

# City Administrator's Report



**To:** Mayor Alexander & City Council  
**CC:** Staff  
**From:** R. Scott Dixon, City Administrator  
**Date:** September 17, 2025  
**Re:** City Administrator's Report

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Mayor and Council,

As always, there are many irons in the fire and lots happening in our wonderful Castroville! The items listed below are in no particular order and only cover some of the issues that have been inquired about or that council has requested to be kept up to date on. If you have any questions about any of these items or there are other things that you would like for me to report on, please let me know.

## "London Lot" Debris Piles

Following concerns from Councilman Lee and complaints from a neighbor, staff met with the concerned citizen to discuss the city's London Lot drainage and use as a storage location for spoils. Over the past several months, staff and contractors have been dumping project site spoils that are suitable for fill material on this lot. This material will be used to fill in the east pond at the wastewater treatment plant. To my knowledge, this lot has been used for this purpose for many years. Councilman Lee will discuss establishing a policy related the lot's use at a future council meeting.

## Streets Improvement Plan

**No Change.** Staff met with the same consultant that Hondo has used to develop and address their street maintenance plan. This vendor offers a product called HA-5. Staff will continue to work to develop a street improvement and maintenance plan which will likely entail an updated street assessment (the last one was conducted in 2020). Information about HA5 and the proposed plan will be shared at a future meeting for council's input and direction.

## CPSE Dispute

Staff is working to schedule a meeting with CPSE CEO, Rudy Garza, no date has been established. Staff was informed that the outside counsel that CPSE had been using to negotiate

our disputed items has accepted a position with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). Castroville's outside counsel – Tom Anson, has contacted CPSE's inside counsel, Gabriel Garcia, to arrange a meeting with the attorney(s) that will be assigned our case. No date has been set but staff views these communications as positive developments that may lead to renewed discussions in the near future.

#### Railroad Commission Notice of Violation

The notice of violation that was previously reported on has been resolved by the submission of the required report. Thank you to John Gomez, his staff and our consultants for resolving this quickly.

#### WWTP Pond Closure

Staff recently met with Councilman King to discuss the pond closures. The growth of some weedy vegetation has slowed the evaporation of the east pond. Staff will be working to empty the pond over the next couple of weeks. TxDOT has communicated that they will have significant spoils to deliver in October/November which may be sufficient to finish this project. Staff will be creating a small berm at the northern end of the existing pond to allow for seasonal ponding. Our streets and drainage crew are prioritizing the Geneva drainage channel and other Athens-area work, so the timeline for this project is not certain.

#### Geneva Drainage Channel

Work on this project has continued albeit slowly due to rain and staff shortages. The channel has been narrowed considerably in-line with the channel design. Additional work towards the river has been hampered by the muddy conditions. Additional compaction will need to be performed. Staff will continue to coordinate with the landowners. Per council direction at the August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff will reach out to Mr. Hancock to request that his fence be relocated out of the city's right-of-way.

#### Garza Creek Drainage Project

**No Change.** Staff has met with one of the owners along the channel and is working to set up appointments with the others to secure the necessary easement to perform the proposed channel improvements.

#### Community Center at Regional Park

Staff recently conducted a walk-through of the Community Center at Regional Park project. The walls and roof are up, dry-in should take place in the next few weeks. The project is still on schedule to be completed by mid January.

### Lion's Park Splash Pad

Staff met with councilman King and Councilman Lee to review and discuss the splashpad construction, failures and proposed remedies. Councilman King is going to work with staff to evaluate the slab and various piping issues – seven of the thirteen water features are not functioning and appear to have broken or clogged lines. Councilman King's preliminary assessment indicates that repairs may be able to be made without having to tear out and replace the slab. Thank you to Councilman King for his efforts and assistance with this issue.

### County Streets Plan

I received a call from Judge Lutz earlier this week. He is working to get the agreement drafted and put before the county commission.

### Staffing Changes

Unfortunately, our Gas Supervisor, Javier, has tendered his resignation – he has accepted a position with another company. We are sad to see him go and wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Staff will be working to hire a gas technician over the coming weeks.

There is a lot going on in the City of Castroville! If I have left anything out of this report, it was not intentional. **If there is anything else that is of particular concern to you, please let me know so that I can include it on a future report.** As always, my door is open should you have need to speak with me. It is my pleasure to serve the people of Castroville.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Scott Dixon".

R. Scott Dixon, MPA

City Administrator, Castroville, TX