



The

an Lancaster Connection

Summer Issue

Lancaster

2005

All-America City Finalist

CONNECTING WITH RESIDENTS, NEIGHBORHOODS AND BUSINESSES.

City Council Goals and Objectives

The Mayor, City Council and Executive Team met in June 2005 for the annual strategic planning session with Lyle Sumek of Lyle Sumek Associates. These sessions are designed to review, evaluate and fine-tune the vision, plan and execution of priorities, progress and goals of the council and administration.

Mayor Pro Tem Kimberly Lankford stated, "In a City Council planning session, it is our responsibility as City leaders to create a vision for our City's diversity and size. We learn to bring the goals and objectives into focus in order for our City to respond to and produce quality and sustainable growth."

The priorities established reflect careful consideration of what is necessary to reach our vision for the city and just as important, provide the road map to get there. "As we continue to experience growth in both residential and commercial areas, it is important to carefully evaluate the multitude of both short and long-term needs of the community," said Mayor Joe Tillotson.

The Lancaster Vision 2020, Five Year Goals, and the Policy Agenda and Major Projects for 2005-2006 are below.

Policy Agenda 2005-2006	LANCASTER VISION 2020
<p style="text-align: center;">TOP PRIORITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bond Package and Election • Airport Master Plan: Completion • I-20 Overlay Plan and District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All America City Award • I-35 Overlay Plan and District 	<p style="text-align: center;">LANCASTER IS A PROUD VIBRANT CITY. <i>We celebrate Our Diversity and History, and Preserve Our Natural Beauty.</i> <i>Our Citizens Take Pride in Our City.</i></p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">THE LANCASTER COMMUNITY <i>is the Best Place to Live with Excellent Schools and Educational Opportunities and Attractive Corridors and Neighborhoods.</i> <i>Our Citizens Enjoy Convenient Living.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">HIGH PRIORITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airport Overlay District • Storm Water Master Plan: Completion • Downtown Overlay District and Design Guidelines • Multicultural Center Definition and Funding • ETJ Boundary Agreement and Annexations • Unified Development Code: Completion 	<p style="text-align: center;">FIVE YEAR GOALS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Financially Sound, Stable City Government</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Higher Quality Development: Residential and Commercial</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Enhanced City Infrastructure and Services</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Greater Community Unity and Pride</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Becoming the Preferred Place to Live: Professionals and Families</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MODERATE PRIORITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical District Development • Wintergreen Road Widening Project (Phase I) (I-35 to Houston School Rd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creek Maintenance Funding, Management and Pilot Program • Animal Shelter and Adoption Center: Direction • Wastewater Master Plan Update • Golf Course/Clubhouse Renovation and Funding • Rental Registration and Inspection Program Development • Intra City Transit Evaluation Study and Recommendation 	<p style="text-align: center;">MAJOR PROJECTS 2005-2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-20 Service Road Houston School Road Widening Design Wintergreen Road Widening Project (Dallas Avenue-Jefferson St) (Phase IV) Danieldale Road Replacement (I-35 to Houston School Road) Danieldale Road Extension (Houston School Road to I-20) Reindeer Road Bridge Replacement Dallas Avenue Utility Replacement (Beltline to Pleasant Run) Sewer Lift Station Upgrade Golf Course Bridge Repair Project Airport Projects and Runway Extension Bear Creek Nature Park Development Visitors' Center Development Meadow Creek Park Development

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UTILITY BILLING

Bond Election

Lancaster City Council is considering a bond proposition to be presented to voters in November for the purpose of constructing a Public Safety Facility, Senior Citizens Facility, and Park Improvements. Council is scheduled to discuss the options during upcoming meetings. City Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at the Lancaster Municipal Center located at 211 N. Henry. For additional information regarding the council agenda, please visit the city website at www.ci.lancaster.tx.us or contact the City Secretary at 972-218-1112.

The City of Lancaster
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Lancaster, Texas 75146

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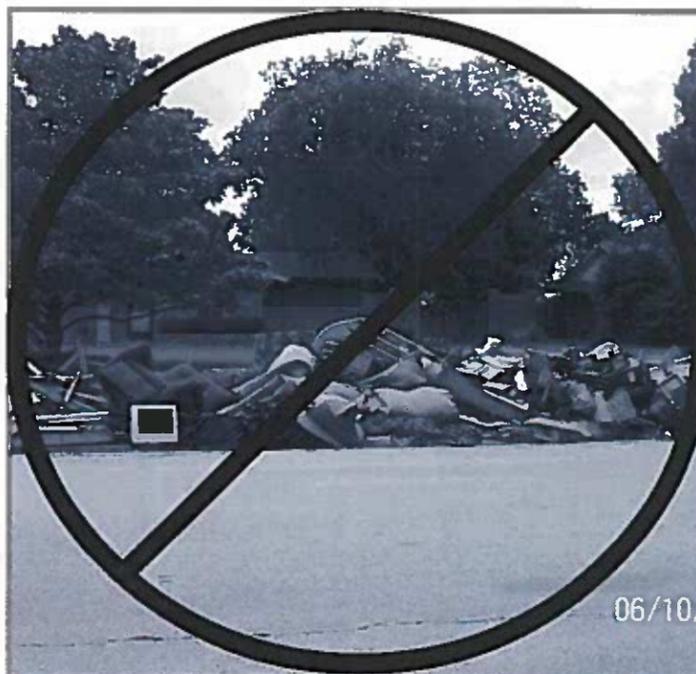
Do you want to see less trash?

Lancaster, TX - The City of Lancaster Neighborhood Services Division has implemented a new program to notify residents of bulk and brush trash violations on their property. Brush and bulky items such as furniture or appliances may not exceed 4 feet in height, 4 feet in width and 16 feet in length. Tires, construction debris or hazardous materials such as paint or batteries are excluded and will not be picked up. Brush/Bulk collection is once a month for each residential dwelling and may not be placed on the curb earlier than the Saturday prior to and no later than 7:00 a.m. Monday, the week of scheduled pick-up.

Residents with bulk trash violations will have a notice posted on their property for correction within a three (3) day period. Failure to remove the illegal bulk trash within the given time period will then result in 1.) A court citation will be filed and 2.) Allied Waste Services will be requested to pick-up the items. All costs associated with the removal of the bulk trash will be assessed against the resident's utility bill. By reducing the number of days for compliance, the bulk items will be able to be removed from the neighborhoods in a timely manner.

Our goal is to beautify our neighborhoods by reducing the number of bulk/brush piles. If you require removal of excessive brush/bulky items you may contact Allied Waste Services (Trinity) directly to determine the cost for removal.

For additional information or questions on items accepted for bulk trash pick-up, or to confirm your collection week you may call Neighborhood Services Division at (972) 218-1101 or Allied Waste Services (Trinity) at (972) 225-8151.



Brush / Bulky Collection Instructions

Here are some helpful facts to remember about your brush and bulky collection items:

- Brush/bulky collection is provided once per month.
- The city is divided into four sections. A list of streets is available from Utility Billing that notes the collection week for each street.
- The week of collection is determined by the Wednesdays of the month. First Wednesday is first week, second Wednesday is second week and so on. A list of pickup weeks for the next 4 months is listed to the left.
- Our current ordinance requires that brush/bulky items be placed at the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. on the Monday of the collection week.
- Allied Waste Services will pick up items between 7:00 a.m. Monday and 7:00 p.m. Friday of the pickup week.
- Allied Waste Services may make two trips down each street, using two different types of equipment, based on the type of items to be collected. Just because they make a run through and don't pick up items does not mean they will not be back with other equipment.
- Since brush/bulky items are to be set out by 7:00 a.m. Monday morning, if Allied Waste Services picks up on Monday or Tuesday and the items are set out later in the week, those are considered late set-outs and will not be picked up. Those late set-outs are subject to notices and/or citations from Neighborhood Services.
- Residents may call Allied at any time for a quote for a special pickup at 972-225-8151.

City of Lancaster Brush / Bulky Collection Dates

Month	First Week	Second Week	Third Week	Fourth Week
August	Aug 1-5	Aug 8-12	Aug 15-19	Aug 22-26
September	Sep 5-9	Sep 12-16	Sep 19-23	Sep 26-30
October	Oct 3-7	Oct 10-14	Oct 17-21	Oct 24-28
November	Oct 31-Nov 4	Nov 7-11	Nov 14-18	Nov-21-25

Do you have an outstanding traffic warrant? Want to save some money and keep the warrant from showing up on your driving record?

During the month of September the City of Lancaster is joining with eight other cities in a deferred program for traffic warrants. Lancaster will waive the "failure to appear" charge on all traffic warrants and grant deferred disposition on the original offense, saving money and a charge on your record. For more information, please call Lancaster Municipal Court at 972-223-1884. You must appear in person — payments by mail will not be accepted for this offer. For program specifics on area cities, contact Cedar Hill 972-291-5100 ext 1041, Desoto 972-230-9673, Duncanville 972-780-5055, Hutchins 972-225-6121, Ferris 972-842-2028, Ovilla 972-617-7262, Red Oak 972-218-7700, and Wilmer 972-441-6372.

LANCASTER CONNECTION is a quarterly publication produced by staff of the City of Lancaster. It is designed to inform citizens about programs, services, policies and events. There is no cost to residents for this publication and it is printed by Dallas Offset, Inc. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding this publication, please contact the following:

City of Lancaster
Attn: Community Relations
Post Office Box 940
Lancaster, Texas 75146
<http://lancaster.city-crm.com>
972-218-1134



Fall trash-off event
Saturday, September 17, 2005
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Lancaster Fall Trash-Off is an opportunity for Lancaster residents to clean-up their property and volunteer to help clean-up rights-of-ways and alleys in their neighborhood.

Collection Locations: 200 S. Dallas Avenue (Town Square parking lot)
1901 Cedardale Rd (Cedardale softball park)

- Trash-Off participants will be able to deposit bulk trash in dumpsters.
Refreshments will be located at 200 S. Dallas Ave. (Town Square parking lot).

**No paint, oil or hazardous materials will be accepted.

The city has a right to refuse materials that appear to be hazardous in nature.

Trash-Off is the perfect opportunity to trim your trees and bushes from overhanging the street, sidewalk or alleyways.



Free Tire and Battery Recycling
Proof of residency required

For more information you may call
Neighborhood Services at 972-218-1101

Litter Facts and Trivia:

- You can be fined up to \$500 for littering in Texas.
It can take a beer bottle one thousand years to biodegrade.
Litter can harm animals.

Visit www.dontmesswithtexas.org to learn more.

Who Keeps Texas Beautiful?
You do!



Is your pet missing?



Many dogs are picked up by Animal Control Officers and never claimed by their owners at the Animal Shelter.

To insure that your pet is safely returned to you, place a collar and tag with address and owner information on your pet.



Another way to insure a safe return of your dog is to register your pet at the Animal Shelter. By registering your dog you will receive a City of Lancaster tag with a tracking number to assist in returning your pet if it is lost.

To register your dog or to visit the Animal Shelter the hours of operation are Monday through Friday 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



The Animal Shelter is located at 690 E Main Street.
For additional information you may call Neighborhood Services Division at (972) 227-1342.







Lancaster named All America City Finalist

The City of Lancaster was honored to be named among the top 30 finalists in the National Civic League's 2005 All-America City Award, and although Lancaster was not named as one of the top 10 communities in the awards ceremony, the delegation remained upbeat and positive about the experience.

National Civic League president, Christopher T. Gates said "All of these finalists are already serving as role models for the rest of the country." Annually, thousands of cities begin the application process and realize they do not have the civic infrastructure or community involvement to compete. Lancaster has businesses, non-profits, churches, schools, and government involvement that is the fabric and pattern for other cities across America to model and use in their communities to achieve tangible results.

The Lancaster delegation cheered on the 10 communities named 2005 All-America Cities, which included:

- Seward, Alaska
- Port Huron, Michigan
- Winchester, Virginia
- Popano Beach, Florida
- Georgetown County, South Carolina
- Orangeburg County, South Carolina
- Lauderhill, Florida
- Carrollton, Missouri
- Canoga Park, California
- Willmar, Minnesota

Lancaster competed with 29 other exceptional finalist communities. These communities were given the opportunity to "tell their story," in 10-minute presentations to a jury of nine judges followed by a 10-minute question and answer session. Lancaster simulated a baseball game to tell its story of team work, partnership and collaboration to describe the Business Retention and Expansion Program (BREP), Children First partnership with the school district, and the reorganization of city services to include a Neighborhood Services and Community Relations Division.

"This was an incredible process and we are all proud to have been part of it," said City Manager Jim Landon. This experience has served as a catalyst to re-energize the spirit of partnership and collaboration amongst community stakeholders. Lancaster benefited tremendously from learning the stories of the

other finalists, and we're excited to bring these program ideas and pride in our community back to Lancaster.





1120 Randlett St.



We can turn your donations of clothes, furniture, appliances, household items into cash to assist local families

Who we are

Mission Statement:

Lancaster Outreach Center, an inter-faith social service agency, is committed to relieving suffering, restoring human dignity, and promoting self-sufficiency, by providing assistance and support to the people of South Dallas County.

LOC Social Services

- Emergency Assistance
Food Pantry
Case Management
Budget Assistance
Home Rehabilitation
School Supplies
Christmas Toys
Job Training & Referrals
Thrift Store

LOC Counseling Services

- Individual Counseling
Parenting Groups
Marriage & Family Counseling
School Groups



To make arrangements for large items, call 972-218-6790

What we need

- Clothing - good quality in all type sizes and seasons for children, women and men
Clothing accessories
Shoes, purses, belts
Bedding
Housewares - pots, pans, plates, glassware
Toys - games
Working TVs, radios and appliances
Furniture

Proceeds from all sales benefit the assistance programs of LOC.

NEED ASSISTANCE? DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO CALL?

Table with 2 columns: Service Name and Phone Number. Includes Animal Control, Building Inspections, Cable, Chamber of Commerce, City Hall, etc.

What to do

- Donations may be brought to Granny's Storehouse. Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., or Saturday from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Items can be left outside the store at other hours.
For large items, call 972-218-6790 to schedule a pick up.
Tax donation receipts are available.

Be sure to shop Granny's Storehouse 123 Alexander St. Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Check our website for more information: www.l-o-c.org



What's New at County View

By David Royar

Country View Golf Course is going through a face-lift. Our plush green fairways have been reshaped to make it a little tighter and the Bermuda greens are in the best shape they have ever been. If you play here you can play anywhere. The elevated greens are undulated and rolling great. Trees have been trimmed, and over the next few years we plan to plant about two hundred new trees. We're planting Bradford pears, bald cypress, live oak, and Shumard red oak trees. We have recently expanded the driving range to accommodate up to thirty golfers from just fifteen. We have also enlarged our putting green and created a chipping green on the east side of the clubhouse.

In September, we will over-seed our greens with Bent grass and convert the greens year round. Also three new tees on #7, #14 and #17 will open to lengthen the course a bit. Next season, with the improvements to the driving range and practice facilities, we plan to have a full time instructor on board. This will allow us to expand the teaching programs.

At our facility you can work on your entire game, plus play a challenging yet enjoyable round of golf. We offer:



- Private and group lessons with PGA professionals.
- Everyday at noon, we have a group of golfers get together for "the game". It's a little tournament in which the teams are picked by handicap.
- On Thursdays at 7:30 a.m., the seniors get together and play different formats.

All of these events are open to the public. We would love to have you.

For more information about our facility and staff, visit our website at www.countyviewgolfcourse.com or come see for yourself. We are located at 240 W. Beltline Rd. For reservations, please call 972-227-0995. We look forward to seeing you!

The Lancaster Texas Heritage Park Foundation presents...

Christmas Lights & Tour of Homes

Would you enjoy Christmas lights outlining the Gazebo at Heritage Park this December? Would you enjoy a Tour of Homes this December to help pay for the lights? Several of your neighbors have come together to make this happen!

To those in Lancaster who in the past have decorated their homes with Christmas lights, THANK YOU! Your neighbors are now asking that as many as possible join them and decorate the front of their homes too! The Christmas tree at the Recreation Center is a beautiful display from Dallas Avenue...Lancaster needs more lights which can create a wonderland for all families to enjoy. That is the main idea: Christmas lights for families to view and at the gazebo, for children to play, and no fee will be collected at the park in order to enjoy the lights and Christmas trees. The goal is to turn on the Christmas lights Thanksgiving night and to keep glowing until New Year's Eve.

When is the tour of Homes? The first Saturday in December, the same day of the Christmas parade, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Four homes will open for visitors to view. The homes include:

A Restored 1950's Ranch
Artist Cottage with unusual faux finishes
19th Century restored home
The Strain Farm

The cost of the tour is \$15.00, and tickets will be sold at The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce office. Tickets go on sale in October; tour home addresses will be on the ticket.

Make checks payable to The Lancaster Texas Heritage Park Foundation. This nonprofit foundation wishes to enhance public spaces for community use and enjoyment beginning with Heritage Park. The foundation accepts donations. If you are interested in further information, please contact Nell Mazoch at 214-537-5046.

See you at the Heritage Park Gazebo and Tour of Homes!



August

- 6 Back 2 School Parade & Event, Heritage Park, 972-218-1400
- 8 School starts, 972-218-1400
- 8 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145
- 10 7:00 p.m. Library-Indirect evidence with Glenn Kinkade, 972-227-1080
- 11 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Chamber Luncheon, 972-227-2579
- 13 10:00 a.m. Second Saturday on the Square, 972-227-7010
- 13 Chamber of Commerce Garage Sale, 972-227-2579
- 16 10:00 a.m. Pre-school story hour resumes, 972-227-1080
- 22 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145
- 23 7:00 p.m. Latest book reviews at the library, 972-227-1080

Aug-Sept National Library Card Sign-Up

September

- Hispanic Heritage Month
- 5 Labor Day-city offices closed
- 10 10:00 a.m. Second Saturday on the Square, 972-227-7010
- 11 Grandparent's Day
- 12 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145
- 14 7:00 p.m. Library-Dating old photographs with Betsy Mills, 972-227-1080
- 17 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Fall Trash Off, Neighborhood Services, 972-218-1101
- 17 Citizenship Day
- 26 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145
- 27 7:00 p.m. Big Tex with Jerry Giles, 972-227-1080

- 29 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. BSW Chamber Luncheon, 972-227-2579

October

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Dental Hygiene Month, Children's Health Month
- Tickets on Sale for Christmas Tour of Homes
- 3-7 Fire Prevention Week, 972-227-1813
- 8 10:00 a.m. Second Saturday on the Square, 972-227-7010
- 10 Chamber Golf Tournament
- 10 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145
- 10 Columbus Day
- 13 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Chamber Luncheon, 972-227-2579
- 24 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145
- 25 7:00 p.m. Library-Ghost stories with Dan Gibson, 972-227-1080
- 29 PumpkinFest 2005-Parks & Rec. 972-227-1112
- 30 Daylight Savings Time ends
- 31 Halloween

November

- 8 Election Day
- 9 7:00 p.m. Library-Obituaries: There's more to them than meets the eye-Bill Dow, 972-227-1080
- 10 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Chamber Luncheon, 972-227-2579
- 14 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 972-227-1145

Holiday Closing

City offices will be closed in observance of the following holiday:
Labor Day Monday, September 5th

Authorization for Bank Drafting

I authorize the City of Lancaster, Utility Billing Department to debit my account each month for the amount of services billed to my water utility account. I also authorize my financial institution identified below to debit same amounts from my account.

Please Print

Name of Financial Institution

City State Zip

Please check the appropriate boxes

- Bank Savings & Loan
- Credit Union Other
- Checking Account Savings Account

Customer Name

Address

Water Utility Account Number

Signature Date

A copy of my voided check is attached.

(RETURN THIS PART WITH A VOIDED CHECK TO 211 N. HENRY STREET.)

Water Utility Billing

Bank Drafting!
It's EASY, CONVENIENT and Free!

Bank Drafting is a service that we offer to our City of Lancaster Water Utility customers. This service is provided to allow you to have your payment transferred each month directly from your bank account. The information listed below will help you understand more about this type of payment method and how you can sign up for bank drafting.

- ◆ With bank drafting, you will receive your regular utility bill each month. Printed on the bill will be the short message "BANK DRAFT 00/00/00". There will be a date after the words bank draft that will indicate the date when the money will be transferred out of your account.
- ◆ On this bank draft date, the money for the payment of utility bill will be automatically transferred from your bank account. You may cancel the bank draft service at anytime you desire. In order to have no monies deducted from your bank account after a utility bill has been mailed, you can stop the bank draft anytime up to seven (7) days after the billing date by calling the Utility Billing Department at 972-227-7942.
- ◆ You can apply for this service simply by completing the attached authorization form and returning it to the Utility Billing Department along with a voided check.
- ◆ You are reminded that inadequate funds or any other problems with our bank account that result in no transfer of funds from your account will be processed by the City of Lancaster as a returned check. Also a returned check fee will be assessed for this business transaction.
- ◆ If you have any questions regarding this service, please call the Utility Billing Department at 972-227-7942 or stop by and visit city hall at 211 N. Henry Street.

For Your Records

Date: _____

I authorize the City of Lancaster to debit my account each month for the amount of services billed to my water utility account. I authorize my financial institution to debit same accounts from my account. This authority is to remain in effect until I have notified the City of Lancaster, Utility Billing Department in writing or in person to terminate this Bank Drafting agreement.