

City bond rating increase reflects positive growth

Both Moody's and Standard & Poor's substantially upgraded their recent bond ratings for the City of Cedar Hill. Moody's Investors Services upgraded the City's status to Aa3 from A1 while Standard & Poor's raised its rating for Cedar Hill's General Obligation debt to AA- from A+.

The upgrades were based on the City's continuing substantial economic expansion and consistently strong financial position and performance. Improved bond ratings allow the city to borrow money for infrastructure improvements at a lower interest rate.

"This is great news for our City and its residents," said Cedar Hill Mayor Rob Franke. "Upgrades from both firms are a strong endorsement of the direction of our City Council and the fiscal management provided by our City staff."

Moody analysts applauded the City for its "ongoing economic development, a favorable trend of tax base growth and diversification. Sound financial management has resulted in a history of favorable financial performance and a moderate debt burden."

Moody also praised

the City's management for attracting quality retail and commercial developments totaling more than 3 million square feet since 1999.

Benefits homeowners

Balanced commercial development benefits homeowners by holding down City tax rates as the overall tax

"Upgrades from both firms are a strong endorsement of the direction of our City Council and the fiscal management provided by our city staff."

—Mayor Rob Franke

base, bolstered by commercial property values, increases. This has enabled the City Council to keep tax rates at the same level for over five years.

Moody analysts cited the strength of building permits in the Lake Ridge development, in spite of the downward housing trend, as a positive sign for the community.

Standard & Poor's (S&P) also applauded City management for its fiscal management and for the City's growing property tax base. This

growth will be complemented by the addition of the upscale 800,000 square foot Uptown Village lifestyle center when it opens in the spring of 2008.

"Management will maintain its strong financial position and reserves through continued healthy property and sales tax collections; and overall debt levels will not increase significantly as management continues to implement its well-conceived capital improvement plan," the S&P report stated.

"The improved ratings will provide substantial interest savings over the 20-year life of our debt and provide additional savings each time the City issues additional debt," said Hardy Browder, Cedar Hill's Financial Director. The new ratings apply to roughly \$11 million in general obligation debt the city is issuing for capital improvements.

Moody's Investors Service is among the world's most respected and widely used sources for credit ratings.

Standard & Poor's is a global leader in credit ratings with ratings on approximately \$34 trillion of debt issued in over 100 countries.



Hazardous household waste collection set for Dec. 1

Saturday, December 1, the Crud Cruiser mobile collection trailer will visit Cedar Hill to collect hazardous household waste in the High School parking lot starting at 9 a.m.

Residents can drop off material at no cost if they bring a recent water bill or other proof of residency.

Hazardous household waste includes:

acids, aerosol cans, antifreeze, batteries (all kinds, including car batteries), brake fluid, cooking oil, craft chemicals, degreasers, drain cleaner, fertilizer, fluorescent light bulbs, herbicides, household chemicals, motor oil, paints & stains, paint thinners, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, pool chemicals, oil filters, solvents, transmission fluid and varnish.

What's NOT Accepted:

Ammunition, asbestos, building materials, butane cylinders, electronics, explosives, medical waste, PCBs, propane cylinders, radioactive material, smoke detectors, tires and TVs.

If you have questions about material not listed above call 817.871.5276 to find out if it's accepted.

Keep chemicals in their original containers; place broken or leaking containers in a second container of like material (i.e. glass for corrosives, metal for flammables).

If a container has no label and its contents are known, please place a label on the container clearly stating the contents.

Do not transport chemicals in the passenger compartment of your vehicle. Put them in the trunk.

The Crud Cruiser is made available at no cost to Cedar Hill residents through an agreement between the cities of Cedar Hill and Fort Worth.

Contacts

After hours
972.293.4611

Alarm Permits
972.291.5181x1

Animal Control
972.223.6111

City Administration
972.291.5100x1010

City Secretary
972.291.5100x1011

Code Enforcement
972.291.5100x1090

Economic Develop. Corp.
972.291.5132

Fire Department
Non-emergency
972.291.1011

Human Resources
972.291.5100x1050

Library
972.291.7323

Municipal Court
972.291.5100x1041

Neighborhood Services
972.291.5100x1084

Parks & Recreation
972.291.5100x1500

Parks Rain-outs
214.855.9758

Parks Special Events
214.890.6977

Police Department
Non-emergency
972.291.5100x2400

Public Relations
972.291.5100x1032

Public Works
972.291.5126

Recreation Center
972.293.5288

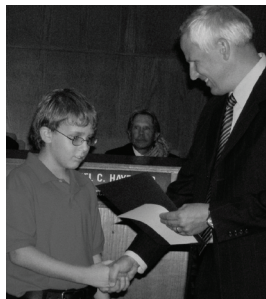
Senior Center
972.291.5353

Tri-City Animal Shelter
972.291.5335

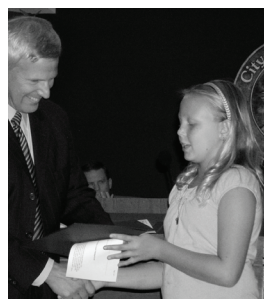
Utility Billing
972.291.5100x1200



Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful presented the Commercial Property of the Month award to Charles D. Coleman, General Manager of Macaroni Grill, for his staff's efforts to keep the area around the restaurant well manicured and litter free.



Mayor Rob Franke presents Star Student of the month awards to Joshua Tinsley of Lake Ridge Elementary, left and Lillian Ralph of Bray Elementary, right.



City Council sets rates for trash pickup and water/sewer

Residents will be paying less than expected for trash and recycling services under the second year of a five year contract with Waste Management (WM).

The increase was less than expected due to lower fuel costs. Households will pay \$11.56 per month (up 16¢), with seniors over age 65 paying only \$8.51 per month (up 13¢).

The City Council recently adopted an ordinance setting new water and wastewater rates for residential, multi-family and commercial customers.

An average family will see an increase of about \$1.96 per month (2.72%).

New rates for trash/recycling and water/wastewater services are effective October 1, 2007.



The Cedar Hill Parks Board thanks Betty Minshew and Mark Cooks for their dedicated service. Shown left to right are: Kiphani Allen, Shirley Goldsmith, Donna Deatrich, Betty Minshew, Rick Cook, Chairperson W. L. Harris, Dustin Ledbetter and Andre Carr. Not shown are Mark Cooks and Alicia Clark.

Community Calendar

70th Country Day on the Hill

Saturday, October 13, downtown

This Fall festival is filled with family-oriented activities: a parade, arts & crafts, food vendors, chili cook-off, belt sander races, 5K run, dog show, children's corner, live entertainment, and more.

Toyota U.S. Triathlon

Sunday, October 14, starts about 6 a.m. at Lake Joe Pool. Athletes will swim near and transition to bikes at the Cedar Hill State Park boat ramp on the east side of the lake. The course will exit the park onto 1382 and follow 1382/Belt Line through Cedar Hill into Desoto. The triathlon will end in downtown Dallas. For more information visit www.usopentriathlon.com.

Fall Litter Clean Up

Saturday, October 20, from 9 - 11 a.m.

Volunteers will meet at City Hall to clean up areas throughout the city. At the conclusion, the Cedar Hill Rotary Club will provide hotdogs and prizes will be awarded by Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful.

Cinema on the Square

Fourth Saturday of each month, 2 p.m. & 5 p.m., City Hall, 502 Cedar Street.

Bring the family to a double feature and enjoy FREE award-winning films. Call the library at 972.291.7323 for more information.

Art in the Park

Oct. 27, Nov. 17, 12:30-5 p.m., Pioneer Park, 600 Cedar at Houston St.

Art show and sale. Watch artists create their work in historic downtown. Call 972.291.5100 ext. 1084 for more information.

City Council meetings

are scheduled on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at City Hall. Meetings are open to the public.

Cedar Hill team with a World Series win

The Cedar Hill Baseball Association is proud to announce that the Cedar Hill North Texas Thunder 12U won the Super Series American 12U World Series. Congratulations to Ralph Torrez and staff and everyone on the team for a job well done.

CEDAR HILL
Highlights

Published by the
City of Cedar Hill
Corky Brown,
Public Relations Manager
972.291.5100.x1032
corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com