



District K Highlights



#HOUSTON #STRONG

Mayor's Office | City Council | City Controller | City Secretary | Agenda of Council | HPD
HFD | Administration and Regulatory Affairs | Boards and Commissions | 311 | Code of Ordinances
Finance | Legal | Special Events | Department of Neighborhoods | Emergency Medical Services
Fleet Management | General Services | Houston Parks and Recreation | Houston Airport System
Houston Health Department | Housing and Community Development | Human Resources | HTV
Houston Public Works | Information Technology | Library | Municipal Courts
Office of Business Opportunity | Planning and Development | Solid Waste Management



Mayor Sylvester Turner

District K Residents,

How are you? Your District K Team misses you and we hope you are all safe and healthy. Although we are apart please know we are still collectively thinking of you and working on your behalf. As a reminder, all city sponsored, produced and permitted events continue to be cancelled through the month of May. Do not hesitate to contact us in the District K office if you need to. The staff is still working, answering email and phone calls each day.

I want to send a special "thanks" to our District K HOT Team and both management districts' (Brays Oaks and 5 Corners) maintenance crews for continuing to keep our district clean. We are grateful for the work they do each day to combat illegal dumping and bandit signs in our community.

It's hurricane preparedness week. After 5 major flooding events since 2015 it's important to familiarize the entire family with a hurricane plan. In the last century, we have not experienced a hurricane season and a pandemic at the same time. Are your emergency kit and hurricane season plan ready yet? To sign up to receive alerts [click here](#). Also visit [ReadyHarris website](#) for disaster checklists.

While we are slowly getting back to some of our daily activities we must continue to be responsible for our health and that of our families. Continue practicing social distancing, wearing your face coverings and washing your hands. Stay encouraged, continue to take care of your mental health, eat well, sleep well, get some exercise and watch out for each other. COVID-19 will not break our community spirit. In spite of it all, we still have so much to be grateful for.

-Martha

Climate Action Plan

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, the Houston Climate Action Plan was released last month.

The 97 page plan is a strategy identifying four areas to target emission reductions: transportation, energy transition, building optimization and materials management.

To access the climate action plan [click here](#).



Sunday May 17
2020

GIVE BLOOD

.ORG

DISTRICT K BLOOD DRIVE

@THE FOUNTAIN OF PRAISE

9:00^{am} - 2:30^{pm}

FountainLife Center
Wainerdi Wellness Center

14087 Main St. | Houston, TX 77035

Free Tshirt for participants

Schedule appointment at
tfop.org/giveblood



Artemio, blood recipient

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.



District K
Council Member
Martha Castex-Tatum



Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center

FOUNTAIN OF PRAISE

Share your
donation story



@commitforlife | #commitforlife

District K Blood Drive

On Sunday, May 17th the District K office, the Fountain of Praise Church and the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will host a much needed blood drive in our community. Did you know that every time you donate blood you are saving 3 lives? Blood donations remain essential as there is no substitute for blood. Community members who want to donate, schedule your life-saving appointment at tfop.org/giveblood. See you there. I've booked my appointment already.

COVID-19 Testing in Fort Bend Houston

Have you been tested? I know we are all ready to start moving around again together, however we still need to scale up our testing and contact tracing—to protect the progress we've made, as well as the most vulnerable among us. Make a plan to be



FREE
DRIVE-THRU & WALK-UP
COVID-19 TESTING

Simply show up!
No appointment needed.

Stimley-Blue Ridge Neighborhood Library
7007 W Fuqua St, Missouri City
May 11-13, 2020
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

UMMC
UNITED MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

 **HOUSTONHEALTH.ORG**
Houston Health Department
8000 North Stadium Drive, Houston, TX 77054 832-393-5169

at Stimley-Blue Ridge Neighborhood Library, May 11-13th.

This is an opportunity for everyone to get tested. No appointment needed. Walk-up and drive thru service will be available. If testing site is not reaching capacity, it will be moved. If we have an overwhelming response there may be an opportunity to remain longer. I was tested last week at Butler Stadium and the actual test is not as uncomfortable as I thought it would be. I was thrilled to receive my "NEGATIVE" result. Encourage your family and friends to get tested. The city of Houston continues to offer free testing to anyone who would like to be tested. Visit

HoustonEmergency.org/covid19 for more information on testing. Stay healthy and safe!

Budget Workshops Continue in COH

Our city budget is one of the most important policy instruments of our local government. We will continue our budget presentations as scheduled. Each budget presentation is aired on HTV and public comments are welcome. Feel free to submit any budget concerns and questions to our office for consideration and I am happy to share or ask your question during the presentations. No action is taken during the workshops.



The City of Houston's proposed FY21 operating budget will be released this week, and the Finance Department will provide an overview to City Council at a special called Budget & Fiscal Affairs Committee on Wednesday, May 13th at 1 p.m. There is no doubt that tough decisions lie ahead as we determine how the coronavirus pandemic will affect the city's two largest streams of income, property and sales taxes.

Tues	April 7	10:00a	Police
		11:00a	Fire
Thurs	April 9	1:00p	Finance
		2:00p	Mayor's Office
		3:00p	Controller's Office
Tues	April 14	9:00a	City Council
		10:00a	General Services
		11:00a	Library
Thurs	April 16	1:00p	Planning & Development
		2:00p	Department of Neighborhoods
		3:00p	Parks & Recreation
Thurs	April 23	1:00p	Office of Business Opportunity
		2:00p	Human Resources
Wed	April 29	1:00p	Administration & Regulatory Affairs
		2:00p	Solid Waste
		3:00p	Houston Health
Thurs	April 30	1:00p	Municipal Courts
		2:00p	Housing
		3:00p	Legal
Wed	May 13	1:00p	Special Called BFA Committee Meeting: 5 Year Forecast & Budget Overview
		2:00p	Houston Public Works
		3:00p	Information Technology
Thurs	May 14	1:00p	Fleet
		2:00p	HAS
Wed	May 20	1:00p	Special Called BFA Committee Meeting: Trends Report
Wed	May 27	Deadline for Proposed Operating Budget Amendments	
Wed	June 3	9:00a	Council Meeting - Public Hearing of FY21 Proposed Budget Consideration of FY21 Proposed Budget

Rent Relief Available to Houstonians

The Houston City Council approved a \$15 million rent relief fund to help Houstonians make their payments amidst the COVID-19 public health crisis.

The money for the program will come from the federal CARES Act and will be administered by the local nonprofit BakerRipley.

Landlords began enrolling on the program's [website](#) on Thursday, May 7th. **The portal will open to tenants beginning at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 13.**

BakerRipley will provide up to \$1,056 of rental assistance per month to qualified low-to-moderate income people who could not pay their April and/or May rent.

The landlords who agree to participate in the program will need to agree to certain terms:

- Waive all late fees, penalties, and interest for the two months.
- Allow tenants to enter a payment plan for any rent due in excess of \$1,056.
- Rescind any prior notice to vacate and halt any prior eviction proceedings for the two months.

Renters must meet the following requirements

- Live inside the city of Houston
- Be late on residential rental payments for either or both the months of April and May
- Be current on their rent for all months prior to April 2020
- Affirm that their inability to pay is due to financial hardship resulting from the economic impact of COVID-19
- Have income less than 80% of the Area Median Income (approximately \$40,000 for one person or \$60,000 for a family of four) or qualify for one of the programs listed in the application (e.g. Medicaid, WIC, SNAP, Head Start, or VA Pension)

The Houston Apartment Association estimates the rent relief program will help thousands of workers who have been laid off because of business closures.

The program is expected to help at least 6,818 households. It will take all of us working together to get through this pandemic.



Mayor Sylvester Turner



NEED HELP PAYING APRIL OR MAY RENT?

LANDLORD

You may be able to receive up to \$1,056 per unit per month for unpaid rent for April and May if you agree to the following:

- Waive all late fees and interest for that month
- Allow for interest/penalty free payment plan for any rent due in excess of \$1,056
- Refrain from initiating eviction process or rescind any prior eviction process for that month

Required Documentation:

- Photo ID of landlord or authorized landlord representative
- Completed one-page agreement
- EIN/SSN/ITIN
- ACH payment information

Next steps:

- Sign up immediately to be a Participating Landlord
- Inform qualifying tenants with delinquent rent that they may apply for assistance starting 10:00am on May 13th
- Be sure your tenants have computer and internet access when the tenant system goes live

2020 Houston/The Woodlands/Sugar Land Region HUD Maximum Annual Household Income Limits*

Household Size	80% Area Median Income
1-person	\$44,150
2-person	\$50,450
3-person	\$56,750
4-person	\$63,050
5-person	\$68,100
6-person	\$73,150
7-person	\$78,200
8-person	\$83,250

TENANT

Qualifications:

- Unit must be inside City of Houston
- Current on your lease through March 31
- Behind on rent payment for April and/or May
- Have a landlord who agrees to the landlord terms
- Pre-COVID-19 household income is less than 80% of Area Median Income or tenant is currently participating in any of the programs listed (*see table below*)
- Cannot pay rent due to economic harm from COVID-19

Required Documentation:

- Completed one-page application
- Photo ID or utility bill in your name for residence

Next steps:

- If possible, secure computer or smart phone access to submit your application at 10:00am on May 13th
- Check to see if your landlord is on the Participating Landlord List
- If not, ask your landlord to sign up as a Participating Landlord
- Prepare to submit a tenant application

QUALIFYING PROGRAMS

- Medicaid
- Public Housing Assistance
- SNAP
- TANF
- SSI
- National School Lunch Program/Head Start
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- WIC
- Federal Pell Grant
- VA Pension
- Tribal Assistance
- Harris Health Gold Card

For more information visit
HoustonRentAssistance.org



Changes at the Southwest HPD Station

This month brought about changes in leadership at our Southwest HPD Station on Nitida. Commander Belinda Null has been promoted to commander in the Homicide division. Commander Null will hold the distinction as the first female commander of this division. We wish her the best in her new role.

Jonathan Halliday, former Lieutenant at the South Gessner Station has been promoted and will serve as the Commander at the Southwest Police Station. Commander Halliday has been with HPD for 18 years, with the majority of his service in patrol. Commander Halliday and I met briefly last week and we are looking forward to building our working relationship and introducing him to our community.

Solid Waste Container Fee Update

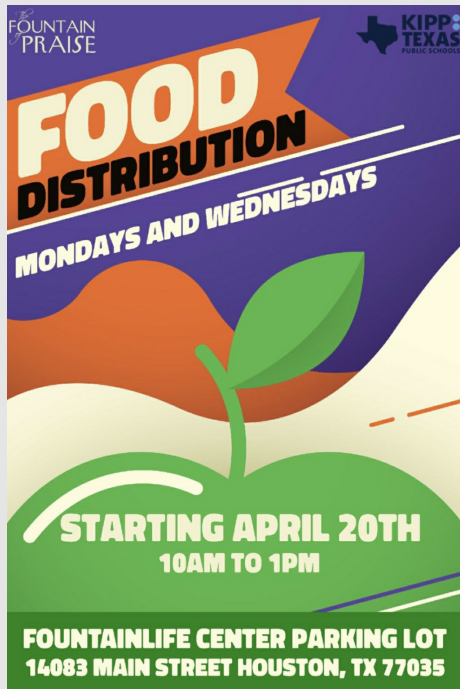
The City Council was scheduled to vote to establish a fee for the lease and management of containers for garbage and recyclables for residential units; establishing an effective date last week. The item was delayed another week and will be on our agenda again for consideration on Wednesday, May 13th.



The proposed lease fee for garbage and recycling containers would be .57 per container for a total of \$1.14 per household, per month. The \$1.14 bin lease fee would be included on your monthly water bill and would become effective July. 1, 2020. The proposed lease fee would support purchasing of black and green containers; replacement parts and tools; rolling stock and personnel to support deliveries and customer service in the four solid waste operations quadrants.

To learn more about the container fee from Solid Waste [click here](#). If you have not had an opportunity to share your thoughts on the container fee, it's not too late. I want to hear from you prior to our vote on Wednesday.

recorded answers on forms made of parchment and animal skins. Today you can respond online, by phone or by mail. Hundreds of thousands of temporary census takers will use smartphones to follow up with households that don't respond. Say YES to Census 2020. www.my2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020 to complete over the phone.



Food Distribution in District K

As we navigate the coronavirus pandemic, several organizations have ramped up their food distribution efforts in our community. If you or anyone you know is in need of food, on Mondays and Wednesdays a food distribution is held at the FountainLife Center parking lot, located at 14083 Main St. The Fountain of Praise Church and KIPP Texas Public Schools have partnered together to provide nutritious food and meals during this time, especially as schools are closed and many families are dealing with reduced work hours, and income. The distribution hours are 10:00am to 1:00pm.

The Windsor Village Church Family partners with the City of Houston and Houston Food Bank at The Power Center to deliver fresh produce and to our community in District K. If you know of a family in need, please share.

Tuesday, May 12, 2020
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
@ The Power Center Parking Lot
12401 S. Post Oak Road
Houston, TX 77085

This distribution site will serve the community weekly through May 30th on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Volunteers are needed! If you are available to volunteer [sign up here](#). The Food Bank has requested volunteers work in one of 2 shifts: sorting (9:00 am - 2:00 pm) and distribution (2:00 pm - 6:00pm).

Abiding Faith United Methodist Church Food Pantry is re-opening on Fridays. You must remain in your vehicle and drive through to receive the food donation. The distribution will take place each Friday.

Friday, May 15th
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
14300 Almeda School Road
Houston, TX 77047

***"No one can do everything,
but everyone can do something!"
-Unknown***

Congratulations

Class of 2020

Last week Mayor Sylvester Turner joined with several area school superintendents to announce a special 'first-of-its-kind' outdoor celebration for high school seniors on Friday, June 5.



Houston Celebrates H.S. Seniors 2020 will take place at each of the school districts' high schools and will feature special guests, celebrity appearances, and other surprise moments. The mayor and superintendents will work together to create a collective, but personal celebration that salutes the achievement of all graduates and reflects the unity of the city.

Seniors are invited to assemble at their schools, wear their caps, gowns, and facial coverings while adhering to social distancing. Parents, family members, and friends are invited to participate virtually.

We wish all of our seniors a safe and happy graduation celebration. Although their ceremonies may not be traditional, we are rooting on our seniors and recognize their resilience, strength and accomplishments. Way to go Class of 2020!

 **HOUSTON HEALTH**
DEPARTMENT

COVID-19

 **CALL CENTER**

832-393-4220

M-F: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sat: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The graphic has a dark blue background with a white telephone handset icon on the left. The text is in white and gold. There is a large orange and red starburst graphic in the bottom right corner.

Keeping District K Moving...