# Harris County Municipal Utility District

## THIRD QUARTER • 2020

Note from the Board of Directors

As we enter summer and the fifth month of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 81 (MUD 81) Board of Directors is continuing to take a variety of actions to assist our residents and to help keep our personnel and our residents safe. We appreciate your patience and cooperation during this unprecedented event. For the latest updates, please visit the MUD 81 website, at www.hcmud81.com.



#### Administration Building Closure & Water Bill Payments -

In response to continued federal, state, and local guidance regarding COVID-19, the MUD 81 administration building, located at 805 Hidden Canyon, Katy, remains closed and is not available for rental until further notice. However, residents may drop water bill payments off in the payment slot at the administration building.

Checks and money orders for MUD 81 water bills also are being accepted at the Municipal District Services drop box at 406 West Grand Parkway South, Katy. For more information or any questions, please contact Municipal District Services, at (281) 290-6500, or visit their website, at www.mdswater.com.

Please be advised that processing may be delayed due to precautions being taken related to COVID-19.

Please visit the "Payment Options" page on the MUD 81 website, at www.hcmud81.com/payment, for additional ways to pay your water bill.

#### Reinstatement of Service Terminations -

Beginning in March, in response to federal, state, and local guidelines encouraging residents to stay home and stop the spread of COVID-19, MUD 81 began suspending late fees and penalties and water service terminations for delinquent accounts. As part of the Governor's reopening guidelines and the return to a "new" normal, MUD 81 has reinstated the rules for delinquent payments. Delinquent fees and penalties were imposed for all water bills that were delinquent after June 18th, and water service may be disconnected in July for any accounts that remain delinquent at that time. For more information, please see the "Rates and Fees" page on the MUD 81 website, at www.hcmud81.com/rates.

If you have any questions, please contact the MUD 81 office manager, at 281-392-8112, or hcmud81@ comcast.net.

#### HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 81

805 Hidden Canyon, Katy, Texas, 77450 • 281-392-8112 • hcmud81@comcast.net • hcmud81.com

# Harris County Municipal Utility District No.

#### Proposed Storm System Improvements

Harris County Commissioner's Court authorized the County Judge to execute two agreements with BGE, Inc. (the MUD 81 Engineer) to provide engineering services for drainage improvements for the Memorial Parkway Subdivision and Cimarron Subdivision – Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5; both located in Harris County, Precinct 3. BGE has commenced engineering on both projects.

These projects are designed to reduce the risk of a recurrence of the weather-related flooding experienced during the recent Tax Day Flood (April 2016), Hurricane Harvey (August 2017), and Tropical Storm Imelda (September 2019).

Harris County has requested that MUD 81 share the overall costs for both of these projects. If approved by the MUD 81 voters, the District would be responsible for 47%, or approximately \$6.5 million of the costs for the drainage improvements.

As authorized by Governor Abbott, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MUD 81's bond election to ask voters to determine whether MUD 81 should participate in Harris County's proposed drainage improvements for both the Cimarron and Memorial Parkway subdivisions has been postponed until November 3, 2020. For more information and key dates for the postponed elections, please visit the mud 81 website, at www.hcmud81.com.

Según lo autorizado por el Gobernador Abbott, debido a la pandemia de COVID-19, la elección de bonos del MUD 81 para que los votantes determinen si el MUD 81 debe participar en las mejoras de drenaje propuestas por el Condado de Harris para las subdivisiones Cimarron y Memorial Parkway fue postergada para el 3 de noviembre de 2020. Para más información y fechas importantes de las elecciones postergadas, visite el sitio web del MUD 81 en www.hcmud81.com.

Theo söï cho pheùp cuûa Thoáng Ñoác Abbott, do ñaiï dòch COVID-19, cuoäc baàu côû traùi phieáu cuûa MUD 81 ñeå ñeà nghò caùc côû tri quyeát ñònh MUD 81 coù neân tham gia caùc ñeà aùn caûi tieán heä thoáng thoaùt nöôùc cuûa Quaän Harris cho caû hai khu phoá Cimarron vaø Memorial Parkway hay khoâng ñaõ ñöôïc hoaõn ñeán ngaøy 3 thaùng Möôøi moät, 2020. Ñeå bieát theâm thoâng tin vaø caùc ngaøy quan troïng cho caùc cuoäc baàu côû bò hoaõn toå chöùc, vui loøng gheù thaêm website cuûa MUD 81, taïi trang maïng www.hcmud81.com.

经州長Abbott的授權,由於COVID-19大流行,MUD 81就要求選民確定MUD 81是否應參與Harris縣擬議的 Cimarron和Memorial Parkway分區的排水改進的債券選舉已推遲至2020年11月3日。有關推遲選舉的更多 信息和關鍵日期,請訪問MUD 81網站,網址為http://www.hcmud81.com/。

#### Administration Building Drainage Improvements -

If you've driven along Cimarron Parkway lately, you may have noticed some changes near the MUD 81 administration building. During some recent heavy rainfall events, the MUD 81 administration building had experienced rainwater infiltration under doorways and walls along the eastern side (Cimarron Parkway side) of the building. MUD 81's operator, Municipal District Services (MDS), installed river rock drainage swales to channel the rainwater to the storm sewer inlets along Cimarron Parkway. These improvements have corrected the infiltration issues.

#### Mason Road Hike and Bike Trail Extension

For the past several years, MUD 81 and several other nearby MUDs have been collaborating with Harris County to extend the Mason Creek hike and bike trail westward via an underpass under Mason Road and continuing along the northern edge of the Cimarron subdivision, as shown on the following map, to increase mobility and provide additional recreation options for our residents. MUD





## ---- QUARTER • 2020



81's Board of Directors is excited to report that the extension is nearing completion and should be ready for operation in approximately July 2020.

#### **Ongoing Construction Projects –**

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- Water Plant No. 4; Replacement of Emergency Generator and Motor Control Center. In progress

   will be completed in July 2020. Improvements include a new natural gas-powered emergency
   generator to provide water service in the event of a loss of electrical power, and replacement of the
   main electrical service and electrical control panels.
- Water Plant No. 4; Well No. 4 Profiling. In progress will be completed in July 2020. The well was thoroughly brushed and cleaned. Lower well screens are now clean and freely flowing. Although the arsenic levels in the water produced by this well met all state and federal requirements, the levels had increased in recent years. With the lower screens cleaned and contributing to the overall production of the well, the arsenic levels were reduced to historical levels. During the course of this project, certain well components were found to be in need of repair.
- Memorial Parkway Sections 1 and 2; Sanitary Sewer Inspection. In progress project approximately 90% complete. This project has involved evaluating the condition of one of the oldest sanitary sewer sections within the District. This project will be complete in July 2020.
- Sanitary Sewer Manhole Inspection. Project complete. This project evaluated the condition of sanitary sewer manholes that contribute sanitary flow to the West Memorial Wastewater Treatment Plant (the District is a participant in this regional Plant) at the request of the Plant engineer; it is not uncommon for sanitary manholes to require rehabilitation to ensure they maintain a proper seal to prevent groundwater infiltration. MUD 81 is happy to report that no manholes required rehabilitation at this time.



#### Emergency Preparedness Planning – Are you Prepared? –

If you have lived in the Houston are for any length of time you know the question on everyone's mind isn't if a severe weather event will occur, but when will it occur? Whether it is flooding or a hurricane or tropical storm, emergency preparedness isn't just smart planning, it is a necessity.

Fortunately, Harris County is better prepared for a disaster than many other Counties in the nation. It only takes one catastrophic event impacting the Houston area to cause damage to your home or business. One step you can take is to assemble an emergency essentials kit now to avoid the large crowds later! Please visit Harris County's emergency preparedness website, www.readyharris.org to sign up for emergency alerts and for more important information.



# EMERGENCY ESSENTIALS KIT

>> www.readyharris.org

**Preparedness** in Harris County is not just for Hurricane Season. Avoid panic buying by stocking up on these items over the entire year. It is safer, more efficient and less expensive than waiting until disaster strikes.

#### FOOD:

- □ 7-day supply of non-perishable food
- □ Hand-operated can opener
- □ Plastic plates, cups & utensil

#### WATER:

□ 1 gallon of drinking water per person, per day enough for 7 days

#### **FIRST AID:**

- □ American Red Cross approved first aid kit
- □ Backup prescriptions for essential medications

#### **PERSONAL HYGIENE:**

- □ Hand sanitizer (minimum 60% alcohol)
- Dental care and vision products
- $\Box$  Travel-size soaps and other beauty supplies
- $\hfill\square$  Change of clothes, shoes & blanket per person

#### **CLEAN AIR ITEMS:**

- □ Cloth face coverings (N-95 masks if available)
- □ Plastic sheeting
- Duct tape

#### **BABY ITEMS:**

- □ Formula, bottles and powdered milk
- Diapers
- Baby wipesDiaper rash ointment

### HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

- Disinfectant wipes
- Toilet paper, paper towels and garbage bags
   Non-scented bleach for sanitization

#### LIGHTING:

- □ Flashlights per person with extra batteries
- □ Fluorescent lanterns for each common area
- □ Waterproof matches or a utility lighter

#### **COMMUNICATION:**

- □ Portable, battery-powered radio
- □ Landline phone with long cord
- $\hfill\square$  Extra batteries for flashlights, lanterns and radio
- Extra cell phone battery or car chargerWhistle

#### FAMILY SAFETY ITEMS:

- □ Smoke detector with battery for each floor
- □ Carbon monoxide detector with battery backup
- □ Fire extinguisher
- □ Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- $\hfill\square$  Shovel and basic tools

#### **TRANSPORTATION ITEMS:**

- □ State and regional road maps
- □ Basic repair items (tools, tire patch kit, engine oil)
- □ Games, books and puzzles

#### **PET NEEDS:**

- $\hfill\square$  7-day supply of non-perishable pet food & water
- $\Box$  Crate or pet carrier and leash
- $\hfill\square$  Pet medications and pet first aid kit
- $\hfill\square$  Current photo in case you are separated
- $\hfill\square$  Cat litter and box
- Pet bed and toys

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### **Be #ReadyRoundtheClock**