



Issue 6: January 2026



Community Corner

The Newsletter for Fort Worth Neighborhoods

Happy New Year, Fort Worth!!!

As we welcome 2026, the Community Engagement Newsletter continues to share useful stories and information for Fort Worth neighborhoods. In this issue, you will find a fun neighborhood story, news from our office, as well as City resources, events and activities available to your communities as the new year begins. Thank you for staying engaged and for the many ways you help keep Fort Worth neighborhoods empowered, connected, and involved.



THE MAYOR'S
**community
engagement**
WORKSHOPS &
NEIGHBORHOOD AWARDS

**Mayor's Community Engagement Neighborhood
Awards: Applications Closing Soon.**

The [Mayor's Community Engagement Neighborhood Awards application](#) period is well underway and neighborhoods across Fort Worth are encouraged to submit their entries before the deadline. **Applications close Friday, January 16, 2026.** [Read more about the awards and category descriptions here.](#)

These awards are rooted in the idea that every neighborhood story matters. Projects of all sizes are encouraged, whether they focus on beautification, safety, connection, inclusion, or creative ways neighbors support one another. What matters most is the impact the effort has on strengthening community connection and bringing people together.

Eligible applications should highlight projects completed in Fort Worth between November 1, 2024, and November 1, 2025. [All submissions are being accepted online, with updated award categories and character limits designed to keep applications focused and consistent.](#)

The Mayor's Community Engagement Workshops and Neighborhood Awards will be held on **Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Doxology Church**, 4805 Arborlawn Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76109. This annual event brings together neighborhood leaders, residents, City leadership and staff for a day of learning, inspiration, and celebration. Workshops will focus on practical tools and strategies for strengthening neighborhood engagement, and during the luncheon, all Neighborhood Award winners will be announced and recognized. We are grateful to once again be welcomed by Doxology Church for the third

year in a row, providing a space where community members can gather, learn from one another, and celebrate neighborhood success stories.

All are welcome to attend, and registration will be open in late January. Whether you are part of a registered neighborhood association, an informal group of neighbors, or simply interested in learning more about community engagement, participation is encouraged. [Neighborhoods are encouraged to submit their applications before the Friday, January 16, 2026 deadline](#) and to join us in March as we share ideas, recognize local efforts, and highlight the many ways Fort Worth residents are building stronger, more connected neighborhoods.

It's 2026 Annual Update Time: Keep Your Organization Connected to the City of Fort Worth

The City of Fort Worth values the vital role our neighborhood and community organizations play in building strong, connected communities. As we begin planning for 2026, it's time for our registered community organizations to submit their annual update to remain active and recognized by the City.

The process is quick and helps confirm key details, so if you are the association or organization president or designated representative, please use the appropriate online form below to complete the update for your organization.

- [Voluntary Neighborhood Associations](#)
- [Mandatory Neighborhood Associations \(HOAs\)](#)
- [Multi-Family Dwelling Communities](#) (including apartment complexes and property management entities)
- [Neighborhood Alliances](#)
- [Faith-Based Organizations](#)

Why This Matters

Submitting your annual update ensures that the City has accurate and up-to-date contact information for your organization. This allows staff to share timely information about:

- City projects and initiatives
- Public meetings and engagement opportunities
- Emergency notifications and important City updates
- Zoning notifications

Organizations that do not submit their annual update risk losing their registered status, which may result in missed communication and reduced information regarding opportunities to engage with City departments.

Need Help or Have Questions?

If you're unsure which form applies to your organization or need assistance completing the update, City staff are here to help. Please reach out to your assigned Community Engagement Liaison or visit the [Community Organization Registration page](#) for guidance.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to Fort Worth neighborhoods.

If you are part of a neighborhood association or community group that is not registered with us, please consider doing so. [Learn more here.](#)

2025 Kickball Clash on the River Brings Neighborhoods Together



Kickball Clash on the River 2025 is officially in the books, celebrating another year of friendly competition and community connection.

On Saturday, November 22, 2025, residents gathered at Riverside Park as the Carter Riverside Neighborhood

Association took on the Oakhurst Neighborhood Association in this year's kickball matchup. The game concluded with Carter Riverside NA earning a 10–3 win, giving them a 2–1 lead in the ongoing series.

The event kicked off with a ceremonial first pitch thrown by Councilwoman Jeanette Martinez, highlighting the City's continued support for neighborhood engagement and community building activities.

Event organizers shared their appreciation for the support of local Riverside businesses that helped make the event possible, including The Last Drop Sports

Pub, Smokey Beards BBQ, PT Fitness, Jack Starr Cut-Rate Liquor, Friendly Finance, and Riverside Barber and Beauty Institute.

Events like Kickball Clash on the River show how neighborhood led activities can create meaningful connections, encourage friendly rivalry, and strengthen community pride. With a simple idea and local collaboration, neighborhoods across Fort Worth can create their own opportunities to bring residents together in fun and engaging ways.

Pictured above is the Riverside Neighborhood Association team and below is the Oakhurst Neighborhood Association team.



Share Your Neighborhood Story

Have a neighbor who goes above and beyond, a project that made a difference, or an event that brought people together? We'd love to feature it in a future newsletter.

Send a short description and a photo or two to engagement@fortworthtexas.gov, and help us celebrate the spirit of community across Fort Worth.



Fort Worth Mobile Tool Shed: Free Tools for Property Maintenance

The Fort Worth Mobile Tool Shed is a City-funded program that provides free access to yard and property maintenance tools for Fort Worth residents. Now available city-wide, the program

helps make basic home and yard upkeep more affordable and accessible.

Residents can borrow a variety of tools at no cost, including lawn mowers, weed eaters, edgers, loppers, blowers, leaf rakes, and newer additions such as a 96-gallon yard cart and pressure washer. Tools are stored in a specially equipped mobile trailer that is delivered to or stationed at locations across the city for convenient access.

All Fort Worth residents are eligible to participate, with tools available on a first-come, first-served basis for up to three days. [Reservations can be made online](#) or by calling 817-392-1234. The Fort Worth Mobile Tool Shed supports residents in maintaining their properties and contributing to clean, well-kept neighborhoods across the city. [Read more about the program here.](#)

Migratory Birds: What Neighborhoods Should Know This Winter

Fort Worth has become home to large nesting colonies of egrets and other migratory birds, which can create significant challenges for neighborhoods once nesting season begins. While these birds are federally protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, early prevention can help reduce impacts such as property damage, odors, and costly cleanup.



The most effective time to prevent nesting is during the winter months, before birds arrive. Residents are encouraged to take proactive steps such as trimming trees, removing abandoned nests, and watching for early “sentry” birds that scout potential nesting areas. Once birds begin nesting, City staff and residents are legally unable to disturb them, making early, neighborhood-wide action essential.

To help neighborhoods prepare, the City provides a [seasonal nesting-prevention guide](#), [a homeowner checklist](#), and additional resources ([including a Spanish-language guide](#)) available on the City’s website. Sharing this information with neighbors and coordinating prevention efforts can make a meaningful difference. Community-wide awareness and early action are the most effective ways to protect neighborhoods while respecting federal wildlife protections. For issues in your neighborhood, contact: City Call Center ~ 817-392-1234 or report online using the [MyFW App](#).



Free Educational Programs for Children and Youth in Fort Worth

The City of Fort Worth offers a variety of free educational presentations and outreach programs for children and youth, available to schools, neighborhood groups, and community organizations throughout the city. These programs support learning, civic awareness, public safety, and environmental stewardship while helping young residents better understand their community.

The Community Engagement team offers interactive, 30-minute presentations that can be adapted for different age groups. These include Career Days, introducing students to a wide range of City careers; My Government & Me, which explores citizenship and how local government works; Recycling & Sustainability, focused on waste reduction and environmental responsibility; and Stormwater & Pollution Prevention, which teaches how everyday actions impact local waterways and the Trinity River.

In addition to Community Engagement offerings, many City departments provide educational programs and guest speakers, including Animal Care & Control, Keep Fort Worth Beautiful, the Fort Worth Fire Department, Parks & Recreation, the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, the Fort Worth Public Library, and Water. All programs are free of charge and available to Fort Worth residents. [To explore available options and request a presentation, visit the City's webpage that lists all educational programs and includes direct links for each request.](#)

City Updates and Resources Winter Edition

- Find the latest news, services, and resources at the Fort Worth [Website](#)
- Stay informed of the City's [Capital Projects](#) & [Road Closures](#)
- [Apply to serve on a City Board, Committee & Commission](#)
- Keep up with [Zoning Cases](#) that may impact your neighborhood
- Use [Oneaddress](#) to find your Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO) and Code Compliance Officer
- Stay engaged and informed at [Connect Fort Worth](#)
- Learn more about the [Fort Worth Lab](#)

- Read about the city's Neighborhood Conservation Plan and Housing Affordability Strategy [here](#)
- Discover [Volunteer](#) opportunities & ways to give back in Fort Worth
- See how [Keep Fort Worth Beautiful](#) supports neighborhoods
- Explore events, classes and activities with the FWPL's [Fun Finder](#)
- Check out upcoming activities on the Parks & Recreation [Events Calendar](#)
- Tap into programs and resources at your local [Community Centers](#)
- Discover [January to March activities](#) at the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

Welcome Back Teresa Magaña Leach to the Team!

The Communications & Public Engagement Department welcomes Teresa Magaña Leach to the Community Engagement team. Teresa joined the office in November and will serve as the Community Engagement Liaison for Council Districts 3 and 7.



Teresa is a bilingual, mission-driven professional who has served the City of Fort Worth since 2018, beginning her municipal career with the Parks & Recreation Department and later continuing with Neighborhood Services. After previously serving on the Community Engagement team, she stepped away to earn her Master of Business Administration from Texas Christian University and now returns with a well-rounded understanding of city operations and community needs.

Her work is rooted in empowering residents through relationship-building, collaboration, and thoughtful engagement, with a focus on improving quality of life and amplifying community voices. Outside of work, Teresa enjoys spending time with her husband, Daniel, walking the Trinity Trails, and reading, and she encourages residents to take advantage of their Fort Worth Public Library card if they don't already have one.



The Community Engagement Team is Now Located at City Hall

The Community Engagement team has officially moved from the Hazel Harvey Peace Center for Neighborhoods to Fort Worth City Hall, where the team is now located alongside other City departments and the full Communications & Public Engagement Department. This transition brings the team closer to City operations while continuing to support neighborhoods across Fort Worth.

Community Engagement Liaisons continue to meet with residents, neighborhood associations, and community groups by invitation. Scheduling meetings in advance allows our team to better serve residents and respond to community needs. Because liaisons are often out in the community attending neighborhood meetings and events, advance coordination is the best way to ensure availability for visits at City Hall.

To request a meeting or connect with your Community Engagement Liaison, residents are encouraged to reach out directly to their liaison or contact the [Community Engagement team](#).

About Us

In the Community Engagement Office, we are here to connect you to your City. As part of the Communications and Public Engagement department, our team serves all Fort Worth residents; meeting you where you live, work, and play. Whether we're attending neighborhood meetings, supporting public events, or

hosting educational sessions in schools, we strive to foster open communication and ensure your voice is heard.

We're committed to being your bridge to the City of Fort Worth, providing you with the latest information about city initiatives, programs, public meetings, zoning updates, and more. By staying connected, you can engage with your community, share feedback, and help shape the future of Fort Worth.

For more information, find your Liaison or contact us at the office:

- Phone – 817-392-6201
- Email – Engagement@FortWorthTexas.gov
- Website – [Community Engagement](#)

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