co-op Power, drew up a petition, talked to neighbors, then talked to more neighbors about having a town with no ad valorem tax to protect against annexation by the City of Denton. Their hard work paid off and, in an election held on May 26, 1973, residents voted 52 FOR and 21 AGAINST incorporation.

The Town of Cross Roads was incorporated on June 11, 1973, with the first election for the position of Mayor and Council Members being conducted on July 14, 1973 and the first meeting of the governing body held on July 31, 1973.

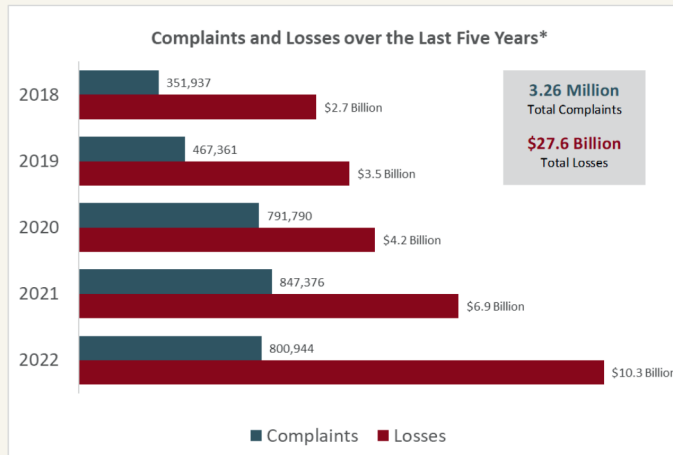
In reviewing documents provided by local residents there are many letters and some news articles that help paint a picture of the Town’s history, but we know that there is more available!

The Historical Preservation Committee is asking for your help with locating documents, letters, pictures, newspapers or any other materials that can help document the growth of the early Town of 300 to what we are today.

Helping the committee with this task is the Denton County Department of History and Culture, who have agreed to help ensure proper preservation of materials, and provide resources such as display cases, display materials and assistance collecting oral histories from the residents who were there! This is a great resource being offered by Denton County and we appreciate their guidance.

If you would like to serve on the Historical Preservation Committee or have materials to contribute, please reach out to Donna Butler at Town Hall at d.butler@crossroadstx.gov or 940-365-9693.

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS



Cyber complaints and losses over the years of 2018 to 2022

ONLINE RISKS

The internet, for all of its benefits, also gives criminals and predators an easy way to reach young people. The FBI most often sees crimes against children begin when an adult:

- Forges a relationship with a young victim online and then later arranges to meet and abuse the child; or
- Coerces a child into producing sexually explicit images or videos through manipulation, gifts, or threats—a crime called sextortion.

The most important advice for parents is to have open and ongoing conversations about safe and appropriate online behavior. Other advice to consider:

- Educate yourself about the websites, software, games, and apps that your children use.
- Check their social media and gaming profiles and posts. Have conversations about what is appropriate to say or share.
- Explain to your kids that once images or comments are posted online they can be shared with anyone and never truly disappear.
- Make sure your kids use privacy settings to restrict access to their online profiles.
- Make it a rule with your kids that they can't arrange to meet up with someone they met online without your knowledge and supervision.
- Stress to your children that making any kind of threat online—even if they think it's a joke—is a crime.
- Report any inappropriate contact between an adult and your child to law enforcement immediately. Notify the site they were using, too.

PROTECT YOURSELF ONLINE

Protect Your Systems and Data

- Keep systems and software up to date and install a strong, reputable anti-virus program.
- Create a strong and unique passphrase for each online account you hold and change them regularly.
- Do not open any attachments unless you are expecting the file, document, or invoice and have verified the sender's email address.

Protect Your Connections

- Be careful when connecting to a public Wi-Fi network and do not conduct any sensitive transactions, including purchases, when on a public network.
- Avoid using free charging stations in airports, hotels, or shopping centers. Bad actors have figured out ways to use public USB ports to introduce malware and monitoring software onto devices that access these ports. Carry your own charger and USB cord and use an electrical outlet instead.

Protect Your Money and Information

- Examine the email address in all correspondence and scrutinize website URLs. Scammers often mimic a legitimate site or email address by using a slight variation in spelling. Or an email may look like it came from a legitimate company, but the actual email address is suspicious.
- Do not click the link in an unsolicited text message or email that asks you to update, check, or verify your account information. If you are concerned about the status of your account, go to the company's website to log into your account or call the phone number listed on the official website to see if something does in fact need your attention.
- Carefully scrutinize all electronic requests for a payment or transfer of funds.
- Be extra suspicious of any message that urges immediate action.
- Make online purchases with a credit card for an extra layer of protection against fraud.

Scan here for resources
and more information



The Cross Road Times
3201 US HWY 380, Suite 105,
Cross Roads, TX 76227

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Cross Roads Parks & Rec/Market:
www.facebook.com/CRTXPARKSANDREC

The Town of Cross Roads, TX

Elected Officials:

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr., Mayor
David Meek, Mayor Pro Tem
Ron King, Council Member
Steve Zuczek, Council Member
Chris Paus, Council Member
Stephanie Housewright, Council Member

Staff:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator
Shaun Short, Police Chief
Donna Butler, Town Secretary

The Cross Road Times
3201 US HWY 380, Suite 105,
Cross Roads, TX 76227

Phone: 940-365-9693
Fax: 940-665-6898
news@crossroadstx.gov

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Town Council meetings are on the 3rd Monday of each month. at 6:00 pm at the Police Department and on Zoom. Please join us and become involved in your Town.
- Planning and Zoning Commission meets the 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm at the Police Department and on Zoom.
- Park and Recreation Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Police Department.
- Municipal Development District meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Police Department.

All meetings, agendas, and support materials are posted online at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. For additional information, please contact the Town Secretary.