



Building the Future of West U

By Mayor Bob Higley

As we battle through COVID-19, along with more pedestrian political concerns, our City Council is continuing to promote projects supporting the bright future of our community. Specifically, these projects will improve our infrastructure, address drainage issues, and enhance public safety. Our City is primed for a productive year that will be focused on Community Improvement Plan priorities for our taxpaying homeowners.

Buffalo Speedway Improvements

Currently, the City's most ambitious project is the \$35 million rehabilitation of Buffalo Speedway, one of our main arterial roadways. This project – which includes resurfacing Buffalo Speedway over its entire course through West University Place, along with making associated drainage improvements, is scheduled to break ground on March 8.

The initial phase of this project will begin at the drainage system's outfall on Poor Farm Ditch, south of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. The first few months of work will focus on the drainage system near St. Vincent's playing field, before moving north toward West Holcombe Boulevard. Roadway and drainage work in the city limits is expected to begin by October of this year.

Also in March, at the city's north end, replacement of the water line along the east side of Buffalo Speedway will begin at Bissonnet Street. All of us who drive on Buffalo Speedway will benefit from the replacement of the 65-year-old road surface. Additionally, and perhaps even



more vital to our city, these improvements will go a long way toward alleviating drainage issues for homeowners in the Buffalo Speedway drainage area.

Virtual Gate Security Camera System

Our innovative Virtual Gate project will use strategically placed cameras around the city's perimeter to deter criminals and aid in solving crimes. Phase I involves the installation of cameras at 15 locations. Currently, seven of the locations have been installed, with the remaining sites awaiting permit approvals from the City of Houston. Upon approval, the remaining eight cameras should be operational within two months. Phase II will involve installing cameras at 25 different locations in West U. This phase should be underway before summer and completed by the end of the year. Upon completion of Phase I and II, the City will have another asset in our resolute commitment to preserving the safe and family-friendly community of West University Place.

Thank You!

West University Place is a special city to call home. The bedrock of our long-term success is made up of our neighbors and our adherence to our small-town community values. This Council continues to place our taxpaying homeowners' interests at the center of every conversation at City Hall.

By planning for, and delivering on, our present and future needs, we can all help to ensure that West U will continue to be a great place to live – not just for us, but for the next generation.