A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR TAMMY DANA-BASHIAN…

As the state moves forward with reopening businesses, it is important to know that the COVID-19 virus continues to be very active and we are ALL still at risk. Dallas County statistics illustrate that this is definitely not a virus affecting only our elderly and those in long-term care facilities:

- Of cases requiring hospitalization who reported employment, over 80% have been critical infrastructure workers.
- Of cases requiring hospitalization, two-thirds have been under 65 years of age, and about half do not have high-risk chronic health conditions.
- Of the 159 total deaths, only one-third have been associated with long-term care facilities.
- Of the 159 total deaths, one-third are under the age of 65.
- Of the total 6,800+ positive cases, 81% are between the ages of 18 and 64

While hospitalizations are trending up, we still have sufficient bed capacity in North Texas. Rowlett citizens have done a great job so far, but now that people are moving around more, it is more important than ever when you must go out to practice social distancing, wear a face covering and wash your hands often.

#StayHome #StaySafe #StayInformed

COVID-19 UPDATE

Rowlett Extends Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency – On May 14th the City of Rowlett amended and extended its Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency to mirror any orders and directives put in place by Governor Greg Abbott.

COVID-19 Testing Information

PROMPT COVID-19 TESTING AVAILABLE AT ROWLETT WALMART (2501 LAKEVIEW PARKWAY) BEGINNING TODAY, MAY 15TH

- ✔ Testing available Monday, Wednesday, Friday
- ✔ 7-9am (the days/hours could increase depending on demand)
- ✔ Appointment is required – visit DoINeedaCOVID19Test.com
- ✔ Who can be tested?
The drive-through testing sites is available to those who meet CDC and state and local guidelines on who should be tested, including first responders, health care providers, front line workers and others with symptoms of COVID-19, as well as those in high risk groups without symptoms.
What type of test is it?
The site will use a self-administered nasal swab test that will allow those being tested to swab their own nose onsite while in their vehicles, observed by a trained Walmart pharmacist to ensure the sample is taken correctly, and drop the sealed sample into a container on their way out of the drive-thru site.

How long does it take to get results?
Walmart’s lab partner, eTrueNorth, delivers results in three-five days. Patients will be notified of their test results and instructed how to proceed should they test positive.

Are Walmart associates at the test sites?
Walmart pharmacists are observing the swabbing. Other Walmart associates are helping with on-site support tasks such as directing traffic and ID checks at the testing sites.

Is there a cost for the test?
There is no out-of-pocket cost to the individual.

Is Walmart being paid for these sites?
No. Walmart is donating their parking lot space, site supplies and materials, and their associates’ time.

Thank you to our community partners at Walmart for bringing this testing site to Rowlett!

Walmart Opens Three Additional Free Testing Locations in Dallas County

Starting Friday, May 15th, Walmart will open four COVID-19 drive-thru testing sites in Walmart parking lots in Dallas County, including the one here in Rowlett:
- 15757 Coit Rd., Dallas, TX 75248
- 951 W. Belt Line Rd., DeSoto, TX 75115
- 5302 N Garland Ave., Garland, TX 75040

The sites are supported by Walmart, eTrueNorth and state and local officials to test anyone who meets CDC and state and local guidelines on who should be tested, including first responders, health care providers and others with symptoms of COVID-19 and those in high-risk groups without symptoms. Those interested in being tested need to visit www.DoINeedaCOVID19test.com to see if eligible for testing and to make an appointment.

Public Drive-thru Testing Sites

**Texas Department of State Health Services Test Site Locator** – Click on this website for an interactive map showing testing sites.**

Self-swab tests have been implemented at the Ellis Davis Field House, 9191 S. Polk St, and American Airlines Center, 2617 Victory Ave. Parking Lot E, public testing sites. These tests are less invasive, safer, and help preserve PPE supplies. Testing criteria includes:
- Persons 65 years or older can now be tested without the symptom requirement.
- Persons with chronic health issues (diabetes, asthma, heart disease, etc.) can now be tested without the symptom requirement.
- First responders, DART drivers, healthcare workers, grocery store and essential retail store workers, regardless of symptoms.
- All others must exhibit at least one of the CDC guidance on the Symptoms of Coronavirus.
- A photo ID (but not necessarily a government-issued ID) and health insurance card (if a person has insurance; insurance coverage is not a testing requirement) are required.
- Both sites are operating Monday-Saturday, 8am to 5pm, Sunday 8am-Noon unless otherwise determined by testing capacity, which is 500 per day, or weather conditions.

In the Community

**ACTION CENTER** – Weekdays 8 -5 @ 972.412.6100 OR Online 24-7 (City Hall Building Closed; By Appointment Only)

**STREAMING COUNCIL MEETINGS** –
- May 14, 5, April 28, 21, 13, 7, 1, March 30, 23, 20

**Spot Light on Rowlett Special Edition** – May 2020

**Reopen Texas Video by Mayor & Chamber President** – April 28, 2020

**Coronavirus Information** – Texas Health & Human Services Site

**Rowlett Walmart COVID-19 Testing Site**

**COVID-19 Testing Sites** – See our website for information on all testing sites

**Reopen Rowlett Responsibly** – Protocols for reopening your business

**RFD Telemedic Program Information**

**RFD How to Wear Mask/Gloves**

**Notify Me** – Subscribe TODAY!

**Connect Rowlett** – Sign up today!

**Tenant Hotline**

**Homeowner’s Assistance** – Information to Help Keep your Home
If you have been tested at either of the public drive-thru test sites in Dallas, you will receive a phone call from the RESULTS CENTER in 3-7 days. Visit the following sites to download a copy of your results:

- American Airlines Center – Quest Diagnostics
- Ellis David Field House – Labcorp

Individuals that have not received their results after 7 days may request assistance via email with the following info: Name, Location of Test, Date/Time of Test, Phone Number.

- Counterfeit COVID-19 and antibody testing kits are now becoming increasingly available online and throughout the DFW area. Please be aware that legitimate tests are not available over the counter at any retail locations. All COVID-19 tests are operating under FDA Emergency Use Authorizations (EUA), so be wary of claims that a test is FDA-approved or -cleared. Additionally, a provider with an EUA for the PCR test (the test to confirm COVID-19) may not have an EUA for a serology test (for antibodies).

At-home Testing

Pixel by LabCorp is now offering at-home nasal swab test kits. This is the ONLY at-home COVID-19 test with an EUA from the FDA.

- To order, go here and complete a short eligibility survey. If eligible, order and receive the kit via FedEx, collect and ship the sample, online results will be available approximately two days after LabCorp receives your test. Patient Fact Sheet available.

It’s important to understand that a negative result on a standard COVID-19 test is not a waiver for symptomatic persons to cease self-quarantine and/or social distancing measures. Additionally, it does not mean that a person who receives a negative result on one test won’t receive a positive result from the exact same type of test performed five minutes later. Similarly, a positive result on an IgM and/or IgG antibody test does not mean that a person is completely immune or, in the case of a positive IgG result, recovered.

The following confirmed COVID-19 case counts reflect numbers as of 7pm Thursday, May 14th:

- National – 1,415,894 cases (246,414 recovered), 85,807 deaths
- Texas – 43,851 cases (24,487 recovered), 1,216 deaths
- North Texas – 14,288 cases (5,543 recovered), 378 deaths
- Dallas County – 6,837 cases (recovered n/a), 159 deaths
- City of Garland – 553 cases (339 recovered), 15 deaths
- Rockwall County – 138 cases (75 recovered), 5 deaths
- City of Rowlett – 69 cases (38 recovered), 2 deaths

Rowlett cases include 38 women and 31 men (no gender data available for one Rowlett case). They range in age from late teens to 80’s. 23 are under 40, 29 are between 40 to 59, and 17 are 60 +.

REOPEN ROWLETT RESPONSIBLY …CITY OF ROWLETT PROTOCOLS FOR REOPENED BUSINESSES under Governor Abbott’s Open Texas Order. Below is a list of helpful protocols and information for businesses as Rowlett starts to reopen. Please refer to these protocols often as you consider opening your business.

- Retail
- Restaurant
- Barber Shops, Hair Salons, Nail Salons, Tanning Salons
- Houses of Worship, Funeral Services, Burials and Memorials
- Outdoor Sports
- Parks and Bodies of Water
- Single Person Office Facilities
- Licensed Health Care Professionals

Governor Abbott’s Texans Helping Texans Guidelines to Open Texas

KEEPING CLIENTS AND STAFF SAFE. As more businesses reopen, an understanding of how to keep employees and customers safe is needed. Join in Tuesday, May 19th at 11am and listen to RN Sonja Knappage, Manager of Infection Prevention and
Control at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center-Lake Pointe, as she talks about the importance of PPE and hand hygiene, and what the medical community thinks the “new normal” could be like in the future. **Click the HERE to register on Zoom**

If you have questions or concerns for Sonja Knappage to address, send them to the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce before the webinar at [info@rowlettchamber.com](mailto:info@rowlettchamber.com)

**Baylor Scott White Lake Pointe Hospital** – Beginning this past Tuesday, May 12th, hospital facilities will permit one visitor per day for patients receiving care for conditions other than COVID-19. All visitors must be over the age of 16, use designated entrances, wear a mask and be screened upon arrival. For the safety of our patients and caregivers, we are only permitting one visitor per 24-hour period. Visitors for patients receiving care for COVID-19 are not allowed at this time, except in the following instances, in which one caregiver or parent is permitted:
- Pediatric/neonatal care areas
- Laboring/post-partum patient
- Disabled/impaired patient
- End-of-life care situations
- As otherwise determined by facility leadership

**FIRST RESPONDERS PARADE OF LIGHTS**

Thank you to ALL of those working to serve others on the front lines! View the [video](#) of the parade now!

#MyRowlett #BetterTogether

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**CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE**

**Bulk Pickup Update** – With everyone at home, this means more time to work in the yard and more time to do some spring cleaning. This also means there are more piles and more “stuff” put out for FCC to pick up, which results in fuller trucks faster and more trips to the landfill (time away from picking up). For example, on a normal 10-hour day of bulk collection for the Monday routes, the 2 bulk trucks would gather 4 or 5 loads each and take them to the landfill, completing collection of the routes. By contrast, this past Monday, FCC ran two boom trucks and supplemented them with roll off trucks to load. The boom trucks each loaded 9 - 11 times and were still only able to complete about 40% of Monday route.

FCC crews are making an extraordinary effort to clear all of this additional bulk set out in a timely manner - how can you help?

- If we have a wind storm and it downs a tree, by all means, cut it up and set it out for collection. But if you’re using this time at home to clean out the garage instead of binge-watching Ozark on Netflix, now is not the time to set those old card tables and couches out.
- Want to cart something off to the CM Hinton Landfill? Get your free pass from the City of Rowlett! Contact Utility Billing at 972-412-6105 and we will deliver it right to your front door. No contact – we just tape it to the door, ring the bell and run. It’s kind of fun, actually.

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**FRIDAY@5 – FOR 5.15.20**

The [Action Center](#) is your one-stop-shop, offered by the City of Rowlett to assist citizens. Call 972.412.6100

Our Purpose is To Serve! ~ The Friday @ 5 is published by the City Manager’s Office
- Consider allowing your lawn to mulch its own clippings (this makes for a healthier lawn as an additional perk). Also, if you have a commercial lawn service, those folks are responsible for removing your lawn’s clippings in the event they are not mulched.

Many cities and their vendors (i.e. Republic, Waste Connections and Waste Management) have suspended ALL collections outside of the cart and have suspended bulk collection as well. FCC has continued offering these services to Rowlett citizens because, as the COVID-19 situation developed, they preemptively 1) hired extra drivers in case drivers were quarantined and 2) prioritized residential collection and lowered the priority for bulk and yard waste. This allowed us to proactively communicate that bulk collection may experience slight delays for short periods, but would be collected.

We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your help during this time!

**May Virtual Spirit of Rowlett** – In this time of physical distancing, the Spirit of Rowlett Award may continue to look a little differently, but the intent is still the same! In a series of short videos, the Rowlett City Council will share their gratitude and appreciation for the people who make Rowlett a great place to live. Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian recognizes Jason Collins and Brian Galuardi for their contributions to the Rowlett community. Thank you both and congratulations!

The **Spirit of Rowlett Award** publicly recognizes ordinary residents doing extra-ordinary things in our community, and the recipients are normally nominated by YOU – the citizens of Rowlett. Do you know a local hero? Nominate them today! This is a great way to say “Thank you” to those who have encouraged, supported and acted in a way that has impacted you in your everyday life. We look forward to hearing from you and to providing this recognition for good deeds, done well!

**United States Census 2020**

Wow – 75% of Rowlett citizens have completed the 2020 Census. That’s awesome – now let’s encourage the last 25% of residents to fill out the easy online form! Ensuring that Texas has a complete count is vital to the quality of life Texans enjoy. If we miss even 1% of people living in Texas, we could be missing out on $300 million dollars of public funding per year. The Census Bureau estimates that in 2010 Texas had an undercount of 1%, costing us at least 1 billion dollars that could have been used throughout our state.

All data is protected by federal law and can only be used to produce statistics. All Census Bureau staff take a lifetime oath to protect personal information, and any violation comes with a penalty of up to $250,000 and/or up-to 5 years in prison.

Be sure to fill out your Census and encourage family, neighbors and community to do the same.

More questions? [2020 Census](#)

**CITY SECRETARY’S OFFICE**

Attention Rowlett teens - are you looking for ways to give back to the community? If so, we have a spot for you: the Rowlett Youth Advisory Council (RYAC) is now accepting applications!

**Deadline for applications is May 17th.**

Applications are available in the [City Secretary’s Office](#) and online (includes Waiver of Liability for those under age 18 and must be filled out; for over 18, no waiver is needed).

Submissions should be via email to [CitySec@rowlett.com](mailto:CitySec@rowlett.com) or by mail to CSO/Boards & Commissions Applications, 4000 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088. Interviews may be conducted virtually – details to follow.
An aerial photo showing an outline of the Crystal Lagoon amenity and the Surf & Beach Club at Sapphire Bay taken April 30th. Progress continues on the off-site and on-site underground utilities including two major bores underneath Interstate Highway 30.

Photo provided by Avia Realty

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**LIBRARY**

Remember – Curbside pickup is available now!

Patrons may check out 10 physical items by request at [https://www.ci.rowlett.tx.us/forms.aspx?FID=210](https://www.ci.rowlett.tx.us/forms.aspx?FID=210). We’ll give you a call when your items are collected and bagged. Let us know when you arrive at the Library (or call before you leave) and staff will bring your goodies out to you.

Curbside Pickup times are Monday – Saturday, 10am to 4pm. Return items may be placed in the overnight drop to the side of the entrance. Fine print: If your family has multiple library cards, please submit a separate request for each card. When you arrive for pickup, staff will confirm your account information over the phone, get a description of your vehicle, then bring your items outside and place them on a cart for you to pick up. Materials will be checked out for six weeks. Questions? Contact the Library at 972-412-6161, circulation@rowlett.com, or text 972-200-3860.

**PARKS DEPARTMENT**

Don’t miss your chance to participate in our live bingo games! Every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 10:30am, we will host a live bingo game on our Facebook page! Additional playing instructions can be found on our Facebook page, too.

Tune-in on Saturday, May 23rd, at 10am for a special Memorial Day Ceremony – additional details will be released soon! The event will be streamed live on the City of Rowlett’s Facebook page so that you may enjoy the event from the convenience of your own home!
POWICE DEPARTMENT

Weekly Crime Reports – Rowlett PD provides a link to the weekly crime reports so you, our citizens, can be informed about what is going on in your City.

Rowlett PD is partnering with Trusted World to help provide immediate assistance for families and citizens who are in emergency situations. Michael Garrett the CEO and Founder of Trusted World brought cases of Gatorade in preparation for the increase in temperature. trustedworld.org

“HELPING PEOPLE HELP PEOPLE”

Additionally, Target dropped off a truck load of bottled water and boxes of snacks for PD staff and Home Depot donated disinfecting wipes to the Police Department.

We owe a huge thanks to these Rowlett businesses!

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MAIN STREET REHABILITATION AND PGBT NORTH BOUND RIGHT TURN LANE PROJECT
Landscape Silva Cell installation is complete and area has been backfilled; contractor prepping areas for proposed sidewalk and the crosswalk for the 1st United Methodist Church was poured with colored stamped concrete.
Contractor has completed the sidewalk except for one panel where an electrical box was discovered; Oncor will be relocating the box off of the sidewalk.

MILLER RD. 20"FORCE MAIN & 24" GRAVITY SEWER PROJECT
The contractor poured 42 yards of High Early concrete in the median in front of Fire Station 1 to provide quick access and the area has been reopened for EMS ingress and egress. Contractor will continue with pipe installation to Cheyenne.

ANNUAL CONCRETE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF STREETS & ALLEYS
The contractor has been working on Princeton Rd., as well as panel replacement on Industrial St. in front of DART. The contractor will begin panel replacements within a crosswalk at Keely Elementary while the school is closed.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES, EMAIL ADDRESSES AND INFORMATION:
Facts regarding COVID-19 and how to prevent it, what to do in the event you or a family member become ill, and many other resources including the latest news concerning our community. www.rowlett.com/covid-19

Business Protocol Information – this information is intended to assist our business community reopen

Essential Household Activities questions – Email cac@rowlett.com or call 972-412-6100
Essential Business Activities questions – Email jtucker@rowlett.com

Testing questions? City of Rowlett Testing Information & Texas Health and Human Services Testing Capacity Overview

Questions about your pet and their health? Here is the Texas Animal Health Commission’s FAQ

City of Rowlett Amended Disaster Declaration and Orders – May 14, 2020

Rowlett Ready Information – www.RowlettReady.com or email needs@rowlettready.com if you need local assistance from volunteers.

ROwlett BUusiness STimulus Grant Program Information – www.RowlettReady.com/ROBUST

Aid Organizations – Life Message, Hope in Hand Food Pantry, The Veterans Resource and Outreach Center, The North Texas Food Bank, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority

Reopen Texas Video by Mayor and Chamber President – April 28, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE VIDEO by Mayor & EMC – March 26, 2020

COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall Meeting – March 16, 2020

Garland Independent School District (GISD) – meal distribution will be on Monday – Wednesday – Friday.

Details Here: https://www.garlandisd.net/node/11272; Map of locations

Rockwall ISD will continue to provide Grab"N"Go meals at Dobbs, Rochell and Jones Elementary Schools.

DART Adds Grocery Pickup & Delivery to Its Paratransit Service Customers

DART Service Modifications – www.dart.org/mod or call DART Customer Service at (214) 979-1111

Dallas County Hotline – Email: tenanthotline@dallascounty.org

Call: 214-653-6563 or 833-743-0072 Website: https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/tenant-hotline.php

HOMEOWNER’S ASSISTANCE – Information to keep your home.

Governor’s Orders – Open Texas Executive Order

Texans Helping Texans – The Governor’s Report to Open Texas Hospital Capacity Executive Order

Travel Executive Order

Guidance for Houses of Worship

Previous Orders

Don’t Be A Victim To These Scams, Check Scams, Latest Scam Alert - Fake Tests

Visit www.theseniorsource.org and www.ftc.gov/coronavirus for more information. Do NOT click on links from sources you do not know and only call known phone numbers.

REMINDERS:

FCC BULK PICKUP – Consider allowing your lawn to mulch its own clippings; Keep additional items beside the cart to a minimum.

UPDATE ON FCC GARBAGE COLLECTION – ALL trash items must be bagged now. DO NOT bag recyclables.

LIMITED ACCESS TO MOST CITY BUILDINGS – Public Safety remains our top priority and the Police and Fire Department facilities will remain open to the public. As always, call 9-1-1 if you are experiencing an emergency.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES/CODE ENFORCEMENT – Will continue to operate as usual.


In Honor of Police Officers Memorial Day, the US flag is at half-staff today.

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#MyRowlett
#BetterTogether