



CEDAR HILL HIGHLIGHTS

CITY OF CEDAR HILL RECOGNIZED BY NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR 34TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to City of Cedar Hill for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

The financial report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The City of Cedar Hill has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 34 consecutive years.

In conjunction with this award, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has also been presented to the Finance Department for their commitment to excellence in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

The City of Cedar Hill’s annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR) is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and includes financial statements and statistical information about the City organization.

The ACFR is published each spring following an external audit and review by the city council. A copy of the report is available online in the Finance section of the City’s website, cedarhilltx.com.

TRI-CITY TALES: MR. JAMES



When James Hicks retired nine years ago, he never planned on a second career. After working decades in the grocery distribution business, he was ready for time off. He was in his late 70s by then. He spent his time doing retiree stuff: volunteering at his church, riding his bike and walking his German shepherd.

But his daily dog walks took him right past Tri-City Animal Shelter. One day, he decided to stop in and see if they might need volunteers. The answer was yes. (The answer is always yes.) He spent several months helping out wherever he could, first a few days a week, and then almost daily. He fell in love with every dog he met, compelled to make each animal feel needed, and loved. "They are here through no fault of their own," he says.

One day when the shelter was trying to fill a part-time staff position, director Tammy Miller asked if he would be interested in applying for the job. "You're here all the time anyway," she told him. "You might as well get paid for it."

He started in the work room, doing laundry and washing dishes. He soon moved to animal care. Today, "Mr. James," as the staff calls him, arrives at 7:30 am three or four days a week, feeding dogs and taking them for walks outside. He drives the van taking animals to other shelters and charities.

If there's a need, he never says no – answering texts with heart and puppy feet emojis.

Once, a woman from a rescue organization was supposed to meet him at the shelter to pick up a dog. She had car trouble, and did not arrive until well after dark. Mr. James, who had started his shift early that morning, was still there to meet her.

Now 85, Mr. James is the oldest city employee in Cedar Hill. He has no plans for a second retirement. After all, there are too many dogs who need him.

Tri-City Tales are published monthly by the Friends of Tri-City Animal Shelter. To subscribe, visit tricityfriends.org.



PEOPLE MAKE IT A COMMUNITY



Tyson, from Waterford Oaks Elementary, was recognized by CHFD for his bravery during a family medical emergency.



DeSoto Mayor Rachel Proctor and State Representative Toni Rose joined Mayor Stephen Mason for an upcoming podcast episode. Listen to The Elevate Effect on any major podcast platform.



Members of the Cedar Hill Police Department, city staff, and elected officials participated in a Neighborhood Walk in the Lake Ridge area in December.

UPCOMING EVENTS



MLK HOLIDAY MONDAY, JANUARY 20

City facilities, including the Alan E. Sims Recreation Center, Tri-City Animal Shelter, Traphene Hickman Library, and Senior Activity Center will be closed in observance of the holiday.



PAPER SHREDDING MARCH 8 | 9 A.M. TO NOON GOVERNMENT CENTER

Secure paper shred at the Cedar Hill Government Center. Bring up to 3 boxes of residential household paper waste.



FIRST SATURDAY AT DOGWOOD CANYON AUDUBON CENTER

FEB 1 | 8:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

1206 W. FM 1382

Join DCAC for a morning of fun with a bird walk, yoga, and bird bingo! Details and registration at dogwood.audubon.org.



MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

FEB 6 | 7:30 A.M.

ALAN E. SIMS RECREATION CENTER

Join Mayor Stephen Mason and Transformation Vision for food and fellowship at the Alan E. Sims Recreation Center at 7:30 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

JANUARY 14 FEBRUARY 11
JANUARY 28 FEBRUARY 25

The City Council meets at the Cedar Hill Government Center at 6 p.m. Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance at cedarhilltx.com/agenda.

SCHEDULE AT-YOUR-DOOR PICKUP FOR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Residents can schedule home pick up for unwanted household hazardous waste materials through Waste Management's At Your Door Special CollectionSM. To schedule a home collection, visit WMAYourDoor.com or call 800-449-7587 (M-F, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)



Automotive Products

Antifreeze, batteries, brake fluid, motor oil and filters, fuels and more



Paint Products

Caulk, glue, paint, spray paints, stains, strippers & thinners



Electronics

Music players, TVs, DVD/CD Players, VCRs, cell phones, microwaves, computers



Garden Chemicals

Fertilizers, insect sprays, herbicides, pesticides & weed killers



Household Chemicals

Ammonia, heavy-duty cleansers, shower/tile cleaners, drain cleaners



Household Items

Batteries, compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), thermometers, thermostats

ANGELA SELF NAMED PLANNING DIRECTOR

The City of Cedar Hill appointed Angela Self to lead the City's Planning Department. Self fills a vacancy created as former Planning Director Chasidy Benson was promoted to Assistant City Manager.

Self brings more than 26 years of experience in long-range planning, community engagement, and project management to the role of planning director in Cedar Hill. Before joining the Cedar Hill team, she managed planning and development for the City of Garland, leading complex revitalization and redevelopment initiatives.



Her expertise and contributions to the field have earned her awards from organizations such as the American Planning Association (APA) Texas Chapter, Neighborhoods USA, Greater Dallas Planning Council, and Preservation Dallas. In recognition of her achievements, Self was recently inducted into the AICP College of Fellows, the highest honor bestowed by the American Institute of Certified Planners.

"Angela is exceptionally qualified to lead our community's planning efforts," said City Manager Melissa Valadez-Cummings. "Her education, professional credentials, and passion for community engagement make her a perfect fit for Cedar Hill. We are delighted to welcome her to our team."

Self holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies from Jackson State University and a Master of Arts degree in Urban and Regional Planning from The University of Iowa. She serves as Chair of the American Planning Association (APA) Housing and Community Development Division and actively volunteers with local and national housing policy and advocacy efforts, including the APA Housing Accelerator, a national campaign to improve capacity, identify critical solutions, and speed reforms to produce, preserve and provide a diverse range of quality housing.

FREQUENTLY USED NUMBERS

- Emergency 911
- Administration (972) 293-1467
- After Hours (972) 780-6643
- Animal Control (972) 223-6111
- Animal Shelter (972) 291-5335
- Fire Dept. (972) 291-1011
(Non-Emergency)
- Library (972) 291-7323
- Municipal Court (972) 291-5100
ext. 1041
- Neighborhood Services (469)-272-2801
- Parks & Recreation (972) 291-5100
ext. 1500
- Police Dept. (972) 291-5100
(Non-Emergency) ext. 2400
- Recreation Center (972) 293-5288
- Senior Center (972) 291-5353
- Trash & Recycling (800) 772-8653
- Utility Billing (469) 272-2931

SOCIAL MEDIA

- @CityofCedarHill
- @CedarHillTX
- @CityofCedarHillGovernment
- @CedarHillTXVideo

