



City of Murphy
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Town Hall meetings set for stormwater fee discussion *Public meetings set for Aug. 22 and 24 at City Hall*

MURPHY (July 19, 2019) A pair of Town Hall-style public meetings are scheduled for Aug. 22 and 24 to allow Murphy residents and businessowners the opportunity to obtain information on the proposed hike in the Stormwater Utility Fee.

Both meetings will be held in the City Council Chambers, 206 North Murphy Road. On Thursday, Aug. 22, the meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and on Saturday, Aug. 24, the session will begin at 9 a.m.

A proposal to increase the monthly Stormwater Utility Fee from \$3.00 per residence to \$3.80, and a proportional increase for businesses, will go before Council in the near future, with a planned implementation date of Oct. 1, 2019, should the proposed new rates be approved. The proposed increase was the result of a detailed study regarding the financial requirements needed to maintain compliance with state regulations.

Proceeds from the Stormwater Utility Fee are used solely for the construction and maintenance of an adequate, reliable and appropriately-sized stormwater drainage system to channel rainwater, through creeks and other water channels, to area lakes. More importantly, the drainage system is designed to remove any impediments to the flow of rainwater, thus minimizing the possibility of flooding during rainstorms.

The Murphy City Council adopted the original Stormwater Utility Fee in 2002 to meet state-mandated regulations specifically related to the discharge of stormwater into area waterways. The monthly fees, which have not changed since then, are used exclusively to cover the costs of programs, personnel, equipment and other expenses required to comply with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules and regulations related to stormwater management.

The Stormwater Utility Fee is based on the amount of impervious area on each property, including rooftops, driveways, patios, sidewalks or any other hard surfaces that do not allow stormwater to infiltrate into the ground.

The general purpose of the regulations is to reduce stormwater pollution, thereby maintaining clean lakes, streams, rivers, creeks and other waterways. Among the requirements are operating and maintaining the City's stormwater infrastructure, investigating flooding problems, removal and clearing of storm debris, vegetation management, pipe and channel repair, erosion protection, inspection and compliance, and improving stormwater quality within the community.

For more information, residents and business owners may contact Bryce Gullatt at 972-468-4378 or bgullatt@murphytx.org.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.