



October 21, 2016



## City expands government transparency platform

The City of Mesquite has expanded the financial information available to the public through its online transparency portal. The two new components include the budget compared to actual activity of expenditures and revenues as well as the City's check register information. The new transparency portal provides tools to view the City's financial information in different formats and to download the financial data in a variety of ways. The information is updated weekly. To access the expanded financial data, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/Transparency](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Transparency).



## City implements necessary water utility rate increase

On October 1, City of Mesquite water and sewer rates increased by eight percent to cover costs charged by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) and for City maintenance of water distribution lines. The NTMWD is the City's supplier for water and wastewater services. Mesquite is one of 13 member cities of NTMWD. The majority of the water utility customers from the member cities are experiencing higher bills. Visit [www.ntmwd.com/water-rates/](http://www.ntmwd.com/water-rates/) for frequently asked questions about these higher bills. For additional questions or concerns, please contact the NTMWD via email at [publicrelations.info@ntmwd.com](mailto:publicrelations.info@ntmwd.com) or by phone at 972-442-5405.



## Vanston Park renovations begin

Extensive renovations to Vanston Park, 2913 Oates Drive, began this week. Renovations to the 14-acre park include two new lighted baseball fields, a lighted basketball court, a new shade shelter with picnic tables adjacent to the concessions building, a looped walking trail and extensive parking. The park is also master planned to accommodate future amenities such as a skate pad, picnic pavilion and playground. Current renovations are expected to be completed by late March 2017.

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## TxDOT service road and ramp modification project to begin

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will soon begin construction to modify the US Highway 80 North Galloway Avenue exit ramp and construct a new northbound frontage road along Interstate Highway 635 (IH 635) from Gross Road to US Highway 80. This project will add or reconstruct over 1.6 miles of frontage road. The project should significantly improve access to the southeast quadrant of the IH 635/US Highway 80 interchange.

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## City Council honors 2016 Paralympic Games athletes

On October 17, the City Council recognized two Mesquite athletes who competed in the 2016 Paralympic Games held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Ms. Deja Young is a 2014 graduate of John Horn High School. During the 2016 Summer Paralympic Games, the Wichita State junior won a gold medal in the T47 200 meters and a second gold medal in the T47 100 meters. Mr. Josh Smith is a 2005 graduate of North Mesquite High School. As a middle hitter for the National Sitting Volleyball team, Josh helped lead the United States to a top ten finish in the 2016 Summer Paralympic Games. To learn more about these athletes, watch a City produced video at [https://youtu.be/xiGeT\\_xhEdU](https://youtu.be/xiGeT_xhEdU).

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## Election 2016 early voting begins October 24

Early voting for Election 2016 begins October 24 and ends November 4. In an effort to make voting easier and reduce wait times, Dallas County will open twice the number of polling locations as offered in 2012. Visit [www.dallascountyvotes.org](http://www.dallascountyvotes.org) to find your early voting location. All polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Election Day is Tuesday, November 8.



## Fire Department announces two rank promotions

Fire Chief Mark Kerby and the Mesquite Fire Department are proud to announce two recent promotions in rank. Driver-Engineer David Ivie has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and Firefighter Elliot Howard has been promoted to the rank of Driver-Engineer. Lieutenant Ivie is assigned to the Operations division where he supervises an engine company. Driver-Engineer Howard is assigned to the Operations division as part of an engine company. Chief Kerby presented new badges to both men this month.



## Contact Us

Let us hear from you. If you have a concern or are experiencing an issue, please contact the City of Mesquite at 972-288-7711 or online at [www.cityofmesquite.com/CitizenRequest](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/CitizenRequest) for assistance.

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