



Mayor's Newsletter

Mayor Kit Marshall

GREETINGS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2018 was a great year for Aledo, with many accomplishments for our residents and businesses!

According to the North Central Texas Council of Governments, population estimates for the City of Aledo for January 1, 2018 was 4,240, a 7.9% increase, *making Aledo the fastest growing city in Parker County!* One of the prime catalysts for attracting new residents, businesses and spurring on economic development in the City of Aledo is easy access from FM1187 which was widened from I-20 through Downtown Aledo. The Strategic Plan, "Creating Aledo's Future", continues to be a major focus and serves as a roadmap and a guide, focusing on positive and managed growth, economic development and future prosperity for the City of Aledo. We recognize that there are many challenges ahead, but having an overall written plan has helped to steer our course of action and keep the City on the best possible path.

In 2018, the Aledo Economic Development Corporation continued to implement its plan to support new businesses in high-quality commercial developments on North and South FM1187 and Bailey Ranch Road. It has also developed a "business infomercial" (available to view on our website), to gain the attention of commercial businesses and developers and give them an idea of all Aledo has to offer and its future marketing potential. The AEDC has welcomed several new businesses this past year, with discussions of additional upcoming commercial interests: "Bistro 1031" is expected to be our first business to open in January 2019. City staff encourages business growth by consulting with all commercial prospects for a preconstruction meeting to ask and answer questions and review ideas to confirm that they comply with City Ordinances and Zoning prior to moving forward.

In housing development, Parks of Aledo's Point Vista began its second planned development phase with 193 additional planned lots. Street and utility work is nearing completion with building permits already being issued for that phase. There were an estimated 100 new homes built in the City of Aledo in 2018, with an estimated 115 to be built in 2019.

As a result of the rate consultants' review of revenue projections, the water and sewer rates will not increase for the 2019 fiscal year. The last utility rate increase was in 2012. Revenue projections will continue to be monitored closely for factors, such as the effects of water restrictions or a very wet year, which would decrease revenues; and expense increases from water rate increases received from the City of Fort Worth after they complete their annual water rate study.

The walkability and sidewalk usage in Aledo was, again, very visible during our "Christmas Tyme in Aledo" event, where visitors safely walked to and from the event's activities in and around Aledo Commons and Downtown Aledo. In 2018, a grant-funded section of sidewalk was completed on FM5 for school children to safely walk to school; its addition gave the City of Aledo's pedestrians and bicyclists the safe travel of a continuous sidewalk from I-20 to FM5's southern city limits. In 2019/2020, the final section of the City's sidewalk will be constructed on Old Annetta Road to the western city limits. This final construction will complete the sidewalk program.

Other 2018 community improvement projects include a new outdoor siren system (see Page 2 of this newsletter) in the fall; the completion of the Aledo Commons' parking lot in April, and public restrooms in December; Bearcat Park's playground repairs and improvements; and, the Aledo Community Center's kitchen renovation and window replacement. 2019 plans include construction of an amphitheater in Aledo Commons, and continued improvements to the Aledo Community Center.



OUTDOOR WARNING SYSTEM



The City of Aledo has installed **two Outdoor Warning Sirens** to enhance the safety of our residents. One is installed at the new **ESD#1 Fire Station #34, 991 Bailey Ranch Road**, and the second is on the south side of the City **by Aledo Middle School**, providing full coverage within the City limits.



Outdoor Warning Siren(s) shall be activated under the following criteria:

- Tornado Warning issued by NWS, naming specific community in which the siren is located.
- Tornado or Funnel cloud observed by public safety personnel with imminent threat to the specific community in which the siren is located.
- Request of activation by the Fire Chief or the Parker County Emergency Management Coordinator **ONLY**.
- Severe Thunderstorm Warning issued by NWS for the specific community in which the siren is located, **AND** forecasted or verified conditions of 70 mph winds or greater, or half-dollar size (1.25") hail or greater.



NEW BUSINESS

Aledo Economic Development Corp. & the City of Aledo warmly welcome:

- ◆ **SUBWAY Restaurant** - Under New Ownership & Management @ FM1187 South
- ◆ **BLUE MONDAYS Gift Shop** @ 601 FM1187 N, Ste. 5
- ◆ **THE COMPLETE BACKYARD** - Under New Ownership & New Location @ 201 East Oak St.
- ◆ **JEREMY SANDERS ALLSTATE AGENCY** @ 107 Larson Lane, Ste. 400

BLACKBOARD CONNECT

Are you a member of **Blackboard Connect**? This system allows for the mass notification of information to subscribers in the event of a crisis, urgent safety or weather notice, or other important public announcement. Sign up on the City's Website, under the "News & Announcements" tab!

FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL 911!

FIRE SAFETY BULLETIN

- Be aware of dry outside conditions when grilling
- Dispose of lighted cigarettes in proper receptacles, not out the car window
- Check that all wiring for seasonal lighting is in good condition, and interior lighting is turned off while away
- Do not overload electrical plugs or outlets
- Do not put hot ashes in the trash; cool completely before disposing
- Turn your compost pile weekly
- Avoid camp/open fires during dry & windy conditions
- Obey "burn bans" when set by our local authorities



The City of Aledo **prohibits fireworks** and **outdoor burning** within the city limits per the adopted City Codes and Ordinances.

SHOP LOCAL, ALEDO!

For a listing of our great businesses, please visit the "SHOP LOCAL" tab on our website!



To schedule once-per-month BULK TRASH PICK-UP, please contact Republic Waste: 817-441-2303



The Community News is proud to be the City of Aledo's official newspaper.
www.community-news.com 817-441-7661