

**May 3, 2025 General Election**

Due to unopposed candidates the General Election has been cancelled.

Ward 1 Stephanie Rangel
Ward 3 Brad Brundrett

Reminder: April 18th, 2025
City Hall will be closed on
Good Friday

Rockport City Council

- Mayor- Timothy Jayroe
- Ward 1- Stephanie Rangel
- Ward 2- Matt Anderson
- Ward 3- Brad Brundrett
- Ward 4- Andrea Hattman

See the website to find your
Councilmember

HUMAN RESOURCES:

For Current City Job Openings visit:

www.rockporttx.gov

Kaycee Eddins
HR Manager

While the City's budget won't be officially adopted until September, the planning process begins months in advance. On March 5th, the City Council will kick off budget discussions with a goal-setting session, marking the start of a thorough, multi-month effort to align priorities, funding, and future investments.

Historically, budgeting has presented challenges for both staff and council. However, we've worked diligently in recent years to refine our processes, build a strong team, and establish strategic plans that guide decision-making. By carefully analyzing needs, capacities, and long-term objectives, we've shifted from reactive budgeting to a more proactive and structured approach.

Last year, we achieved a significant milestone: for the first time in recent history, the City did not operate with a deficit budget.

Not only did we balance our finances, but we also secured funding to support the Capital Improvement Program (CIP)—a crucial step in maintaining and enhancing City infrastructure.

Building on this success, this year's focus extends further. The City is implementing a five-year budget planning strategy to anticipate future expenditures, identify funding needs, and ensure we are positioned to best serve our residents. By thinking long-term, we can make informed financial decisions that promote stability, sustainability, and growth.

As we begin this process, we encourage the community to stay engaged, ask questions, and participate in shaping Rockport's future. Your input is invaluable as we work toward a budget that addresses today's needs while preparing for tomorrow's opportunities.

Rockport Citizen University

The first class of the Citizen University will be held on Thursday, March 20th at the Rockport Service Center.

Spots are still available. Call (361)729-2213 ext. 225 for more information or email: sgoodwin@rockporttx.gov

Reminder:

Before turning your home into a short-term rental, be sure to review your subdivision regulations and deed restrictions.

Don't forget to register your short-term rental here: [Short-Term Rental Registration Portal](#)

Ways to Stay Connected and Engaged

- Like us on Facebook
- Subscribe to Meetings
- Attend Meetings
- Read the City Manager Updates
- Sign up to be on a Board or Commission
- Be part of the Rockport Citizen University

Rockport Speed Limit Changes-Safer Neighborhoods Ahead

The City of Rockport has officially lowered the default speed limit within city limits from 30 MPH to 25 MPH following a unanimous vote by the City Council. This change comes in response to requests from neighborhood associations concerned about safety on residential streets.

But what exactly is a default speed limit in a municipality? It is the standard speed limit applied to all roadways unless a different limit is specifically set by city ordinance. In Rockport, only roadways previously designated at 30 MPH will be affected by this change. Streets with existing lower or higher speed limits will remain unchanged. In practical terms, this adjustment primarily impacts residential areas, as well as Broadway, Fulton Beach Road (within city limits), Colorado Street near the Middle School, and Stadium Drive.

When Chief Anderson received concerns about the 30 MPH speed limit being excessive, he began researching the potential benefits of a reduction. Studies consistently show that even a five-mile-per-hour decrease can significantly reduce the likelihood of death or serious injury in pedestrian-vehicle collisions. Interestingly, research also suggests that when speed limits are lowered, compliance rates tend to improve.

What's Next?

The new speed limit will take effect once new signage is installed, which will happen as soon as the necessary signs are ordered and delivered. Until then, the current speed limits remain in place.

The Rockport Police Department will focus on public education and voluntary compliance rather than strict enforcement. Officers do not issue a high number of citations, and that is not expected to change.

Ultimately, this speed limit adjustment is about creating safer streets—whether for pedestrians, cyclists, or golf cart users. Slowing down by just a few miles per hour can make a big difference in ensuring everyone gets to their destination safely.

Your Chance to Make a Difference: Volunteers Needed for City Boards and Commissions

The City is calling on community members who are passionate about making a difference! We are looking for dedicated volunteers to serve on various boards and commissions that play a crucial role in shaping policies and decisions that affect our city.

Whether you're interested in the Parks, trees, or community development, there's a board or commission that could benefit from your insights and expertise.

The appointment process is easy, and training is provided to ensure you're well-prepared to make an impact. If you're ready to be a part of the decision-making process and help shape the future of our community, consider volunteering today!

Visit our website for more information and to submit your application. Together, we can continue to build a strong, vibrant city.

Exciting Tourism Updates!

The Convention and Visitor Bureau is on the move with some thrilling new developments! They're in the process of crafting a dynamic Marketing Plan to showcase all that our city has to offer. Plus, they're gearing up to hire a Tourism Manager to lead the charge! But that's not all – a brand-new website and revamped social media accounts are on the way to connect even more visitors with our beautiful city.

To make sure that our visitors received the best information, several targeted meetings are being scheduled to gather feedback and ideas. Stay tuned and get involved by following the City of Rockport's Facebook page for more updates!

Let's make our city shine brighter than ever before!

How to Subscribe to Agendas and Minutes

The City of Rockport has implemented a new Agenda Management system, and previous "Notify Me" notifications were not automatically transferred. We encourage you to subscribe to the new system by following these simple steps:

1. Visit the City of Rockport Website: On the homepage, click on the Agendas and Minutes link.
2. Sign In or Subscribe: In the top right corner of the page, click the Sign In or Subscribe button.
3. Manage Your Subscriptions: You will be directed to the Subscriptions Management page.
4. Choose Your Meetings: Select the meetings you'd like to subscribe to by moving the dot on the bar to the right.

City History Center

The City Council hired a Special Policemen during Christmas 1871 to help keep down fires from fireworks.

1873-the first City Attorney was hired - W. W. Dunlop

The City of Rockport has introduced a new program, "**I THRIVE**," which highlights an outstanding employee in each newsletter. I THRIVE stands for Trustworthy, Honorable, Resilient, Innovative, Valuable, and Exemplary. Each featured employee is nominated by a fellow coworker.

Meet **Melodie Woodall**, affectionately known as the "City Mom." She has been with the City for 2 years and 5 months. Melody has two daughters and has been happily married for 33 years. Melody has a big heart and truly cares about her coworkers and the City.

Q: How do you maintain a positive attitude and strong work ethic, even during busy or stressful times?

A: "My job is not stressful, and I love making my coworkers laugh. I'm always ready to help fellow employees with any task they may need."

Q: What do you like most about working for the City?

A: "The people I work with."

Q: What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

A: "Fishing and riding my golf cart through my neighborhood with my friends."



Coffee with the City Manager

Wednesday, March 19,
2025 at 7:00 a.m.

Bella la Brew
2818 Hwy 35N, Rockport, Texas, 78382

Ryan Picarazzi

**Please join us in congratulating
Ryan Picarazzi on being named the
Public Works Director. Born and
raised in Rockport, Ryan brings 21
years of experience and exceptional
leadership skills to our team.**

Frequently Asked Questions

- Does Drought Status Stage 3 mean water restrictions?

Yes, Stage 3 means we need to pause outdoor water use to protect our water supply. This includes temporarily stopping lawn watering, at-home car washing, and operating decorative fountains. Indoor water use like showering, laundry, and dishes can continue as normal.

2. Who is affected by Stage 3 water restrictions?

Restrictions apply to all City of Rockport water customers, including homeowners, apartment buildings, city facilities, commercial businesses, and industry.

3. Will I be billed a surcharge on my water bill?

No. There are no active surcharges for water usage.

4. Can I fill my pool?

Yes, filling pools is permitted at this time to maintain equipment operations. Residents are encouraged to cover pools as often as possible to prevent evaporation.

**Find the rest of the Q and A on
<https://rockporttx.gov/494/Water-Plan>**

Check the website for all the City Meetings. All meeting are subject to change

MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Smithsonian Museum on Main Street- Crossroads open until March 9th
- Winter Lectures on Mondays in March
- Mah Jongg Maritime Wednesdays in March

City Meetings

- March 3rd P&Z Commission
- March 10th CVB
- March 11th City Council
- March 17th P&Z Commission
- March 25th City Council

Events

- March 6th-9th Fulton Oysterfest
- March 7th Little League Opening Cermonies
- March 8th Whooping Crane Strut
- March 8th Fulton Mansion 2nd Saturday
- March 14th & 15th 6th Annual Crawfish
- March 21st-23rd Rockport Fulton Market Days

APRIL 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- April 26th
- Winter Lectures on Mondays in March
- Mah Jongg Maritime Wednesdays in March

City Meetings

- April 7th P&Z Commission
- April 8th City Council Special Meeting
- April 8 City Council Meeting
- April 10th CVB
- April 21st P&Z Commission
- April 22nd City Council Meeting

Events

- April 11th Easter Egg Hunt 2025
- April 12th Kite Festival
2nd Saturday in the District
Farmer's Market
Markers' Market
Austin Street Art Walk
- April 18th-20th Market Days
- April 26th Biplane & Breakfast Wings Over Rockport
Rockport/Fulton Book Fair

City Hall Update

The City Hall project is currently behind schedule but remains within the City Council's approved budget. Completion and staff relocation are expected in Summer 2025.



View of Municipal Court



View of Council Chambers



Customer Service Windows

DON'T FORGET

Day Light Savings March 9, 2025
Set your clocks forward one hour

Do I Need A Permit?

Call the Rockport Building
Department at 361.790.1125 to
confirm.

Youth Archery Camp

March 10-14

Presented by Rockport Park
Rangers.

Session 1: 8:30AM-12:30PM

Session 2: 1:30PM-5:30PM

Learn archery safety, techniques,
etiquette and skills. This
comprehensive program will
teach the fundamentals of target
archery with an emphasis on
safety and coaching. All
equipment provided.

Ages 7 - 15

Cost: \$60 (includes a 3-month
archery range pass)

Location : Rockport Parks &
Recreation Archery Range. 1702
Teal St (Intersection of Teal St
and Plover in the West Terrace
subdivision.

NASP Certified Archery
Instructors will lead this course.

Email to sign up:
jriekers@rockporttx.gov

Adult Introduction to Archery Class

March 15

8:30AM-4:30PM

Learn archery safety, techniques,
etiquette and skills. This
comprehensive program will
teach the fundamentals of target
archery with an emphasis on
safety and coaching. All
equipment provided.

Ages 16 & up

Cost: Free

Email to sign up:
jriekers@rockporttx.gov

Rockport Archery Range

The City of Rockport Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce the opening of our new public archery range! The archery range, located at our Teal Street property, consists of a 5-point line with 20-50 yard target ranges. The line will primarily use 20-yards but additional distance can be accommodated upon request.

This semi-indoor range is staffed by certified archery instructors! Whether you are a beginner or a pro, the archery range offers opportunity for you. You are welcome to bring your 3-D targets to set up on the range or use our array of target opportunities.

The line is run on a first-come-first-served basis with a 30-minute rotation. After 30-minutes of open range, the range is cleared and the line is closed. Then a new group of archers take their position on the line for the next 30-minutes of arrow flinging fun. Once you've completed your turn, you may go back on the list for another 30-minute rotation.

Crossbow shooters can only be accommodated on a limited basis at this time, so please be patient with the range staff as they work you into the rotation.

Use of the range is free until February 28, 2025. Beginning March 1, 2025 an annual pass will be available for \$60. Persons under 16 years old can shoot for free with a parent that has a pass and is present.

The Rockport Archery Range is a program of the City of Rockport Park Rangers.

Hours

TUESDAY and THURSDAY 5:00PM-8:30PM

SATURDAY 8:30AM-12:30PM

For any questions please contact Assistant Parks
Director, Joe Riekers, at (361)-463-1083 or
jriekers@rockporttx.gov