

**2016 State of the City
City of Bee Cave
by Mayor Caroline Murphy**

The state of the City of Bee Cave is strong. Some of the major accomplishments over the past months are described below.

The adoption of the RR 620 Feasibility Plan, a project coordinated by TXDOT with local municipalities to improve traffic congestion on the RR 620 corridor, has resulted in additional turn lanes in the RR 620 – Falconhead and Ladera Boulevard intersections. Although these improvements are just the beginning of improvements planned for the RR 620 corridor, the additional turn lanes have improved the functioning of these intersections, especially during peak traffic times.

After a rigorous schedule of meetings including residents and business owners, the City has adopted an updated Comprehensive Master Plan and a Hike and Bike Trail Plan. These plans have provided city leaders with clarity on what the citizens and business owners would like to see regarding future development in Bee Cave. Connectivity via both roads and trails have been a high priority, and the City has been working with developers to obtain public rights of way for sidewalks and trails as projects develop. The City has moved forward with its annexation plan and has worked with landowners to achieve zoning designations consistent with the Future Land Use Map as described in the updated Comprehensive Master Plan.

The City has successfully negotiated with the Lazy Nine Municipal Utility District (MUD) who has agreed to comply with additional development standards on their land located outside of the city limits and west of Bee Cave along the south side of Hwy 71. Land located outside of the city limits would generally not be subject to many of the City's development standards such as lighting and landscaping requirements. This negotiation also included moving a proposed car dealership out of the city limits and away from land adjacent to Falconhead West, a large residential neighborhood.

The City has purchased approximately twenty-two (22) acres of undeveloped land located between Bee Cave Parkway and Hwy 71, across from the Ladera subdivision and next to the Hill Country Indoor sports complex currently under construction. The City's immediate plans for the land include revegetation of an area along Bee Cave Parkway, general mowing/maintenance of the acreage, and tree trimming. The City has no immediate plans for how this land will be used; however, public ownership of this land will allow future City leaders the flexibility for providing more open space and/or future city services as the area's population continues to grow.

The City has achieved Gold level designation by the Scenic City Certification Program. The award demonstrates the City's continued commitment to shaping a visually appealing community in which to live, work, and play. The City has plans to continue its efforts of preserving and enhancing the visual character of the City and to pursue higher levels of Scenic City designation in the coming years.

The relocated dog park within the Bee Cave Central Park has been a huge success. Visitors to the dog park enjoy closer parking, more shade, and easy access to public restrooms.

The Bee Cave Public Library has been named the newest member of the Family Place Library network, a network of children's libraries nationwide focused on learning and literacy starting in infancy. The Library has continued to make additional improvements to space utilization in support of its long-range plan to address the growing number of visitors to the library.

The Bee Cave Police Department has started a bicycle patrol with two trained officers patrolling within the Hill Country Galleria and the Shops at the Galleria. The department conducted its second Bee Cave Citizens Police Academy. The organization Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) awarded the Commitment Hero Award and the Enforcement Hero Award to two police officers for their efforts in keeping our streets safe by arresting drivers who are driving under the influence of alcohol or other substances.

The City's financial state has remained healthy due to the City's fiscally conservative approach to budgeting and operations. The ad valorem (property) tax rate has continued to be one of the lowest in the state of Texas. Sales tax revenues have continued to be strong and have exceeded budgeted projections. Shopping local not only supports our local businesses but also generates sales tax revenue, the main funding source for the City, which in turn keeps property taxes low.

City Website

The City's website contains announcements about municipal and library events as well as information on matters such as permitting requirements, ordinances, and code criteria. Agendas and supporting documents are publicly available online via clicking on the [Novus Paperless Agenda](#) link found under the tab City Government, City Council Agendas and Minutes. Please feel free to contact any of the elected officials or staff at the City of Bee Cave, or visit the website: www.beecavetexas.gov. The City Council meets at Bee Cave City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The public is welcome to attend.