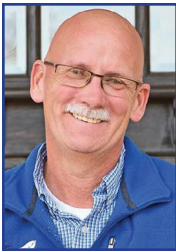




Love Your City!

FROM THE CITY OF BRYANT ARKANSAS

210 SW 3RD STREET | BRYANT, AR 72022 | PHONE: 501-943-0999 | CITYOFBRYANT.COM



Mayor's Corner AUGUST 2020

It is rapidly approaching the end of July as I write this. The state has now issued a mask mandate and is working to have school start in-person in August. They did delay the start of school until the week of August 24th to give school districts a little extra time to prepare for children and teachers returning to campus. I know from experience that in a typical year, this is a stressful time for teachers, parents, and students as they get ready to start school. This year is going to be even more stressful. The school is having to prepare for some students who will only attend school on-line and for students who have elected to return to the campus. Additionally, The school has to prepare for the possibility that school may have to be closed if there are outbreaks of COVID-19 in the schools this fall. Logistically, this has been very difficult for the schools, and they have done the best they can to prepare for this school year.

No matter how prepared they are, there are always unforeseen circumstances that can occur that will cause the plans to be modified. I ask that as school starts, we all practice patience and understanding in these trying times. Please also remember that during the first few weeks of school that traffic can get a little hectic, and this year may be worse than usual due to social distancing requirements, etc. Please be sure to extend your patience and understanding to this as well.

I recommend if you have an alternate route available to you, that you take it during that time to help with traffic time and control. As always, we will see the issues lighten as everyone becomes accustomed to the new routine.

Thank you,

Mayor Allen E. Scott



Join us via Youtube the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 am for Virtual Coffee with Mayor Allen Scott. <http://www.youtube.com/c/BryantArkansas>

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Respond online at 2020CENSUS.GOV



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Respond to the 2020 Census today to help make sure communities across the country do not miss out on funding and representation for the next 10 years. Learn more and complete your form at 2020CENSUS.GOV.

CHIEF'S CORNER



Bryant PD has always encouraged people to use our parking lot as an exchange area. Whether it is child custody, online sales, exchanges or swaps we now have a designated area that is under 24 hr surveillance. Please use this area and as always, stay safe!

Carl Minden

Bryant Police Chief

312 Roya Lane | Bryant, AR 72022 | Phone: 501-943-0487



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Engineering and Construction Department Update

The Bryant Engineering & Construction Department is actively engaged with the growth and development of the City of Bryant.

This has been a very busy summer for our department as we also have adapted and restructured our workdays to accommodate safety concerns for COVID-19. Currently, our construction managers, who include: Joe Henry, Scott Chandler, and Daran Robertson have mobile offices primarily located in their city vehicles where they remain out of the field most of the work hours they are on duty.

Currently, the Department is observing and inspecting a medium to large (\$750,000) Wastewater Distribution Rehabilitation project in the area from Debswood to the east side of Mills Park Road. The list of numerous commercial projects that are under construction observation includes The Arkansas Heart Hospital, a Commercial Warehouse Project, and a new Hotel. Currently, we are also reviewing four (4) new proposed Subdivisions with a potential of 240 lots/houses to be added to the city.

There are also various Stormwater Drainage Improvement projects at various stages of design and construction around the City with target areas of Debswood & Raintree, Springhill & Hilltop, Cambridge, etc. Other areas are also receiving focus for stormwater improvements.

The Department is also in various stages of the Design and Construction of City-sponsored Parks Projects. Some of those include possible Ashley and Alcoa 40 Park Bathrooms, a new Bishop Park Festival Pavilion, and the Alcoa 40 Multi-use Trail. We are anticipating to review the 60% design plans of the Bryant Parkway Phase 2 (Shobe Road to Reynolds) as submitted by consultant Garver Engineering by the end of July. We will continue to update the community as these projects near completion and encourage you to remain actively involved in the continued smart growth of our city.

Ted Taylor
Bryant City Engineer

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Bryant Community,

We know that there is one question on the minds of our district's parents, students, employees, and community members: What will education at Bryant Public Schools look like when the doors open on August 24?

We have been working collaboratively for months now to answer that exact question and share our plans to reopen school. Families were offered the choice of two learning models: Blended (Onsite) or Virtual (Online). The survey opened for the last time on July 23 and closed at midnight July 27. For the 20-21 school year approximately 27% of our students have chosen virtual learning.

Those returning to school campuses will find enhanced measures which focus on safety first and foremost. Each student and staff member will be expected to wear a mask; social distancing will be the norm. Decisions that foster the overall health of students, staff and our community rely on the most current Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidance. Guidance from ADH and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is updated frequently.

We continue to monitor and adjust as needed. We remain flexible while focused on ensuring our students continue to get the best education possible in a manner that keeps them, their families, and our employees safe. To learn more, visit bryantschools.org for information on our Ready for Learning plan.



We know that the 2020-2021 academic year will be unlike any we've experienced before. It provides an opportunity for all of us to be creative, flexible and innovative. I am confident that we will come out the other side of this experience stronger, with best practices around technology and learning that will change education forever. Our district will be better for it, and so will our community.

Current and future generations of students will face challenges from the virus. Our goal is to ensure that we provide students, whether virtual or onsite, with a premier education so they are prepared to pursue their dreams.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dr. Karen Walters
Superintendent of Bryant Schools



The Market at Midtown is open and growing weekly. Join us for fresh produce, crafts, food trucks, or local treats from community artisans. It is located on East Farmers Market Street in Bryant (*Midtown Neighborhood*) from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM every Saturday. Come early, they do sell out quickly! For more information find them on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/MarketatMidtown>