

## Mayor's Message

By Mayor Chris Riley

### MEET YOUR CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

For the first time since 2009, the City of Leon Valley did not hold an election in May, because the three candidates who filed for office, including me, were unopposed.

Thank you for re-electing me to another term as your Mayor. I am deeply honored and will continue working hard for you. My door is open to listen to any concerns or great suggestions for our community! My email is mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov ; cell phone number: (210) 618-2092. I return calls and emails in a timely fashion and will do my best to resolve any issue you have. I work for you, my bosses.

Returning for a second term is Councilor Benny Martinez, Place 4. Mr. Martinez owns QualTel Communications and also serves as a board member of the Leon Valley Chamber of Commerce. One of his main interests has been an emphasis on attracting & retaining businesses to our community.

Newly elected Councilor Belinda Ealy, Place 2, filed when Councilor Carmen Sanchez decided not to run for a second term, due to the possibility of a move to Helotes. Ms. Ealy was born and raised in San Antonio and is the mother of 8 children. She is the owner of Healthy Living Systems, a sustainable alkaline water softener system, for homes and businesses. She has been extremely active on four city committees, including Earthwise Living (co-chair), Park Commission, Community Events and Beautification Committees. She has been a regular attendee at city council for the last three years and is extremely

independent in getting around the city in her wheelchair.

Returning for the second year of their first elected terms are: Councilors Dr. David Edwards, Place 1, Monica Alcocer, Place 3 and David Jordan, Place 5. Our appreciation to Councilor Carmen Sanchez for her wise and steady leadership, especially serving as Mayor Pro Tem, and her valuable assistance in hiring our city manager, Kelly Kuenstler.

### RELIEVING CONGESTION ON BANDERA ROAD

TXDOT has developed five options for Bandera Road improvements that were briefly presented at the May 17th City Council meeting and will be presented in further detail at a future public hearing. Here is a summary of these options:

1. Super Street configuration – no left turns onto Bandera road;
2. Add one lane on each side of Bandera Road in the median;
3. Add elevated turn lanes at Grissom and Eckert roads;
4. Extend elevated flyover from 410 to 1604;
5. Expand Bandera Road into a major highway with frontage roads.

Bandera Road between 410 and Grissom has 80,000 cars a day, one of the busiest stretches in the metro area. Bottlenecks occur at Grissom and Eckert with left-turn traffic. Option 3 would try to address that.

Option 4, the flyover extended to 1604, would seriously impact our business district and sales tax revenue. Leon Valley receives over \$2 million a year in sales tax, 29% of our budget. Option 4 would also increase noise



and air pollution in Leon Valley. Only 7 % of the northbound Bandera Road traffic goes to 1604 and beyond; the rest drop off along the corridor, so the effectiveness of this option is questionable.

Another bottleneck is at Guilbeau where the road changes from three lanes each way to two lanes. TXDOT should consider widening the road but that is not on the table at present.

We will keep you posted as to when that public meeting will occur. We need a good turnout of citizens to express which of the above options we prefer.

### RELIEVING CONGESTION IN BEXAR COUNTY

In March, I had a great opportunity to serve on a panel at UTSA, Traffic Congestion – what will be do about it?, with several county-wide leaders. Having served on the Metropolitan Planning Organization since 2009 as a suburban city representative, I am very aware of the traffic issues in the metro region. Did you know that last year 51,000 new residents moved to Bexar County? Projections are for perhaps a million new residents in the region over the next 25 years.

Many people think that adding more lanes will solve the problem. However, evidence shows that when lanes are added, it attracts more cars and congestion expands. For example,

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## Mayor's Message

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in Katy, Texas, TXDOT expanded IH 10 from 10 to 24 lanes and the commute times after this improvement increased by 20 drive time minutes!

It is clear that the single occupant vehicle is the major cause of congestion. Some positive solutions are:

- High Occupancy lanes recently approved for 281 North and IH 10;
- Enhanced mass transit, with 5-10 minute frequency on major arteries;
- Light rail, like all other major Texas cities – Dallas has the most extensive light rail system in the nation!
- Greater funding - VIA is the only transit company in Texas that operates on ½ cent sales tax; all others have a full cent funding;
- Alternating work or school hours;
- Tele-commuting from home;
- Adding safe bicycle lanes on major arteries;
- Car-pooling;
- Using UBER and LYFT to work with the bus system.

## COST OF MUNICIPAL COMPLEX PROJECT

On April 2nd, 2016 a dedication of the newly renovated police and administration building was held. (In January, 2015 the new Fire Station was opened). We can be very proud of this accomplishment – investing in our community's municipal facilities for the next 25 years through passing in 2012 a \$7 million bond to cover this project. The following is a summary of revenues used and expenditures paid to complete the project.

### Revenues:

<b>Bond Proceeds:</b>	<b>\$ 7,017,056</b>
<b>General Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 725,252</b>
<b>Water Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 90,000</b>
<b>CIED Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 175,899</b>
<b>Community Center:</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>
<b>Court Technology:</b>	<b>\$ 30,000</b>
<b>Police Forfeiture:</b>	<b>\$ 144,630</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 8,222,837</b>

### Expenditures:

<b>Construction:</b>	<b>\$ 7,415,874</b>
<b>Technology:</b>	<b>\$ 525,732</b>
<b>Furniture:</b>	<b>\$ 213,728</b>
<b>Rental:</b>	<b>\$ 37,341</b>
<b>Asbestos/HVAC testing</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 8,232,675</b>

There appears to be a deficit of \$9,838, but there is \$14,000 left in contingency funds that should cover this. There was no additional property tax increase from the original \$7 million bond issuance. The funds above the bond proceeds were taken from surplus over several fiscal years. Please stop by for a tour of the complex if you missed the April 2nd event!

**See you at the 4th of July Festivities in Rimkus Park!**

**Sincerely, Chris**

## Address Numbers

By Luis Valdez, Fire Chief

When the alarm sounds at the fire station, the most critical piece of information that we receive is the address of the emergency. Our Firefighters do all they can to find the right location and depend on clearly marked address numbers to do so. Often times we find missing or hidden address numbers and this may cause delays. Overgrown landscaping may hide numbers, lack of lighting in the evening, remodeling, or other factors are some of the more common causes. While the city's fire code has a set of minimum requirements, we encourage everyone to review your own address numbers in order to help our Firefighters and Police Officers find you in the event of an emergency. At a minimum, your address numbers need

to be at least 4 inches in height and 1 inch in width, and located to be easily visible from the street. This also means that the numbers should be under lighting from some source (porch light or landscape lighting). Reflective numbers may also be helpful if placed on a stand-alone mailbox in front of your home. The city's fire code requires address numbers as part of a certificate of occupancy, and these numbers require maintenance just like any other part of your home or business. Also, if you paint or remodel and take down your address numbers as part of your project; please make sure to place them back up. Please call us if you would like us to evaluate your address numbers, we are here to help!

## The City's Fire Code regarding address numbers;

505.1 Address identification. New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address identification characters shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character shall be not less than 4 inches (102 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch (12.7 mm). Where required by the fire code official, address identification shall be provided in additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure. Address identification shall be maintained.

Thank you for helping us, and stay safe!

# LEON VALLEY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FESTIVAL & FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

**FREE & OPEN TO ALL!**

Monday, July 4th, 2016  
Raymond Rimkus Park  
6440 Evers Road  
Leon Valley, Texas  
10am-Dusk

- ★ **Pioneer 5K Walk/Run – 8am**  
(6613 Bandera Rd)
- ★ **Parade – 10 am**  
(7420 Huebner Rd)
- ★ **Opening Ceremonies – 12pm**  
(6440 Evers Rd)
- ★ **Food, Drinks, Music, Carnival,  
Pony Rides & Fun All Day**
- ★ **Musical Guests**
- ★ **FIREWORKS FINALE at Dusk**

**\*\*PARK & RIDE - EVENT SHUTTLES ALL DAY\*\***

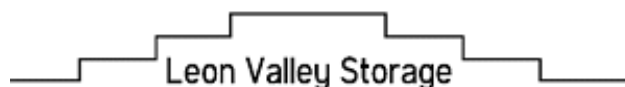
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# Mosquitoes! What can you do to minimize them at your home?

With spring rains comes standing water which of course, brings on the dreaded mosquito. Here is some important information to keep you, your family and neighbors safe.

## Where do mosquitoes breed?

A mosquito's lifecycle has four stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult. All mosquitoes need water to breed and spend their larval and pupal stages in water. This is why it is important to prevent water from accumulating around your home and to empty and clean water containers in and around your home weekly.

## When mosquitoes are most active?

Some mosquitoes are active between dusk and dawn, when the air is calm. However, others will feed at any time of day. Mosquitoes prefer a warm, moist environment.

## How can mosquitoes be controlled around the home?

Get rid of standing water in which mosquitoes can breed. If there are any places around your home where water collects, you may be raising mosquitoes!

## What specific steps can people take to control mosquitoes outside a home?

### Take the following steps to help cut down on the mosquito population:

- Get rid of any cans, buckets, bottles, old tires, empty pots, plant saucers and other containers that hold water.
- Keep gutters clear of debris and standing water. Remove standing water around structures and from flat roofs.
- Change water in pet dishes at least once a day. Change water in wading pools and bird baths at least weekly.
- Fill in low areas in the yard and holes in trees that collect water.
- Maintain your backyard pool or hot tub and be sure someone takes care of it if you are out of town.
- Stock ornamental ponds with fish that eat mosquitoes.
- Cover trash containers so they will not collect water.
- Water lawns and gardens carefully so water does not stand for several days.
- Repair any leaking plumbing and outside faucets.
- Screen rain barrels and openings to water tanks or cisterns.
- Keep drains and ditches clear of weeds and trash so water will not collect.

## How can people keep mosquitoes out of the house?

Be sure door, porch and window screens are in good condition. Don't leave doors to the outside standing open. Change water weekly in vases, plant saucers, and containers holding plant cuttings inside the home.



# Tree City USA

The City of Leon Valley has been recognized by the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry. Leon Valley has earned this national recognition since 2012. For the first time, Leon Valley has also received a Tree City USA Growth Award for demonstrating progress in its community forestry program. The prestigious Growth Award honors environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities. Leon Valley is one of nine cities in the State of Texas that have received the Growth Award, and the only one in the area. The Tree City

USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association for State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. Leon Valley has met the four standards to maintain its status as a Tree City USA community. Tree City USA communities must have a tree board or department – a requirement satisfied in Leon Valley by our Tree Advisory Board; must also have a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program with annual expenditures of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation. Please help Leon Valley reach its goal of planting 10,000



trees by 2020. For more information, about our Tree Challenge, please visit our web page at [http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/government/community\\_development/tree\\_challenge.php](http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/government/community_development/tree_challenge.php)



## Map Information Service

The City of Leon Valley provides several services that go above and beyond the routine, in order to better serve our citizens. One of these special services includes providing a map information service for residents or developers. Information may include locations within the floodplain, floodway, in a historical drainage problem area, or in an area that has a history of flooding. For information on this service, please visit Community Development Director, Elizabeth Carol at [e.carol@leonvalleytexas.gov](mailto:e.carol@leonvalleytexas.gov) or call her at (210) 684-1391 ext.227.

## Join us for the Leon Valley Fourth of July Parade

Come join family, friends and neighbors on Monday, the Fourth of July, dressed in red, white and blue for the **22nd Annual Leon Valley Parade** as part of the **3rd Annual Star Spangled Celebration and Fireworks Spectacular** which is open to all who wish to participate. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. on Huebner Road to Evers Road, turning onto Poss Road and concluding at the NW Little League Park. Parade applications with contact information can be found on the city website at [http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/fourth\\_of\\_july/index.php](http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/fourth_of_july/index.php). Join us at Raymond Rimkus Park after the parade for food, rides, music, fun, and fireworks. Also see website for event shuttle details.





Leon Valley City Hall  
6400 El Verde Road  
Leon Valley, TX 78238

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The City of



**CITY COUNCIL**

- Mayor** ..... Chris Riley
- Place 1** ..... David Edwards
- Place 2** ..... Belinda Ealy
- Place 3** ..... Monica Alcocer
- Place 4** ..... Benny Martinez
- Place 5** ..... David Jordan

**LION'S ROAR**

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**The Lion's Roar**

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Leon Valley, Texas 78238  
(210) 684-1391, x. 233

**CITY STAFF**

- City Manager**  
Kelly Kuenstler  
684-1391 x 219
- City Secretary**  
Saundra Passailaigue  
684-1391 x 216
- Finance Department**  
Vickie Wallace, Director  
684-1391 x 223
- Community Development**  
Elizabeth Carol, Director  
684-1391 x 227
- City Attorney**  
Roxann Pais Cotroneo  
684-1391 x 217
- LV Public Library**  
Sandy Underwood, Director  
684-0720
- Fire Department**  
Luis Valdez, Fire Chief  
684-3219
- Police Department**  
Randall Wallace, Police Chief  
684-3215
- Public Works**  
Melinda Moritz, Director  
681-1232

**Communications Department**

Kristie Flores, Director  
684-1391 x 234

**CITY MEETINGS**

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise specified.

**City Council**

1st & 3rd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

**Board Of Adjustment**

Meets as required

**Coffee with the Mayor**

Quarterly, 4th Saturday - 9-11 a.m.

**Community Events Committee**

3rd Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

**Earthwise Living Committee**

2nd Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Public Works

**Library Board**

2nd Tuesday - 5:30 p.m. - Library

**Park Commission**

2nd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

**Stormwater Committee**

Quarterly, 1st Monday - 7:00 p.m.

**Tree Advisory Board**

1st Monday - 6:00 p.m.

**Zoning Commission**

4th Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

**Community Advisory Group**

Meets as required

**Beautification Committee**

3rd Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

**CITY NUMBERS**

Keep these numbers handy

**Emergency Number for POLICE, FIRE and EMS** ..... 911

**City Web Site Address**

..... www.leonvalleytexas.gov

**City Hall** ..... 684-1391

**Animal Control & Code Compliance** ..... 251-1797  
..... 204-9979

**Fire** ..... 684-3219

**Police** ..... 684-3215

**CAT** ..... 684-ONIT (6648)

**Human Resources** ..... 684-1391

**Dead Animal Pickup** ..... 1- 800-800-5804

**Public Works** ..... 681-1232

**Library** ..... 684-0720

**Waste Management** ..... 1- 800-800-5804

**Community Center Rental** ..... 684-1391 ext. 225

**Senior Citizen's Club** .... 522-9966

City Hall, non-emergency Police and Fire operations may be contacted at the above numbers Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Public Works Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

