



ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 19

May 2019

CITY GETS REBUILD TEXAS GRANT TO BUILD ITS FIRST EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC)

Aransas Pass will be getting its first EOC thanks to the Rebuild Texas Fund. It has awarded the City a half-million dollar grant to make improvements to the City Council Chambers at City Hall and to purchase needed emergency equipment. The City Council Chambers served as the EOC during Hurricane Harvey. However, with the grant dollars, the room will be given some hardening and the needed equipment so it can serve a dual purpose. The City Council will hold its meetings there and the Emergency Operations Center will have a permanent location during City Emergencies. Work should be completed during calendar year 2019 or early in 2020.



During our post-hurricane period, the Rebuild Texas Fund has been very kind to Aransas Pass. In addition to paying for a new, critically needed, EOC, they have paid for many other projects, including the match for the new water tower now under construction. This allows the city to not have any water tower expenses.



CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS TO HAVE DUAL PURPOSE

Seen to the left is a picture of the Aransas Pass City Council Chambers. This large room will serve the dual purpose of a City Council meeting room and the much needed Emergency Operations Center (EOC). When completed in 2019 all emergency operations will be coordinated from this room.

ARANSAS PASS HAS THIRD CLEAN-UP DAY THIS YEAR

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



To the Mayor and City Council

During a recent City Council meeting, the following public report was given to the Aransas Pass Mayor, Ramiro Gomez and City Council as a FY19 six-month update on Accomplishments and Status of Goals so far this year. These accomplishments and goals are the result of policies and directives set by the Mayor and City Council

SEVERAL (BUT NOT ALL) OF THE POST-HARVEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ **INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.** The City is riddled with old and leaking water and sewer lines and roads in need of repair. They were made worse by Hurricane Harvey. A large amount of the repair work will be done with assistance from FEMA and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Rebuild Texas is also assisting.
- ✓ **GRANTS.** Numerous grants have been received worth millions of dollars from EDA, The State of Texas, The Rebuild Texas Fund, Lion's Club and others.
- ✓ **FEMA.** Harvey resulted in the need for 39 recovery projects in Aransas Pass. Many of these projects contain multiple smaller plans. So far, almost half of them are completed.
- ✓ **EOC.** The City's first Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be built thanks to the financial support of the Rebuild Texas Fund. Work will start this Spring.
- ✓ **BUDGET.** Before Harvey, the General Fund balance – a measurement of the City financial health - was in the single digits. That is a terrible position to be in. We now are up to 20% and moving upward.
- ✓ **CLEANUP.** 37 unsafe structures demolished within a few months. This is part of the City's clean-up effort.
- ✓ **CLEANUP.** Several weekend citywide clean-ups held. A major clean-up was held on April 27th.
- ✓ **CLEANUP.** The Code Enforcement department has been working to clean-up the city. Another code enforcement officer has been hired.
- ✓ **BUILDING DEPARTMENT.** The Building and Code Enforcement Department continues to be streamlined to provide better and faster customer service.
- ✓ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.** New multiplex Movie Theater is under construction.
- ✓ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.** New bowling alley set to open in 2019.
- ✓ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.** Hotel Candlewood should be completed in late 2019.
- ✓ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.** Motel 6 has started earthwork.
- ✓ **CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT.** New City Webpage is complete.
- ✓ **CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT.** City has started a monthly newsletter. It has been in place for almost two years.
- ✓ **HOUSING.** All apartment complexes should be operational within a year.
- ✓ **HOUSING.** Hogan Homes is selling at a fast pace and other family homes are being built.
- ✓ **CONN BROWN.** Design work is underway on the \$5 million EDA grant at Conn Brown Harbor for the construction of new roads and a walking/bike path.
- ✓ **CONN BROWN.** Other Harbor Point Park (at Conn Brown Harbor) improvements are underway.
- ✓ **CONN BROWN.** The City's first-ever complete land survey of Conn Brown Harbor is now finished.
- ✓ **CONN BROWN.** Conn Brown Harbor cannot be developed until the environmental work is complete. This work has remained undone for many years. However, the Mayor and Council required last year that the clean-up work start immediately and will be complete in a few months.
- ✓ **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.** City's first Comprehensive Plan is completed and is being used.
- ✓ **DRAINAGE.** City's first citywide drainage study will start in 2019.
- ✓ **CIVIC CENTER.** Civic Center and Aquatic Center storm repairs virtually complete.
- ✓ **CITY SERVICES TO ANNEXED AREA.** We are extending a sewer line to Sherwood Forest. Funding has been obtained and design work is underway.

On April 27th the City had another clean-up day. Volunteers, city staff and Absolute waste participated in the half day event. Two grapple trucks, a trash truck and many pick-up trucks with trailers belonging to volunteers, Mayor Ram Gomez, and several city Council Members, and City Staff assisted with the clean-up. Drop-offs at the transfer station were free that day to City residents. Another drop off site for debris was at Rife and Deberry (see picture below). All drop off sites were filled to overflowing by 11 am. Consequently, other clean-up days will be scheduled soon



**LAST DAY TO VOTE IS
SATURDAY MAY 4TH**

The last day to vote in the municipal election is Saturday May 4th. Early voting ended on April 30th.

CONTACT US

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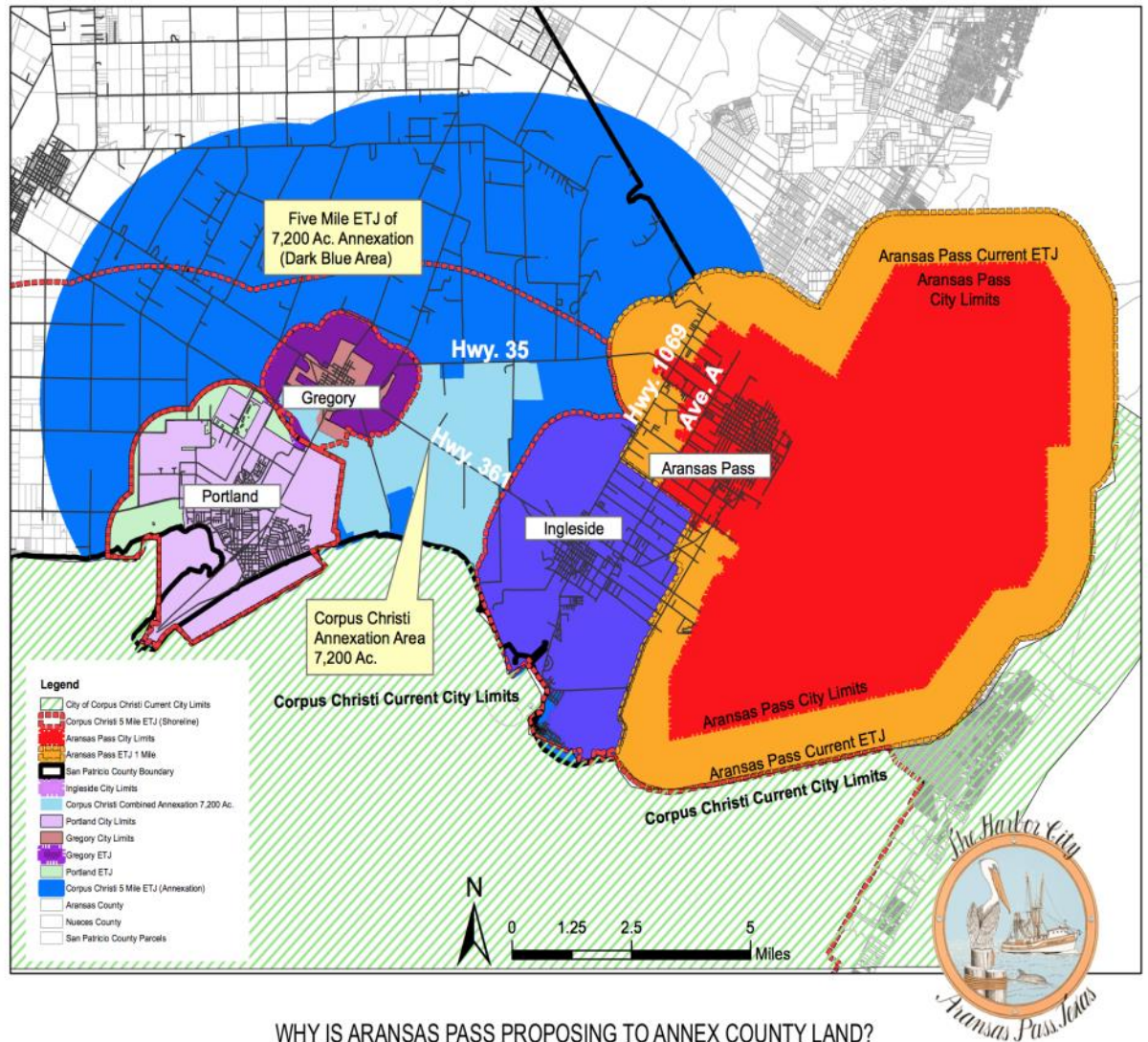
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SURVEY TEAM IN TOWN

As part of the City's efforts to secure grant funding for streets/drainage/sewer projects representatives of Grantworks, Inc will be in town performing a survey of area residents. We request that you cooperate with the survey team so they can gather the needed information for the Community Development Block Grant through the General Land Office. The team will have ID's.



WHY IS ARANSAS PASS PROPOSING TO ANNEX COUNTY LAND?

The City of Aransas Pass recently announced plans to annex land north of our current city limits. This proposed annexation comes down to doing nothing and allowing ourselves to be surrounded by Corpus Christi; or to be proactive and take steps to shape our own economic development future.

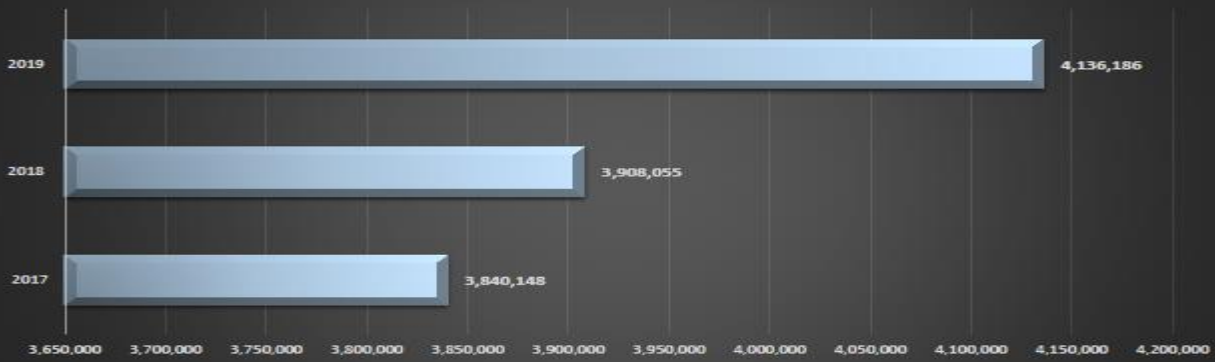
The purpose of this proposed annexation is to protect Aransas Pass from a 7,200 acre planned Corpus Christi annexation. They will have their final vote on May 21st. See the attached map. The map is designed to show the impact of the proposed Corpus Christi Annexation on Aransas Pass. The red area is the Aransas Pass City Limits. The gold colored area is the Aransas Pass ETJ (Extraterritorial Jurisdiction). ETJ is the legal ability of a city to have authority beyond its boundaries. However, land in a City's ETJ is not subject to city codes and zoning. In Texas, cities over 100,000 in population may extend their ETJ to five miles beyond their boundaries. Based on State law, Corpus Christi has a 5 mile ETJ while Aransas Pass has a 1 mile ETJ. The large dark blue area will be the Corpus Christi ETJ after it votes to annex the light blue area on May 21st. Although they cannot enter our ETJ, they come right up to it and prevent our citizens from shaping their future growth. The green lines are the current Corpus Christi city boundaries. As can be seen, the current Corpus Christi city boundaries come up to and surround a large section of Aransas Pass.

Most of Aransas Pass is in the water, so the only place left for us to annex land and protect Aransas Pass from Corpus Christi is to the North. Additionally, under consideration are several non-residential acres that would protect a main entrance to the City.

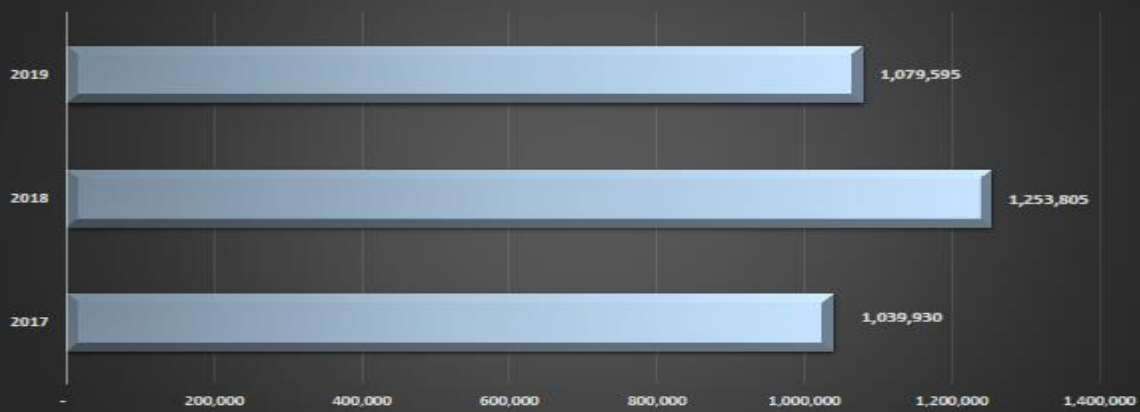
There were rumors that Corpus Christi had backed away from their plans to annex the 7,200 acres. We contacted the interim Corpus Christi City Manager and he said those rumors are not true. They plan to continue with their annexation.

The scheduled public hearings for the proposed annexations are April 30th, May 1st, May 17th and May 18th.

Property Tax Collected Year To Date as of March 31, 2019



Sales Tax Collected Year to Date as of March 31, 2019



Expenditures Budget vs Actual Oct. 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019

