



Mayor's Message

By Mayor Chris Riley

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever"
- M. Gandhi

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP)

The City of Leon Valley received the first of two payments of approximately \$1.5 million dollars each from the Biden Administration under the American Rescue Plan in August, 2021 and we are expected to receive the second installment in September, 2022. In the first installment of dollars received, there were four main categories of eligible uses. These categories have been removed and the City can spend the second installment for its greatest needs. We will definitely get your input on how to spend these tax dollars wisely. The total allocation must be spent by the end of 2024.

THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW

- **The Bandera Road Corridor Study Group** will hold a public meeting in mid to late October, 2022 to present the recommended concept which TXDOT and

its consultant, Halff & Associates, The City of San Antonio, and Leon Valley have developed after 4 years of planning, with extensive citizen input. The preferred alternative is the At-Grade Parkway concept (adding an additional lane in each direction) with reductions of available left turns to reduce congestion. Additionally, 10 foot protected bicycle and pedestrian lanes on both sides of Bandera Road from 410 to 1604 will be added for safety and connectivity to the neighborhoods and businesses. Currently there is no funding identified for the project, but State Representative Ray Lopez is working at the State Legislature for a possible appointment to the Transportation Committee, to help secure much needed dollars.

Notification of the meeting will be sent to anyone who has participated in one of these planning meetings, as well as through social media, newspaper and electronic signs. This public meeting will be both virtual and in-person. Hope to see you there. Check the city's website for the date and time in October. The meeting will be held at City Church on Bandera Road.

- Bexar County has renewed its contract with **Waste Management**

for participation of anyone in the county to have your **hazardous waste picked up at your door – free of charge!** Call 1-800-449-7587 for a scheduled pickup.

- **Vista Del Rey Apartments**
– The City of Leon Valley is currently in litigation with the owners of Vista del Rey Apartments for health and safety code violations. The estimated cost of Leon Valley's attorney fees will be \$100,000. There is a remedy in the lawsuit filed where for every code violation not corrected (after notice of the code violation), penalty of up to \$1,000 per day per violation can be assessed by the Judge against the apartment owners. The Judge has given the apartment until mid-September to correct the health/safety issues and six months (Feb. 2023) to correct the remaining issues.

Anxiously awaiting the first cool front! Hope to see you at the *October 22nd Coffee with Mayor & Council (9-11 am at Conference Center)*. The council and I are here to serve you. If you have an issue that needs addressing, please call (210) 684-1391, Ext. 210 to set up an appointment.

Sincerely, Chris
(210) 618-2092 (cell)

The Leon Valley Public Library is excited to announce that new TexShare contracts were approved by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) on August 19, 2022 and will be available to all library members starting Fall 2022. Two of the new resources available are HeritageQuest Online and Udemy.

HeritageQuest Online



HeritageQuest Online® resources is a comprehensive treasure rich in unique primary sources, local and family histories, convenient research guides, interactive census maps, and more.

Powered by Ancestry®, this amazing collection consists of the following core data sets: Census Collection, Books Collection, City Directories, Military Records, Wills and Probate Records, Freedman's Bank, US Serial Set, Maps & Photos.

With a robust search interface, thumbnail images hit highlighting, easy-to-use tools, and convenient in-library or remote access through the library portal, it's easy to see why HeritageQuest continues to be one of the most recommended resources by family history publications and genealogists.

Udemy

Udemy is an online learning platform that provides instructions for adults who want to gain new skills for a new job, advance in their current profession, or deepen a personal interest. It contains more than 15,000 video-based courses in business, technology, software, and personal development.

Students can search top Udemy courses and see what's trending, giving them the power to choose content that fits them best.



Smart recommendations give users, from beginners to advanced learners, course suggestions based on previous interactions with the platform. When searching, learners can filter by course features, level, duration, topic, and ratings.

TexShare Databases are e-resources licensed for the exclusive use of Texas libraries and their patrons. The TexShare Databases are funded by a grant from the US Institute of Museum and Library Services. The TexShare Databases are a program of the TSLAC, made possible by state and federal funds, as well as through member participation fees.



For more information on HeritageQuest Online, Udemy, or any other TexShare Database, please contact the library at (210) 684-0720.



DID YOU KNOW.....?

On July 19, 2022, the City of Leon Valley City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2022-34 amending the City's Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, Article 1.04 City Council, Section 1.04.001 Rules of Decorum.

The following amendments were made:

- **Sec. 1.04.001, (b) Meeting Times.** A Regular City Council Meeting shall be held on both the first and third Tuesdays of each month **beginning at 6:30 PM**. In the event that the meeting date falls on a holiday, the meeting will be rescheduled. Regular City Council Meetings may be cancelled or rescheduled, and the meeting time adjusted upon a majority vote by City Council. Special meetings may be called as provided by law.
- **Sec. 1.04.001, (d) Conducting Meetings, (2) Appearance.** Citizens may appear in person.

Citizens may appear by written appearance for items on the agenda.

Written comments must be:

- A. **Email to: citizenstobeheard@leonvalleytexas.gov** *(This e-mail will be received by the Mayor, City Council Members, City Manager, and City Secretary)*
 - B. Mail to: Leon Valley Public Comments
6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, Texas 78238
 - C. **Received prior to the start of the meeting to ensure comments are read during the meeting. At the request of any council member and/or Mayor a citizen comment may be read.**
 - D. **During the Citizens to be Heard section of the agenda no written comments will be read aloud during the meeting.**
 - E. Fax to: (210) 684-4476
- **Sec. 1.04.001 Ceremonial and informational presentations.** **All ceremonial items and informational presentations, at the beginning of scheduled business meetings.**



SEWER BILL WINTER AVERAGING

Sewer bills are based on the average amount of water used during the period of November 15th through February 15th each year. This period is when people normally use a minimal amount of water. If possible, reduce your water usage as much as you can during this time period, as any excess water consumption during those months will be reflected in your new sewer rate for the following year.



“Jennifer Magallanes ”

Jennifer was raised in Leon Valley and still calls it

Meet your Leon Valley Receptionist/Admin. Assistant

home! She graduated from O.W. Holmes High School, Class of 2000, Go Huskies! Jennifer has spent some time at Northwest Vista College working toward a degree in Business Administration. Her favorite hobby is running. So much so, that she’s turned it into running races. Jennifer’s latest race was back in July where she raced in the Port Aransas Nighttime Beach Sandcrab Run, so fun! She

hopes to someday qualify for the NYC Marathon. Jennifer credits her mother for her drive and work ethic as she states; “my mother has always instilled in us, as long as you work hard and are determined, nothing is impossible!” As the City’s Receptionist/Admin. Assistant Jennifer is a joy to have on the team with her positive energy and great work ethic!



“Melinda “Mindy” Teague ”

Mindy was hired with the City of Leon Valley in February of 2022 as the Planning and Zoning Director. Prior to working

Introducing your Leon Valley Planning and Zoning Director

for the City of Leon Valley, she was the Community Development Director for the City of Floresville. Mrs. Teague has over 10+ years of experience in private and municipal sectors, including working for the City of San Antonio as a Senior Plan Reviewer and Assistant City Arborist. She is originally from Pleasanton and is a graduate from Pleasanton High School. Mindy has had many interesting jobs throughout the years

such as EMT, drafter, estimator, surveyor, property manager, project manager, engineer tech, planner, plan reviewer, arborist, designer, builder, and has even had her own business designing homes. When Mindy is not at City Hall she loves being outdoors, going to the gym, gardening, cooking with her husband and two daughters. Fun fact about Mindy: she loves to enter spicy food challenges!

DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!

If you are new to the City of Leon Valley.... *Welcome!*

Whether you have moved from a neighboring city or from another state, you must be a registered voter in the City of Leon Valley (Precinct Numbers 2095, 2061, 2101, 2112, and 2143) in order to vote in the City of Leon Valley's November 8, 2022 Special Election.

The deadline to register is Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Registration takes just a few minutes, and we are here to help you.

Do you need to check your voter registration status? You can do this simply by visiting the Texas Secretary of State's My Voter Portal at [My Voter Portal \(texas.gov\)](https://myvoterportal.texas.gov) or by contacting the Leon Valley City Secretary at 210-684-1391 extension 216.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOLLOW US ON



**NATIONAL NIGHT
OUT**

**OCT
4**

**OCT
22**

**COFFEE WITH MAYOR & CITY
COUNCIL
TIME CAPSULE CEREMONY**

**CHRISTMAS TREE
LIGHTING**

**DEC
5**

**DEC
TBA**

**BLUE SANTA
PROGRAM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.LEONVALLEYTEXAS.GOV

Why Leon Valley Utilizes Bexar County Communications for Dispatch Services

Prior to moving dispatch services to Helotes, Leon Valley housed its own dispatch services. Due to manpower issues and aging equipment, the decision was made to move services to Helotes. In January 2017, Leon Valley utilized the Helotes Communications Center to house personnel to dispatch first responders (Fire, EMS and Police) for Leon Valley residents. At the time, the Helotes Communications Center dispatched for the cities of Helotes, Leon Valley, Shavano Park and Grey Forest. The services were provided at a cost to the city of Leon Valley. In late 2017, the City of Leon Valley requested and eventually received dispatch services from Bexar County in 2018. Multiple factors prompted the request; however, the primary considerations were budgetary concerns. Bexar County had recently opened and was operating their new Bexar Metro 911 Emergency Center. This new center is a state-of-the-art facility with dedicated call takers

and dispatchers. The personnel and equipment at this facility are supported by multiple levels of redundancy to ensure uninterrupted service delivery during normal and catastrophic conditions. Currently, we continue to utilize Bexar County Communications for Leon Valley dispatch services.

After the change in service provider, there have been several calls from Leon Valley residents over the last few years to return to the “old days” when Leon Valley operated its own communications center. Since the “old days”, there have been many changes in minimum requirements for running an emergency communications center. The first to address is the type of equipment required to operate a center. This comes at a very high cost. The second is the required personnel to staff and operate this center twenty-four-hour a day, seven day a week, 365 days a year. The third is the required office space and security for the center to ensure operability under normal and

catastrophic conditions. These initial and continuing costs would be overwhelming and harmful to the city's financial well-being.

Although Helotes started operating its communications center in 2010 and anticipated its continued delivery of services to other cities, they have encountered their own difficulties in continuous operation. Although their center was operated by Helotes, it was funded by Helotes, Leon Valley, Shavano Park and Grey Forest. In 2021-2022 due to funding shortfalls, they have requested services or financial assistance from Bexar County. Several articles on this topic are archived and can be found on the internet.

Currently, the level and reliability of services provided by the Bexar Metro 911 Emergency Center cannot be duplicated by the City of Leon Valley within acceptable budgetary limitations.

Receiving communication services from Bexar County has brought numerous benefits for the city and its first responders. One of the most important benefits for the city's first responders is the ability to communicate with first responders from other agencies.

The most important benefits for residents are continuity and reliability.

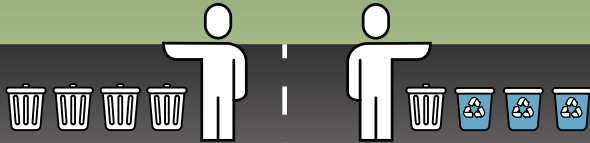
There have been problems since the change in service provider but there will always be problems to resolve with any provider of services when dealing with human interactions and technology. This isn't new as we addressed problems when we utilized Helotes for dispatch services also.

Things you should know:

If you have an emergency, dial 911. Your call will be answered by a dedicated operator. If your emergency does not rise to the level of other calls being received at the same time, you may be put on hold. Several operators are on duty at the same time and are taking calls as they are received. The level of emergencies will be prioritized.

If you require non-emergency services, please call 210-684-8897 or 210-335-6000. Once again, there are multiple call takers receiving calls at the same time. Calls for service will be prioritized.

A Tale of Two Landfills

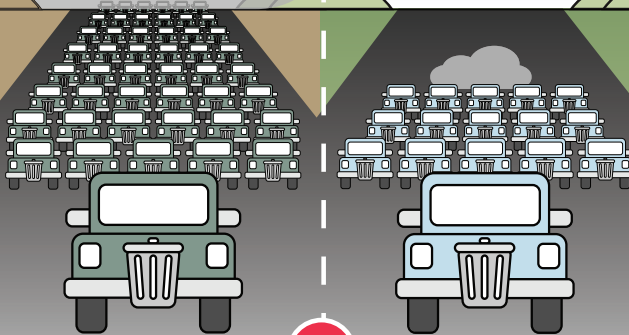


Non-Recycler
generates **4.80 pounds**
of trash per day
recycles 0% of their discards

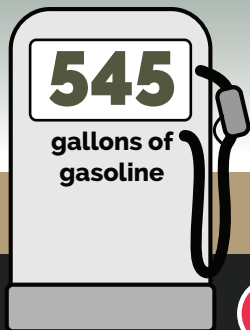
Avid Recycler
generates just **1.12 pounds** per day
recycles 75% of their discards

That's
64
full-sized pickup trucks
of **TRASH** to the landfill
in their **lifetime**

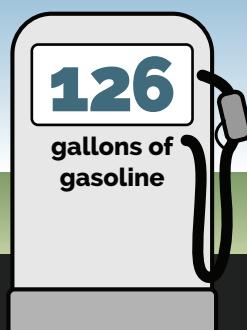
They only send
16
pickups of **TRASH**
in their **lifetime**



That's the equivalent to
the emissions of using

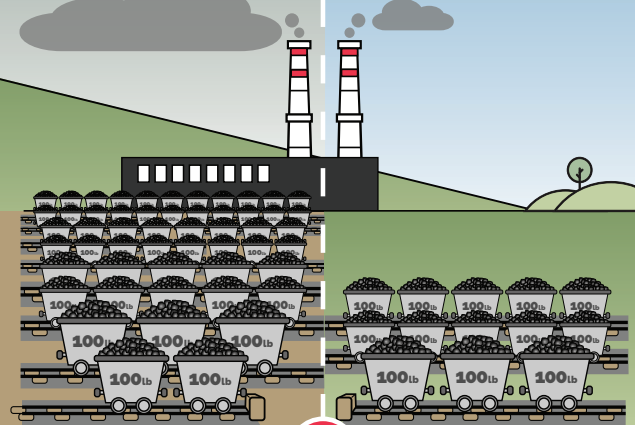


That's the
equivalent of just



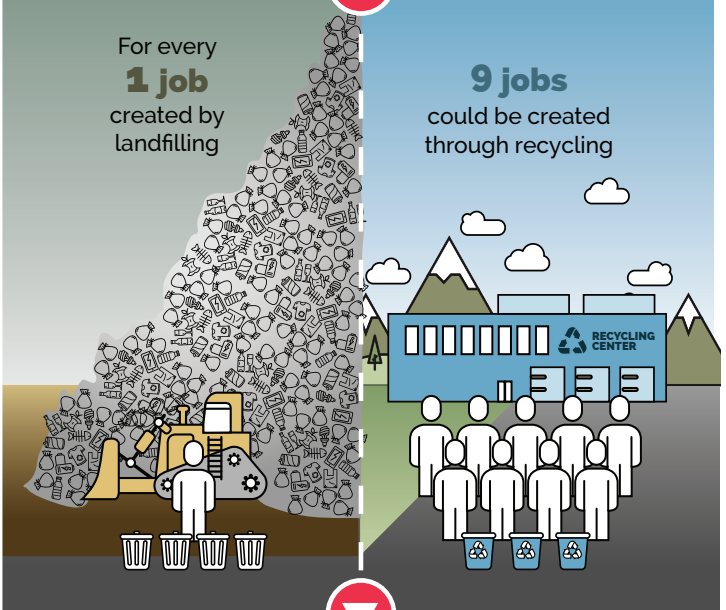
Or,
5300
pounds of coal

Or, only
1300
pounds of coal



For every
1 job
created by
landfilling

9 jobs
could be created
through recycling





AMERICA RECYCLES DAY®

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL®

HOW DID AMERICA RECYCLES DAY BEGIN?

Also known as National Recycling Day, this day began in 1994 after 2 employees of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality suggested the idea to the Nation Recycling Coalition. The first America Recycles Day was officially held on November 15, 1994 and had at least 40 states taking part.

WHY IS RECYCLING IMPORTANT?

Recycling is important to ensuring our planet remains healthy. There are many great reasons and benefits to recycling which include:

- Reduces landfill waste
- Conserves natural resources such as oceans and forests
- Helps lessen the burning of fossil fuels which can decrease the emission of greenhouse gas

WHAT CAN BE DONE ON AMERICA RECYCLES DAY – AND EVERY DAY – TO REDUCE WASTE?

It all starts with having less things. Before you shop, think about whether you really need that item. If you do need the item, then you can determine if it is a “green” product. Is it eco-friendly, has it passed standards for energy savings and is it something that is built to last?

YOU'RE INVITED TO

HALLOWEEN

PARTY

10:30 A.M. - 12 P.M.

**AND ARBOR DAY
TREE ADOPTION!**

9 A.M. - 12 P.M.



29
OCTOBER

CRAFTS, GAMES, ACTIVITIES & TREES

6425 EVERS ROAD
LEON VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

"DRESS IN COSTUMES ENCOURAGED"
WHILE TREES LAST

JOIN US FOR SOME SAFE HALLOWEEN FUN AT YOUR LEON VALLEY LIBRARY. TREE ADOPTION AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST AT THE LEON VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER PARKING LOT.



Saving Lives with Whole Blood: Cutting Edge EMS Treatment now available at the Leon Valley Fire Department

This life saving initiative which launches this September will allow Leon Valley EMS to provide whole blood transfusions inside ambulances to people who have suffered major blood loss. The process starts with the South Texas Blood and Tissue Center which provides Type O whole blood, which is blood that anyone can receive, to Leon Valley EMS, which keeps it in storage coolers in our ambulances. The blood is heated by a portable fluid and blood warming device before being administered as first responders transport patients. "Giving the patient what they need when and where they need it will save lives at a much higher rate," states Fire Chief Michael Naughton, "And it is important to me that Leon Valley continue to stay up to date with new medical advances and today we are proud to say we on the cutting edge with Whole Blood".



**South Texas
Blood & Tissue Center**



Free Trees! 2022 Leon Valley Tree Adoption Event

What a better way to welcome the fall weather than by the planting of a newly adopted tree! The City of Leon Valley, in partnership with the Leon Valley Tree Advisory Board and CPS Energy, will be providing 2 free trees per resident on October 29, 2022 in front of the Leon Valley Community Center. The event will be held at 6427 Evers Rd., between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., or until supplies run out. There will be an assortment of 1-gallon varieties of trees, available while supplies last. Based on current available stock, varieties to include Pecan, Lacey Oak, Texas Redbud, Mexican Buckeye, Anacacho, and Crape Myrtle.

The Tree Adoption is being held on the front patio of the Community Center. Volunteers will take your order form and provide up to two free trees. This event supports the City of Leon Valley's Tree Challenge of planting 10,000 trees by 2025.



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

PRSRTD STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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SAN ANTONIO, TX
PERMIT NO. 1001



CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor** Chris Riley
mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 1** Benny Martinez
benny.martinez@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 2** Josh Stevens
josh.stevens@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 3** Jed Hefner
jed.hefner@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 4** Rey Orozco
rey.orozco@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 5** Will Bradshaw
will.bradshaw@leonvalleytexas.gov

LION'S ROAR

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The Lion's Roar
City of Leon Valley - 6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, Texas 78238
(210) 684-1391, x. 228

CITY STAFF

- City Manager**
Crystal Caldera
684-1391 x 219
- City Secretary**
Saundra Passailaigue
684-1391 x 216
- Finance Department**
Kevin Rule, Director
684-1391 x 223
- Planning & Zoning Department**
Mindy Teague, Director
684-1391 x 234
- LV Public Library**
Regina Reed, Director
684-0720, x. 240
- Fire Department**
Michael Naughton, Fire Chief
684-3219, x. 281
- Police Department**
David Gonzalez, Police Chief
684-3215, x. 255
- Public Works**
Melinda Moritz, Director
681-1232, x. 203
- HR Director**
Dr. Scott
681-1391, x. 212

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise specified. All meetings subject to change due to Covid-19

- City Council**
1st & 3rd Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.
- Board Of Adjustment**
Meets as required
- Capital Facilities Oversight Committee**
4th Monday - 6:30 p.m.
LV Conference Center
- Citizens Police Advisory Committee**
3rd Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.
- Coffee with the Mayor**
Quarterly, 4th Saturday - 9 -11 a.m.
- Earthwise Living Committee**
2nd Wednesday -
5:30 p.m. Public Works
- Economic and Community Development Advisory Committee**
Meets as needed
- Library Board**
2nd Tuesday - 5:30 p.m. - Library
- Park Commission**
2nd Thursday - 6:30 p.m. -
Conference Center
- Tree Advisory Board**
2nd Monday - 6:00 p.m.
- Planning & Zoning Commission**
4th Tuesday - 6:30 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
- Non-Emergency Fire** 684-8897
- Police** 684-3219
- CAT** 684-ONIT (6648)
- Human Resources** 684-1391
- Dead Animal Pickup** (210) 333-4287
- Public Works** 681-1232
- Library** 684-0720
- Tiger Sanitation** (210) 333-4287
- Community Center Rental** 684-1391 ext. 228

City Hall, non-emergency Police and Fire operations may be contacted at the above numbers Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays.
Public Works Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

