

CITY OF VICTORIA

**STATE OF THE**

**CITY**

**2026**



# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

FEATURING  
THE MAYOR'S 2026 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

*It's time to stop talking  
potential and start talking  
results.*



# Duane Crocker, Mayor

Graduate of Texas A&M University and  
Texas Tech Law School

First elected to Council in 2021

Elected as Mayor in 2024

Re-elected in 2025



# City Council

Rafael DeLaGarza, III - District 1

Steven S. Kidder - District 2

April Butler - District 3

Jan Scott - District 4

Dr. Andrew Young, Mayor Pro-Tem

- Superdistrict 5

Mark Loffgren - Superdistrict 6



# Executive Leadership Team

Jesus A. Garza, City Manager  
Allison Lacey, City Attorney

Darryl Lesak, Assistant City Manager  
Gilbert P. Reyna, Jr., CPA,  
Assistant City Manager





# GROWING VICTORIA

TEXAS

RETAIL  
RECRUITMENT



SMALL BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT



QUALITY OF  
LIFE



WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT



HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT



To be a catalyst for sustainable economic advancement, where collaborative innovation drives vibrant community prosperity and elevates the quality of life for all.



# COV vs. VSTDC vs. VEDC



# COV vs. VSTDC vs. VEDC



# Retail Recruitment

Opening soon!



**CHICKEN SALAD  
CHICK.**



**Burlington**



# Retail Recruitment



# Retail Recruitment



*Small businesses are the  
heartbeat of your  
neighborhood, the spine of  
your local economy, and the  
spirit of your town.*

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# Small Business Development

## Downtown Investment



VICTORIA  
MAIN STREET  
PROGRAM



# Small Business Development

## Business Retention & Expansion

Chris Conner,

Business Retention & Expansion Manager

- Establish a formal BRE framework
- Launch a structured business outreach program
- Implement a centralized CRM system
- Improve issue identification & response
- Strengthen communication & trust w/ local employers



# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

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*Infrastructure is not only  
about roads and buildings,  
it's about how we connect.*



# Quality of Life

## De Leon Plaza



# Quality of Life

## Tejas Fest 2025



# Quality of Life

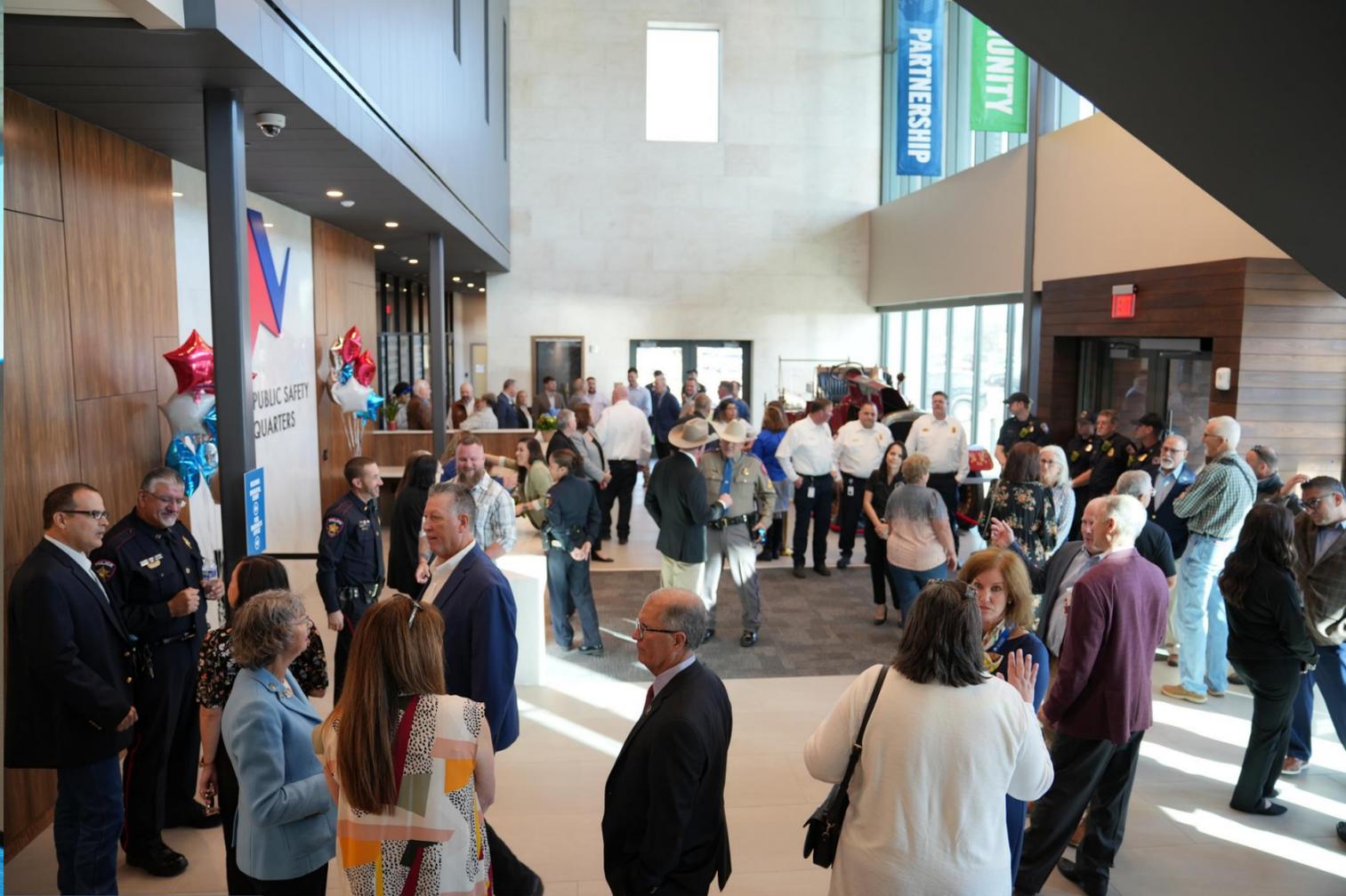
## Public Safety Headquarters



# Quality of Life

## Public Safety Headquarters







PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS



2525

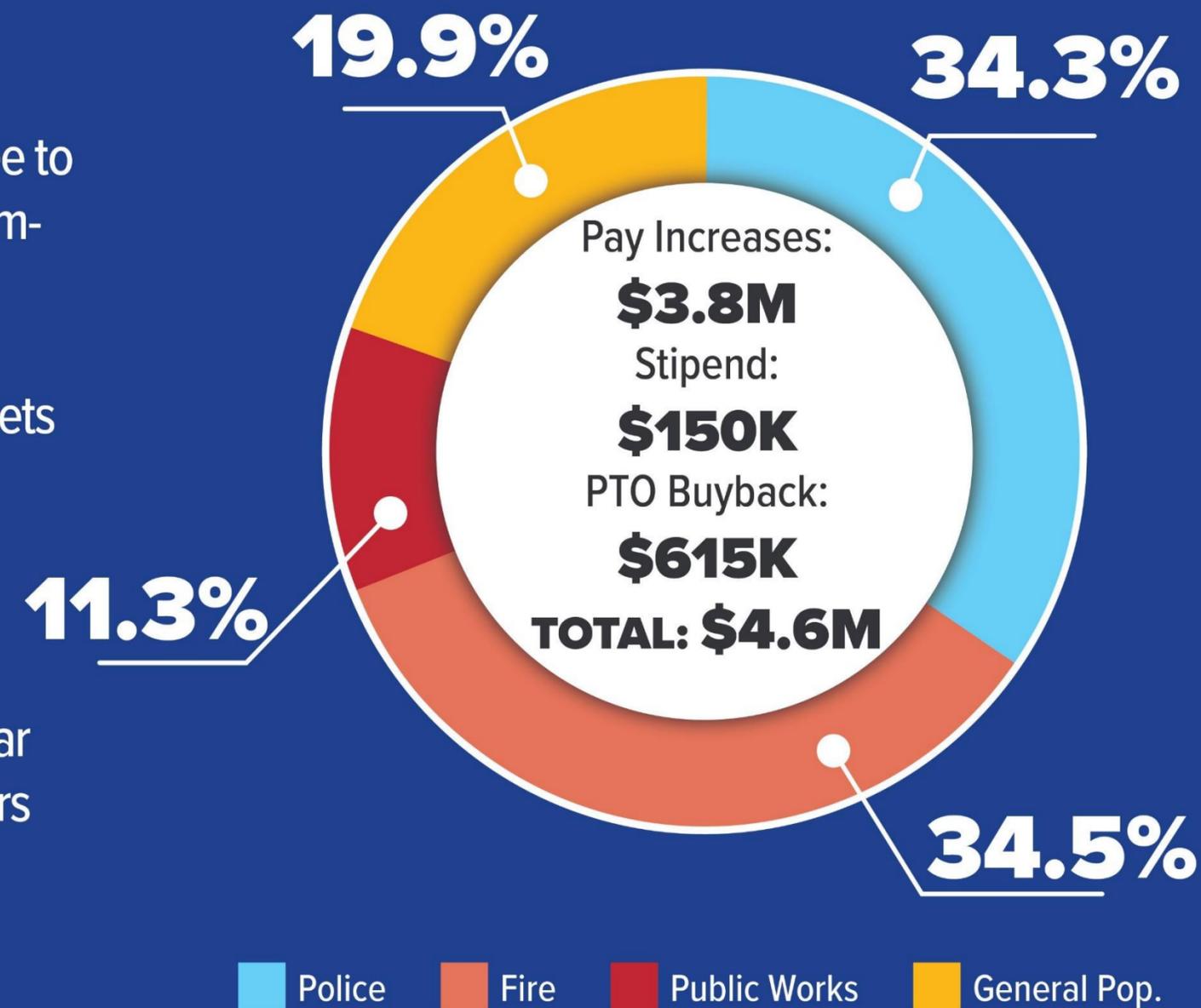
# FISCAL YEAR 2026 PAY PROGRAM

In 2024, Mayor Duane Crocker appointed a compensation and benefits committee to work with staff to improve employee retention and recruitment through better compensation.

The result of these efforts is the Fiscal Year 2026 Employee Pay Program, which sets aside a historic \$4.6 million increase in compensation and initiatives for City employees. The pay program includes:

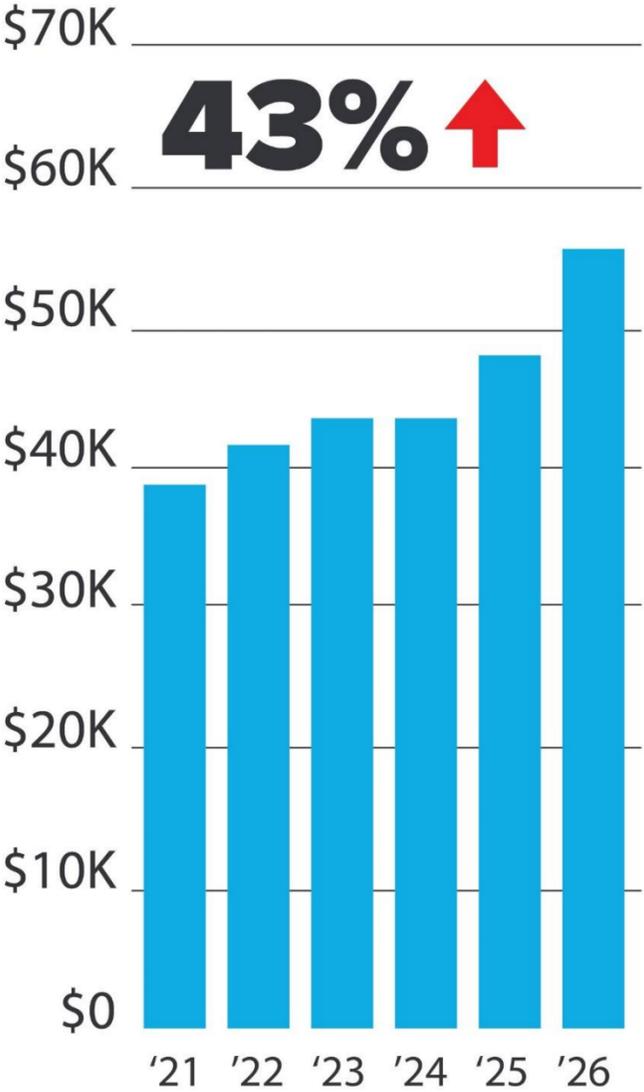
- A record-breaking \$3.8 million in pay increases
- \$1,000 stipends for employees who will not receive a pay increase this year
- A PTO buyback program allowing employees to sell accrued vacation hours

For the fifth year in a row, there will be no increase in health insurance premiums. The pay program also includes targeted solutions for high-turnover departments.

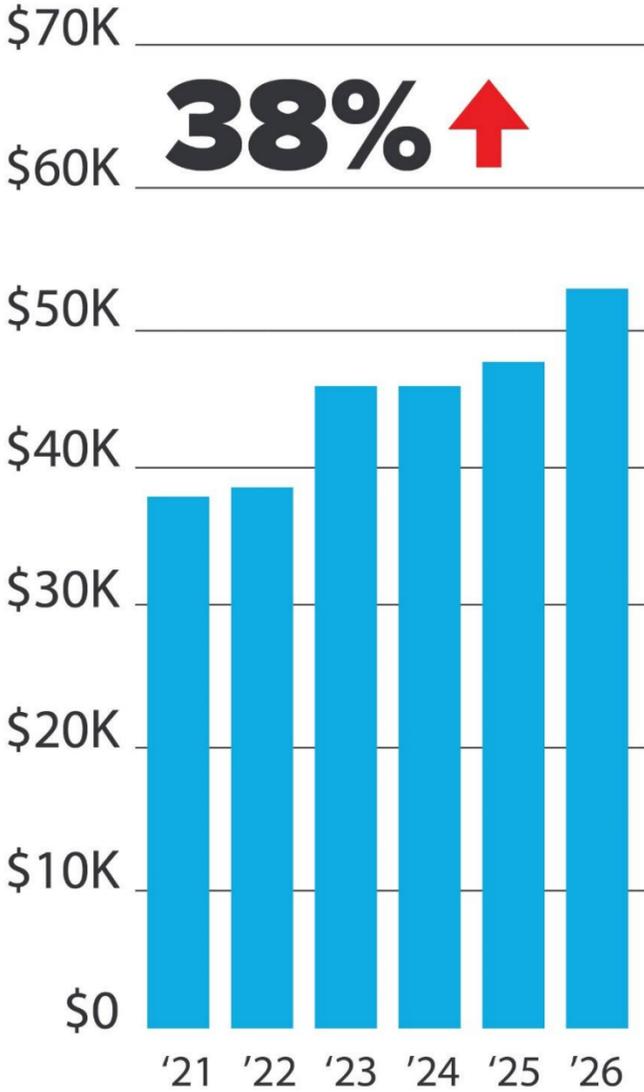


# ENTRY LEVEL PAY INCREASES

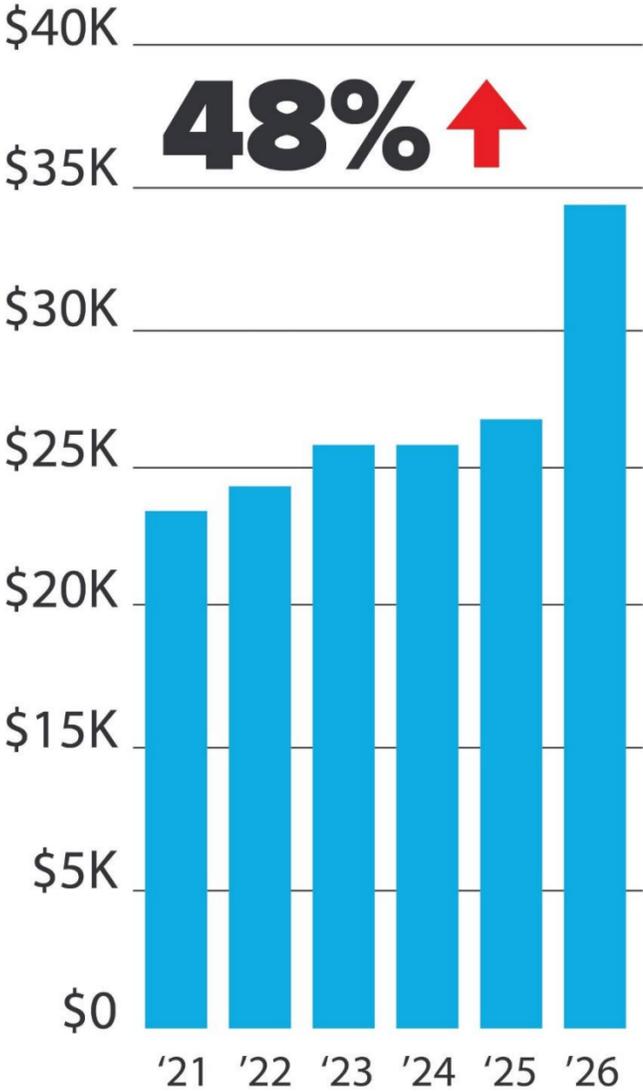
## Police



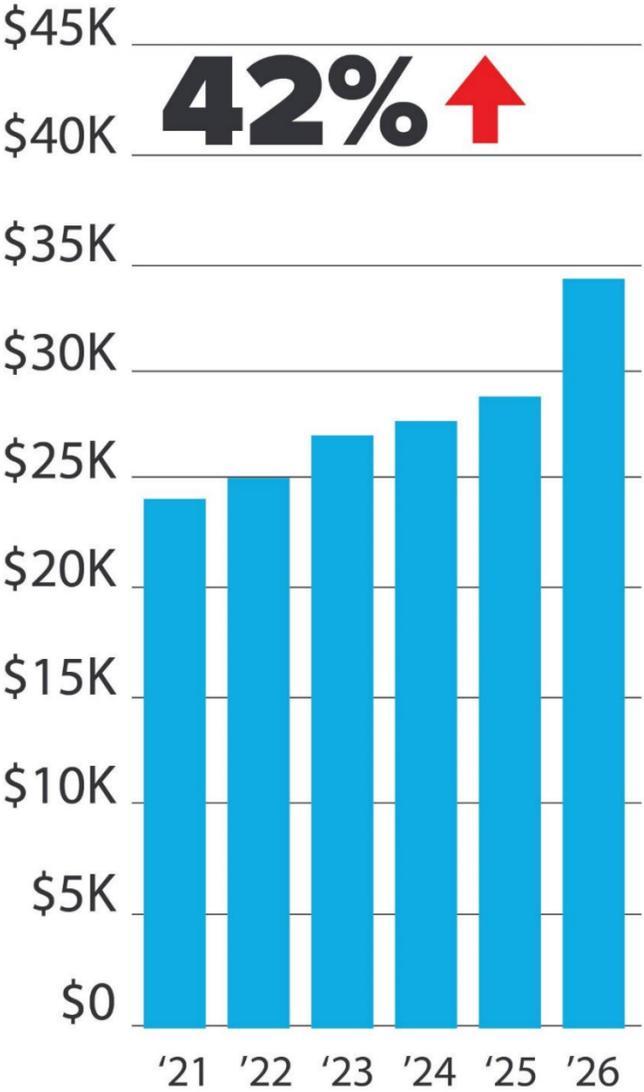
## Fire



## Public Works



## Solid Waste



■ Net Pay    ↑ Increase over 5 years

# INVESTING IN PUBLIC SAFETY

Nearly 70% of the pay increases in the pay program will go toward first responders, but the City's investment in public safety goes beyond employee compensation.

The budget for next fiscal year sets aside **\$10.6M** in fleet and equipment upgrades for public safety, including:

- Police – Nine patrol units
- Fire – Brush truck payoff and three pumpers (lease program)
- EMS – Four ambulance replacements
- Equipment – Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) lease, cardiac monitor lease and stretcher and radio replacement

In addition, 59% of the General Fund budget will go toward public safety services, which is comparable with spending in previous years.



# Quality of Life Community Center



# Quality of Life

## Community Center





**GARY MOSES  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

# Quality of Life Parks



# Quality of Life

Victoria Public Library

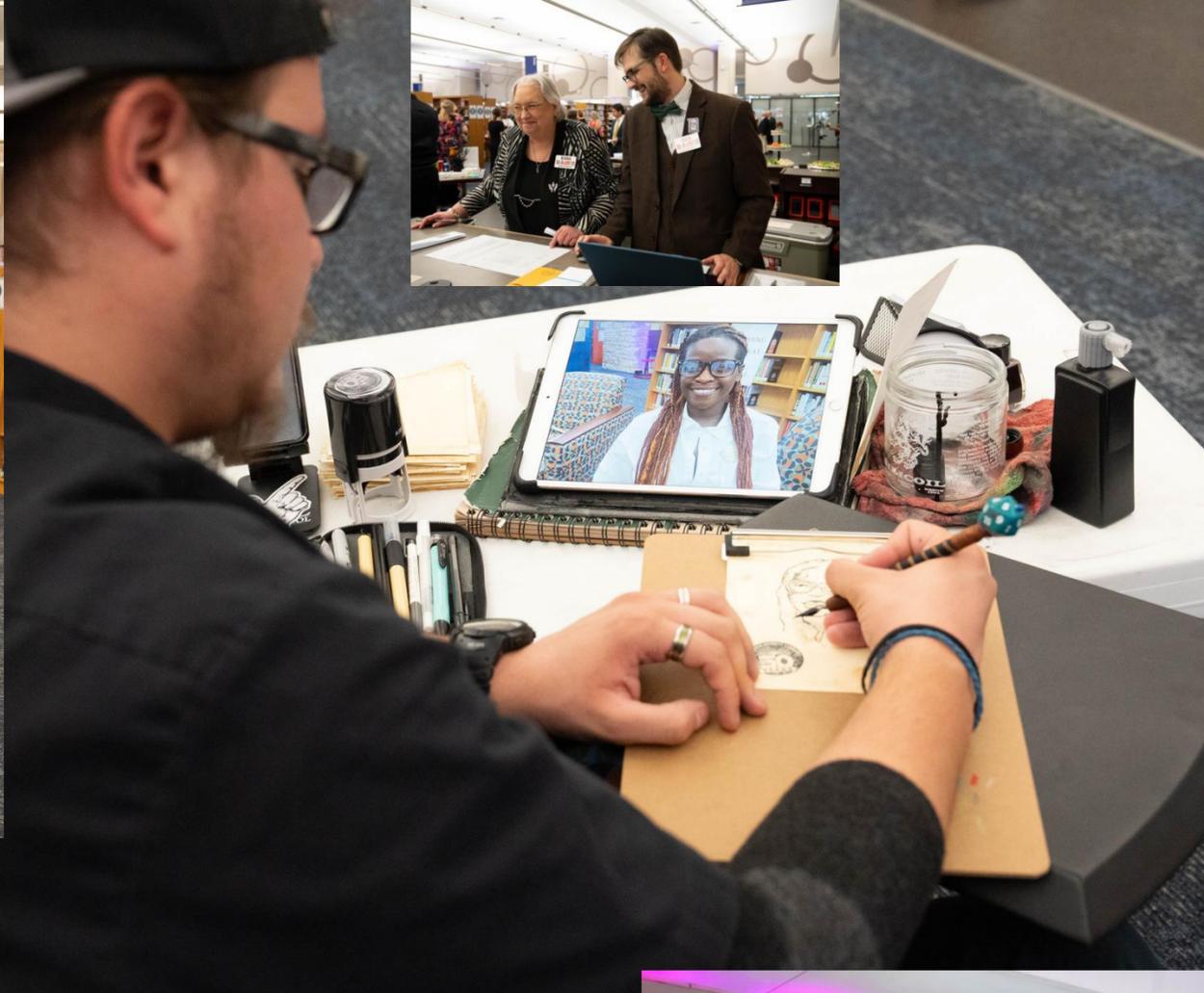
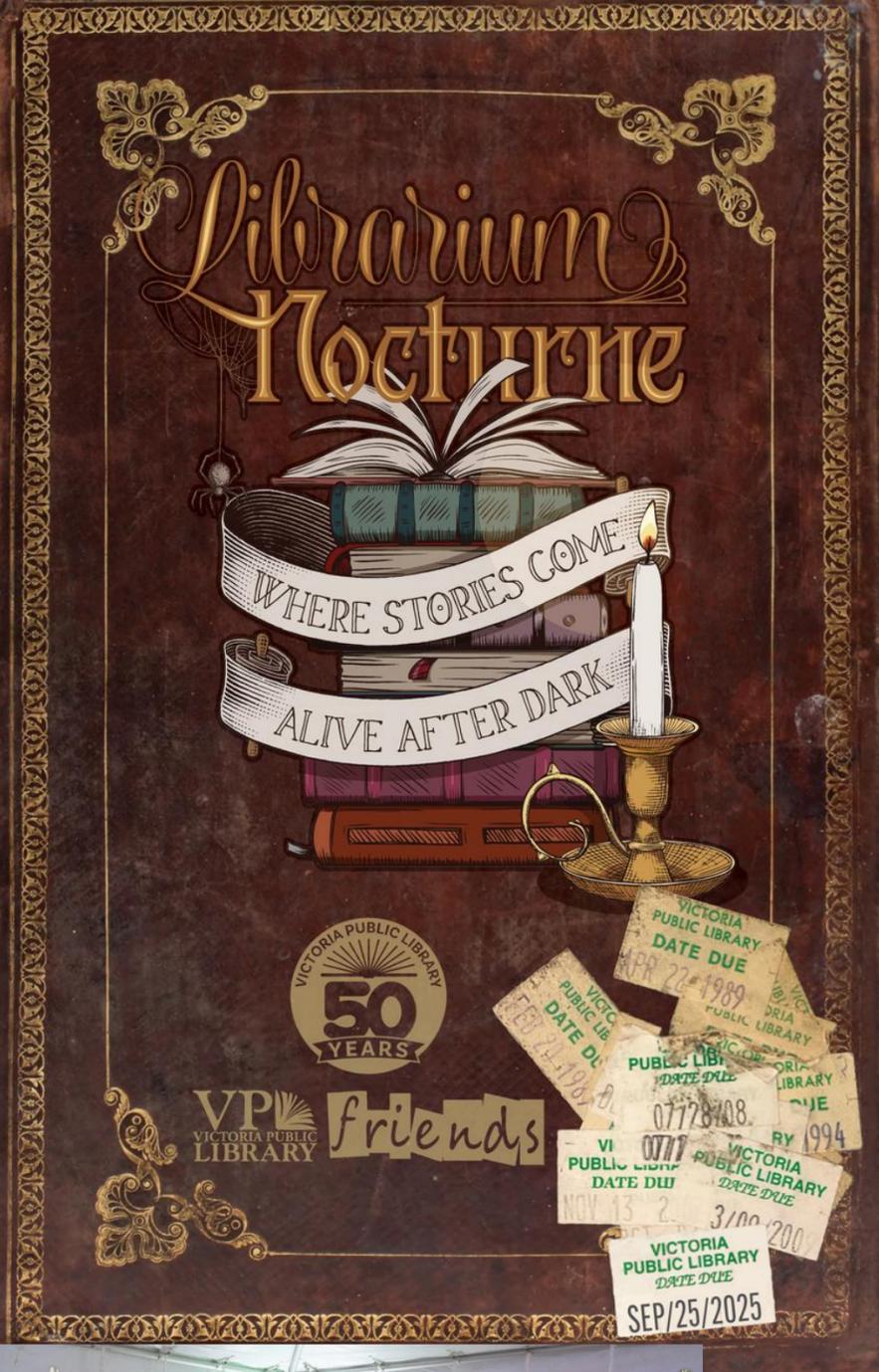


# Quality of Life

## Library Improvements

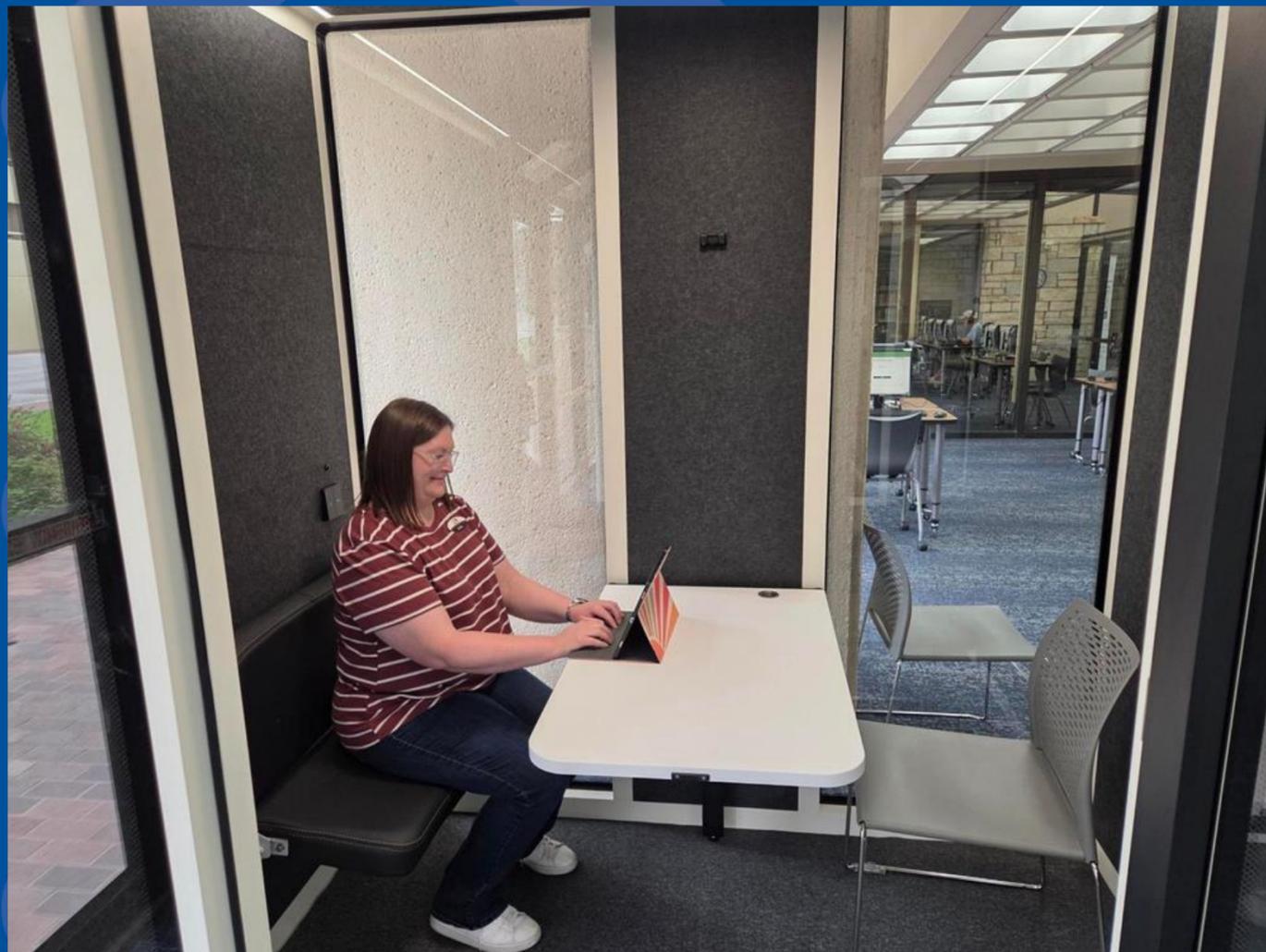






# Quality of Life

## Library Improvements



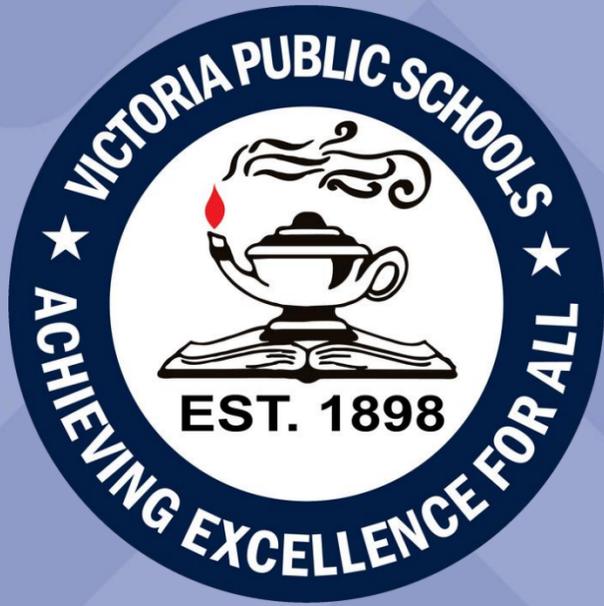
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*Schools are not an  
expense - they're a  
workforce factory.*



# Workforce Development



TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY  
**VICTORIA**



# Workforce Development

## Midcoast Construction Academy



# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

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*Without affordable, healthy,  
and safe housing, the  
workforce foundation  
crumbles. Housing is not just  
a social issue; it's an  
economic necessity.*



# Housing Development



# Housing Development

## The Victorian & Fishpond



# Housing Development

## Lot-to-Home Infill Housing Program

12 Lots acquired for  
program  
development



JW Moore  
Construction  
selected via  
solicitation



# Housing Development

Infill Development



# Housing Development

## Pine St. Redevelopment



# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

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*We are either designing  
our future or inheriting it.*



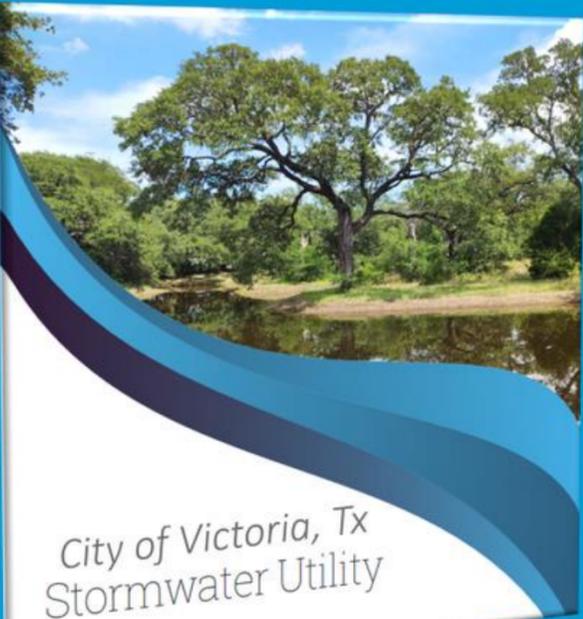
# Infrastructure

## Water System Review & Improvements



# Infrastructure

## Stormwater Drainage Utility Fee Program Background



City of Victoria, Tx  
Stormwater Utility

Waters Strategies Solutions

## Why implement a Stormwater Drainage Utility User-Based-Fee?



The Stormwater Drainage Utility Fee will provide:

- Reliable revenue stream for maintaining aging drainage infrastructure,
- Equity and fairness (based on use/demand),
- Reduce flooding risk and erosion,
- Provides long-term, proactive maintenance of storm pipes and channels,
- Meet environmental regulations.

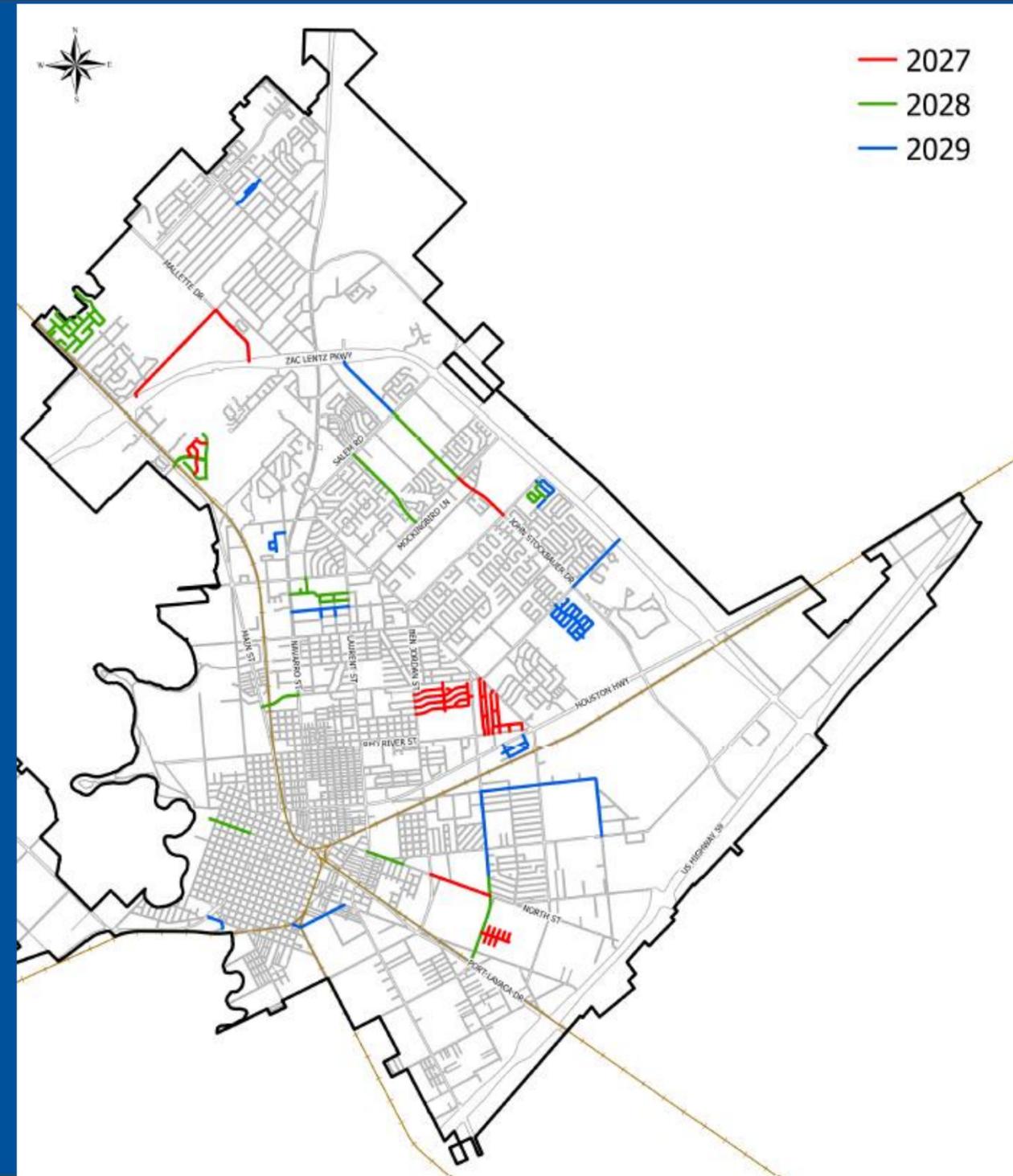
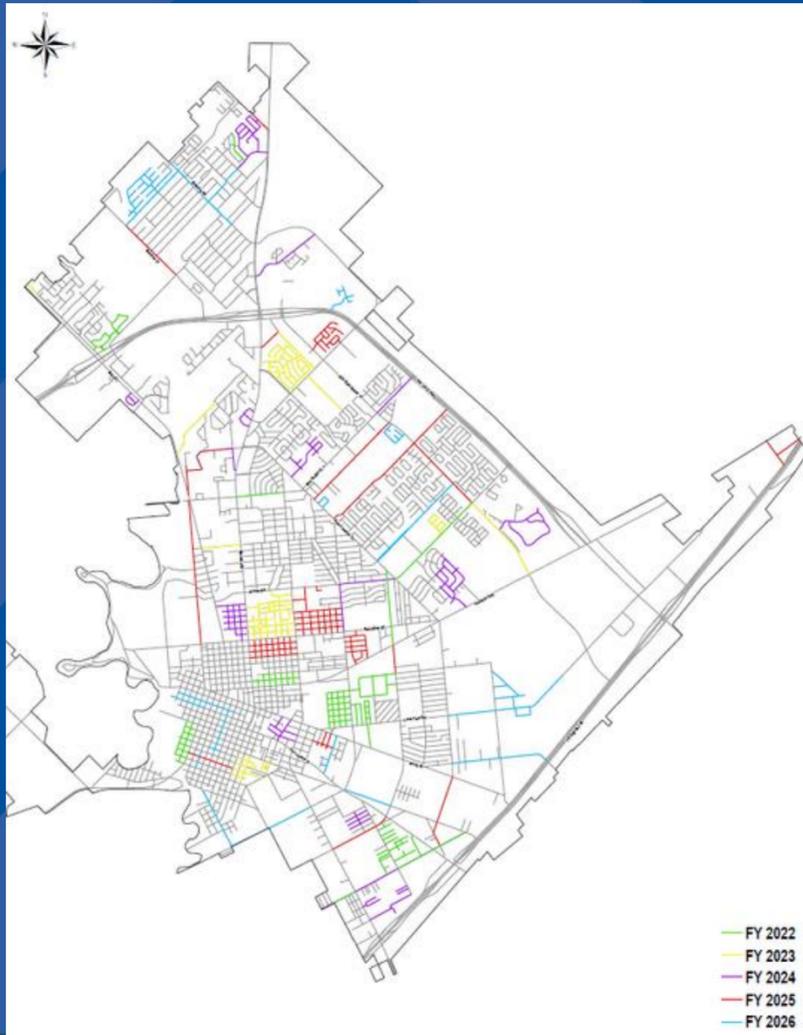


Unlike *property taxes*, these user fees are more equitable, charging property owners based on the actual **impervious surface** (runoff) they generate; and stormwater utility fees are based on the demand property owners place on the City's Drainage System.

**What's Impervious Surface?** Surface that does not allow water to pass through, such as pavement & buildings.

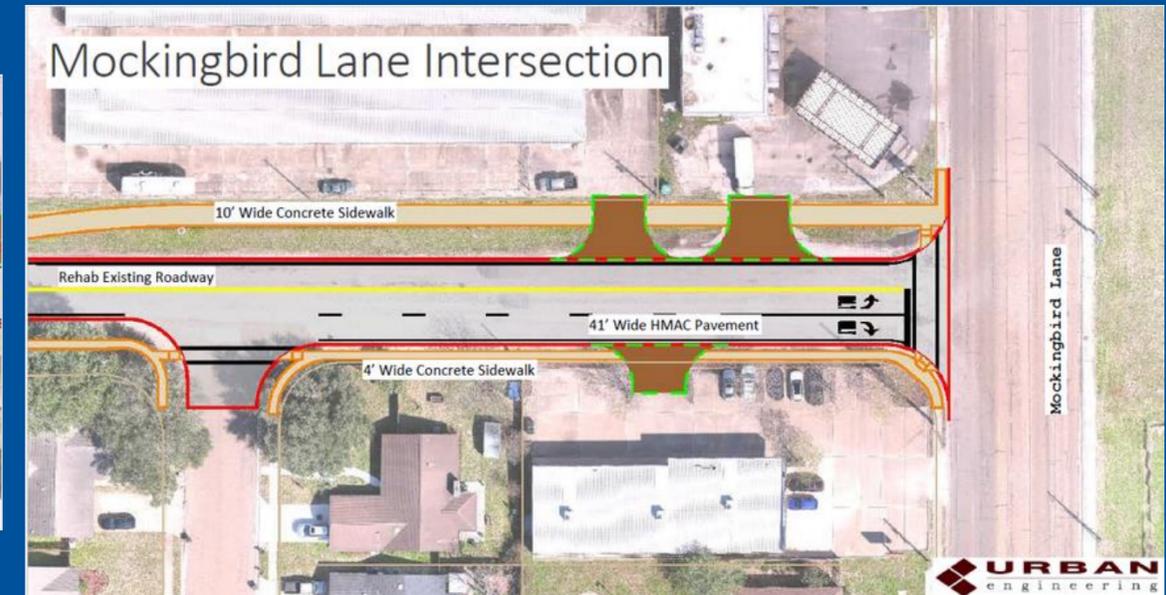
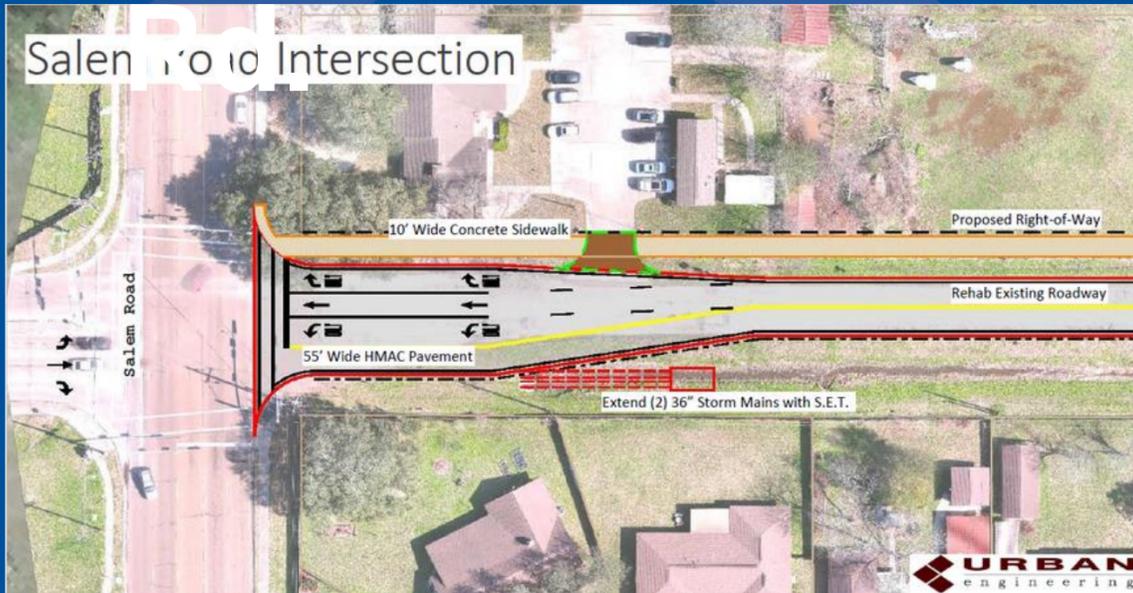


# Infrastructure Street Improvements



# Infrastructure

## Guy Grant



# Infrastructure

## Guy Grant

### Rd.

- **Acquire Rights-of-Way**
  - Approximately 0.67 acre from 13 property owners
- **Rehab HMAC street section**
  - Stabilize with cement, prime, two-course surface treatment and HMAC surface
  - Construct 10' wide concrete sidewalk
- **Replace existing water main**
  - Replace existing 8-inch AC water main with 8-inch PVC water main
  - Replace existing fire hydrants, fittings and valves
- **Rehab existing sanitary sewer main**
  - Rehab 30-inch sanitary sewer main by CIPP methods
  - Rehab existing SSMH and install new rings and covers
- **Construct storm sewer system**
  - Pipe network capable of conveying the 10-year storm from Mockingbird Lane to Shenandoah ditch
  - Extend existing culverts as required

\*\*\*\* Signal @ Mockingbird Lane not included – requires warrant study and removal of Dean Cook signal\*\*\*\*



# Infrastructure

## North St.

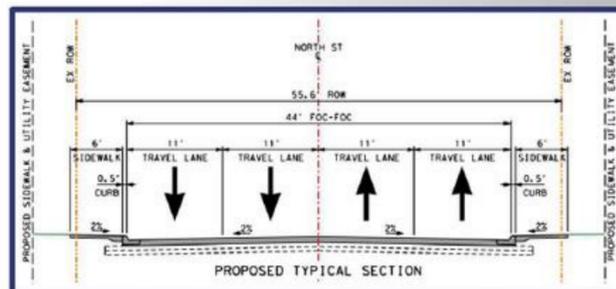
North Street Improvements: Moody St | US 59B to Ben Wilson St

### Phase III-A: Laurent Street to Krause Street

1,234 LF | 0.23 MI



- 6 FT Sidewalks & 10 FT Pedestrian Crosswalks
- Coordinate with VISD for potential access improvements for Patti Welder Campus and Right Turn Lane at Laurent
- Replace 16" Water Line
- Replace/Rehab 8" and 10" Sanitary Sewer
- Increase Storm Drain Capacity for 5-YR Storm



ESTIMATED COST: \$4,270,000

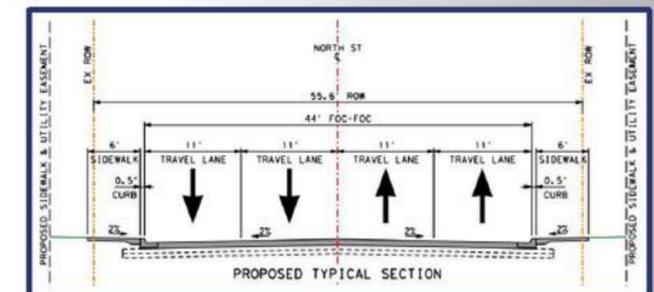


### Phase III-B: Krause Street to Ben Jordan Street

1,924 LF | 0.36 MI



- 6 FT Sidewalks & 10 FT Pedestrian Crosswalks
- Right-Turn Pedestrian Refuge Islands at Ben Jordan St
- Replace 16" Water Line
- Replace/Rehab 8" Sanitary Sewer
- Increase Storm Drain Capacity for 5-YR Storm



ESTIMATED COST: \$6,655,000



# **GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT**

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*Cultivation does not  
happen without action.  
Growth begins when we  
stop observing and start  
participating.*



WHY NOT  
US?



CAMPBELL	W. 3-0
TCU	W. 3-1
LOUISVILLE	W. 3-2
NEBRASKA	W. 3-2
PITT	W. 3-0
KENTUCKY	W. 3-0

WHY NOT US?

TEXAS A&M  
VOLLEYBALL



Photo by: Evan Pilat/Texas A&M Athletics

# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

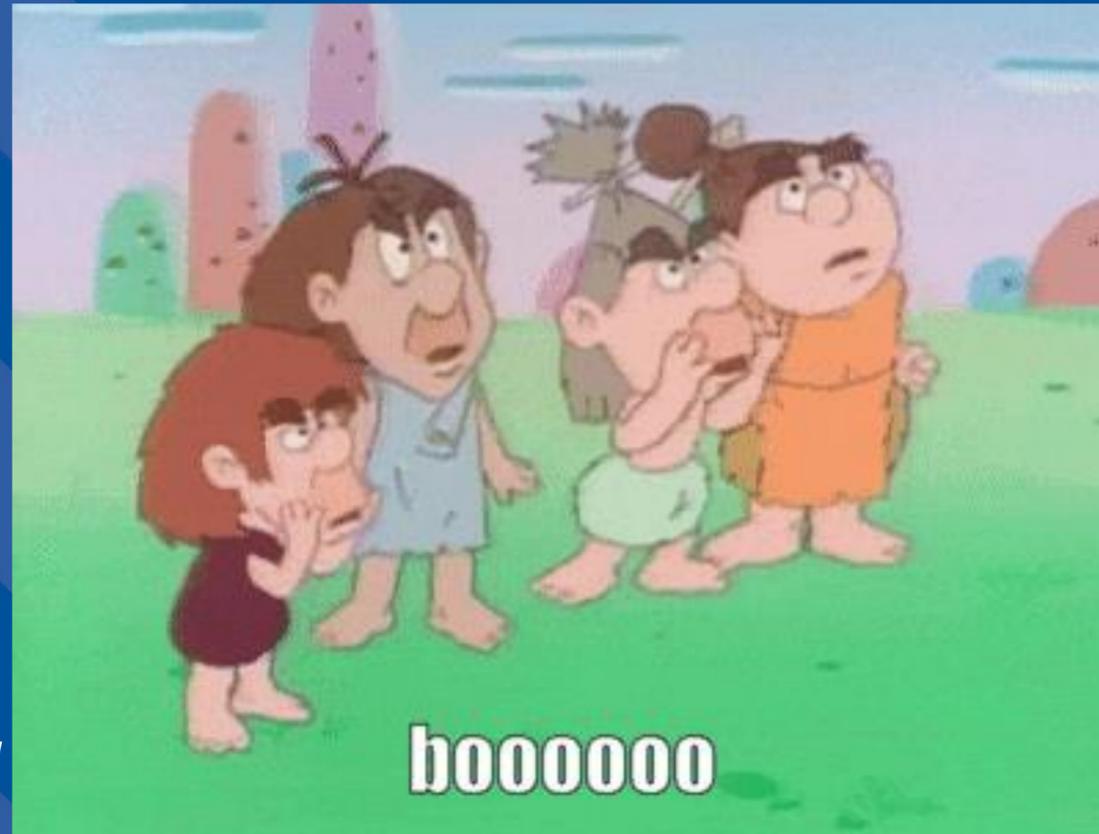
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*You have to prune what is not  
fruitful.*



# C.A.V.E.

*Citizens  
Against  
Virtually  
Everything*



Would you recommend  
Victoria as a place to live?

91.5% YES

---

8.5% NO





# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

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*Growth isn't optional, and  
it's not by happenstance.*

*It's an intentional team  
effort.*



# Call to Action



## I want to...

- Advocate for our public schools
- Mentor a high school or college student
- Participate in Keep Victoria Beautiful
- Support neighborhood revitalization  
(Safety, cleanup and rebuilding efforts)
- Join or organize a monthly stakeholder meeting
- Support small business development  
(Provide resources)
- Join the Victoria Economic Development Corporation
- Join the Victoria Chamber of Commerce
- Other, please specify

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



CITY OF VICTORIA

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**2026**





# GROWING VICTORIA SUMMIT

FEATURING \_\_\_\_\_

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