



# City of Hitchcock

Newsletter April 2022

## BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

The City of Hitchcock is actively seeking individuals who are interested in serving on the Building Standards Commission. The Building Standards Commission is comprised of five members. They hold office for a period of two years, or until their successors are appointed; three members of the Commission shall serve for terms of two years and two members shall serve for one year, terms beginning in 2022; thereafter new members will be appointed for two-year terms. As much as practical at least three members should be qualified in one or more of the fields of fire prevention, building construction, sanitation, health and public safety. The Commission typically meets once per month.

The Building Standards Commission considers recommendations from the city Fire Marshall, Building Official, Code Enforcement Officer, Police Officer, etc. on mitigation of substandard buildings or structures as defined in city ordinance. Such structures constitute a menace to the health, safety or general welfare of its occupants or to the general public and are declared to be public nuisances and ordered to be vacated, repaired or demolished.

Interested individuals should copy and paste the link below into their browser, complete the application and e-mail to [rsorrell@cityofhitchcock.org](mailto:rsorrell@cityofhitchcock.org) or mail to:

The City of Hitchcock  
City Secretary  
7423 Hwy 6  
Hitchcock, TX 77563



[https://cms9files.revize.com/hitchcocktx/document\\_center/City%20Secretary/Application%20for%20City%20Boards,%20Commissions%20or%20Committees/Fillable%20Application%20for%20Board%20%20Commission.pdf](https://cms9files.revize.com/hitchcocktx/document_center/City%20Secretary/Application%20for%20City%20Boards,%20Commissions%20or%20Committees/Fillable%20Application%20for%20Board%20%20Commission.pdf)

Contact Arnie Cross at (409) 986-5591 or email [development@cityofhitchcock.org](mailto:development@cityofhitchcock.org) for additional information.

## GET INVOLVED

Hitchcock is seeking volunteers.

Serving on a City board or commission is an excellent way to serve your community. The City is currently accepting applications for the Building Standards Commission, Board of Adjustments and the Disaster Assessment Team. If you are interested in serving on of these, please complete the on-line application and return to the City Hall or email to the City Secretary at [rsorrell@cityofhitchcock.org](mailto:rsorrell@cityofhitchcock.org) . You may attach your resume and any additional material you would like considered with your application.

[https://cms9files.revize.com/hitchcocktx/document\\_center/City%20Secretary/Application%20for%20City%20Boards,%20Commissions%20or%20Committees/Fillable%20Application%20for%20Board%20%20Commission.pdf](https://cms9files.revize.com/hitchcocktx/document_center/City%20Secretary/Application%20for%20City%20Boards,%20Commissions%20or%20Committees/Fillable%20Application%20for%20Board%20%20Commission.pdf)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Building Standards Commission.....	1
Get Involved.....	1
May 7, 2022 Special Election.....	2
RU OK Program.....	2
Ways To Pay Your Utility Bill.....	2
AmeriWaste Curbside Collection Guidelines.....	3
IRS Scams.....	3
Water Conservation Tips.....	3
Spring E-Cycle Event.....	4
Contact Us.....	4



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- 4/15/2022 City Offices Will Be Closed for Good Friday Holiday
- 4/18/2022 City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 4/19/2022 Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting 6:00pm.
- 4/30/2022 City Wide E-Cycle Event 9:00am—1:00pm,

**MAY 7, 2022 SPECIAL ELECTION: PROPOSITION A**



**Early voting starts April 25, 2022 at the City Hall Building at 7423 Hwy 6 Authorizing the Hitchcock Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) to Undertake Any Project Under Chapter 505 of the Texas Local Government Code**

With changes on the horizon for the City of Hitchcock, the Hitchcock Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) has decided that a shift in its operations is necessary to better provide for its community members. The HEDC has operated as a Type A Development Corporation since its inception in 1982. As a Type A, the HEDC is required to use its sales tax revenue for specific projects which bring primary jobs to the community.

Type A projects include: manufacturing and industrial facilities, recycling facilities, distribution centers, small warehouse facilities, research and development facilities, regional or national corporate headquarters facilities, primary job training facilities operated by higher education institutions, job training classes, telephone call centers and career centers, certain infrastructure improvements, aviation and port facilities, as well as a few others.

While these types of projects have been the main focus of the HEDC since its founding, the HEDC has also noticed that much of the city’s commercial and small business market has lapsed due to a number of factors over time. In an effort to remediate this issue, as well as bring about community enhancement projects that would benefit the city, its citizens, and the HEDC’s business recruitment efforts, **the Hitchcock HEDC is seeking authority to allow the HEDC to perform any project under Chapter 505 of the Texas Local Government Code in an election to be held in May.**

If Proposition A is adopted, it will grant the HEDC the ability to perform a wider range of projects which are aimed at quality-of-life improvements and commercial development usually granted to Type B Development Corporations.

Type B Development Corporations have the same authority of a Type A, as well as the ability to spend funds on projects related to: professional and amateur sports and athletic facilities, tourism and entertainment facilities, convention facilities and public parks, public safety facilities, general municipally owned improvements, commercial development, and other similar items.

---

**HITCHCOCK POLICE DEPARTMENT’S R U OK PROGRAM**

The ‘RU OK?’ program is a FREE service that establishes a relationship between senior citizen participants and the Hitchcock Police Department. The goal is to establish regular phone calls inquiring about the welfare of the participants. During the call, participants are asked "Are You OK?" If they answer "yes" they may simply hang up and continue with their day. If a concern is expressed, the officer will determine the nature of the concern and determine if a response to the residence is necessary. Unanswered calls or busy signals are called back. If there is still no response, the officer will visit the residence for a safety check.

For additional information about the program or to register yourself or another please contact Sgt. Wilson at [nwilson@hitchcockpd.com](mailto:nwilson@hitchcockpd.com) or by phone at (409) 795-1517

**WAYS TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL**



**Online at**  
[cityofhitchcock.org](http://cityofhitchcock.org)  
or by automatic bill pay



**By Phone at**  
(833) 282-0826



**In Person at City Hall**  
7423 Hwy. 6  
Or the Drop Box  
In the parking lot



**By Mail at**  
7423 Hwy 6  
Hitchcock, TX 77563

*Cash, Check, Money Order, Credit Card*

*The City of Hitchcock bills every month for water, sewer, and garbage services. If you have questions about you bill, contact the Utility Department at (409) 986-5591.*

**A \$50.00 administrative processing fee is added when a bill is not paid by the cut off date.  
This fee is for the cost of managing the delinquency process for past due accounts.**

## AMERIWASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION GUIDELINES



Keeping our City beautiful is a unified effort and we need your help by properly disposing of your household and yard waste. Please review the waste collection guidelines provided below and help spread the word on proper waste disposal.

### Curbside Collection Guidelines:

- Residential services shall occur between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on the scheduled collection days.
- Containers should be placed inside the curb or drain ditch line of the street near the front property line in a location providing convenient access to the collectors, only on the days designated for residential collection.
- All household waste must be bagged or placed in a container not to exceed a weight of 50lbs.
- Only six (6) items of solid waste (containers, bundles, items, or combination of each), per pickup, per home.
- **Tree limbs, tree trimmings, brush, woody vines will only be collected if they are tied together in bundles.**
  - ⇒ **Bundles cannot exceed 4 feet in length and must be less than 50 pounds in weight.**
  - ⇒ **Brush can be placed in waste containers or bagged but cannot exceed 50 pounds in weight.**
- For bulk waste (items such as furniture, and medium sized appliances, large amount of bundled brush/tree limbs) you **MUST** call AmeriWaste at 281-331-8400 to schedule a pickup date. **DO NOT** place bulk waste at the curb prior to the scheduled pickup date.
- Large items, such as furniture, trees, limbs not bundled, and the like will not be picked up by the city or any contractor. The disposal of such items will be the responsibility of the residents.
- Rubble shall be removed by the owner at his own expense and shall be removed in a neat and sanitary manner.

Property owners are the first line of defense in keeping our community clean, safe, and an inviting place for current and future generations. By working together, we can preserve the historical, cultural, and aesthetic value of our community and make it something that we all truly treasure.

## IRS SCAMS

With Income Tax Return Season in full swing, IRS scams are likely to be on the rise as well. If you receive a suspicious phone call, please remember the tips listed below to help avoid being a victim this tax season.

### THE IRS WILL NOT:

- Make contact with you by phone, text, email or social media.
- Call you and demand you make an immediate payment.
- Require you to pay your taxes in a certain way.
- Ask you for personal information or threaten to have you arrested if you do not pay them immediately .
- Require you to purchase gift cards, such as iTunes, Green Dot, Amazon or any other for the purpose of tax payment.

If you feel you have become the victim of a scam, or any other type of fraud don't hesitate to contact the Hitchcock Police Department at (409) 986-5591.

## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

### Inside the home

- ◆ Never use any more water than necessary to complete a task.
- ◆ Fix leaks on faucets, sinks and toilets.
- ◆ Take short showers instead of baths.
- ◆ Turn off water while brushing teeth or shaving.
- ◆ Install low-flow showerheads and toilets.
- ◆ Keep cold beverages in the refrigerator and use ice only when needed.
- ◆ Keep a container of cold water in the refrigerator instead of waiting for water to cool from faucet.
- ◆ Fill sink half-way to rinse vegetables and fruit instead of rinsing one at a time under running water.
- ◆ Wash dishes by hand instead of using a dishwasher (fill one side of sink with soapy water for washing and the other with clear water for rinsing).
- ◆ If using a dishwasher, make sure you have a full load.
- ◆ When washing clothes, make sure you have a full load; if not, select the correct water level.
- ◆ When cleaning or emptying a fish tank, use the old water to water plants or on the lawn.

### Outside the Home

- ◆ Water lawn only when needed.
- ◆ Water early in the morning or late at night.
- ◆ Never water when it is windy; this causes water to evaporate and dry quicker.
- ◆ Use drip irrigation for shrubs and flower beds.
- ◆ Use mulch around trees, plants and gardens to hold in moisture.
- ◆ When watering; set a timer as a reminder, this saves from over watering.





## SPRING E-CYCLE EVENT

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 9am-1pm**

**The City Barn 8401 Schiro Road Hitchcock, Texas 77563**

Hitchcock Residents ONLY are invited to drop off selected items free of cost.

**Acceptable Materials:** computers, routers, hubs, switches, laptops, power cords, cables, UPS, cellular phones, VCR's, scrap metal wire, monitors, printers, scanners, fax machines, servers, DVD players, cable boxes, ink jet cartridges, TV's (CRT TV's up to 36") mice and keyboards, telephones. Toner cartridges, desktop copiers, flat panel TV's up to 55".

**Unacceptable Materials:** vacuum cleaners, CRT TV's larger than 36", weed eaters, radios, thermostats (any type), smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fluorescent light bulbs, appliances, refrigerators, stoves, washer and dryers. Clocks, paint cans, kitchen appliances, freezers, microwaves, medical/biohazards, household alkaline batteries, AA, AAA, C, D, 9V, home appliances, space heaters, rice cookers, air conditioners and oil waste.

**Disclaimer:** The City of Hitchcock and CompuCycle are NOT responsible for damage to vehicles or injury to any citizen during this event. Both, the City of Hitchcock and CompuCycle reserve the right to refuse services to anyone not following protocol for this event.

For more information contact Sergeant Natalie Wilson @ (409) 795-1517 or [nwilson@hitchcockpd.com](mailto:nwilson@hitchcockpd.com).

### HOW TO CONTACT US

NAME	TITLE	E-MAIL	PHONE NUMBER
CHRIS ARMACOST	MAYOR	mayor@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 519-9646
MARY COMBS DEMBY	CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 1	district1@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 502-0424
SHAWN KADLECEK	CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 2	district2@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 739-4284
WAYNE NEWTON	CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 3	district3@cityofhitchcock.org	(409)770-3297
ANDRE PERKINS	CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 4	district4@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 739-1375
MARIE GELLES	CITY MANAGER	mgelles@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
WILMON SMITH	CHIEF OF POLICE	wsmith@hitchcockpd.com	(409) 986-5559
RUTH ANN SORRELL	CITY SECRETARY/COURT CLERK	rsorrell@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
ARNOLD "ARNIE" CROSS JR.	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR	development@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
CYNTHIA SMITH-REX	CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER	code@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 795-1895
NATALIE WILSON	ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATOR	nwilson@hitchcockpd.com	(409) 795-1517
TYLER ROBERT	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HEDC	hedc@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 502-7331
HENRY DEBORD	BUILDING INSPECTOR	inspector@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 739-0822
LISA CLEMENTS	PERMIT CLERK	lclements@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
VACANT	STREET SUPERINTENDENT		(409) 986-5591
LEROY THOMAS	WATER/WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT	lthomas@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 761-0737
MIGUEL DELGADO	WWTP OPERATOR	mdelgado@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
DARRON RAY	FIRE MARSHAL	fire@cityofhitchcock.org	(409) 986-5591
ANIMAL CONTROL			(409) 948-2485
MOSQUITO CONTROL			(800) 337-4289
GARBAGE COLLECTION	AMERIWASTE	customerservice@ameriwaste.net	(281) 331-8400
AFTER HOUR WATER/ SEWER/WWTP			(409) 795-7595
NON EMERGENCY POLICE			(409) 986-5559
STREET LIGHT OUTAGES			(800) 332-7143
TX DOT DITCH MAINTENANCE FM 2004, HWY 6, and FM 519 (Main St.).			(409) 978-2551