



# City Newsletter

October 2025

Dear Neighbors,

The City Council and staff worked diligently on the budget for fiscal year (FY) 2026 that culminated at the September 16, 2025, meeting as Council adopted the FY 2026 Budget and the 2025 tax rate. With the continued challenges of increases in emergency service funding, inflation, water plant costs, and supply chain issues, it was important to ensure proper funding of City services while also being fiscally responsible. I am pleased to report that this year, Council voted to maintain the current tax rate at \$0.271 per \$100 in valuation.

The FY 2026 Budget is not merely a financial document, but a blueprint for the future and a testament to the City's unwavering commitment to residents' quality-of-life, infrastructure, and fiscal responsibility. The FY 2026 budget totals \$16.1 million; comprised of \$2.9 million in capital improvements, \$13.2 million (82%) for operating expenses, including police, fire, water/wastewater, solid waste services, debt service, and special revenue funds. Public Safety remains paramount in our City, and this year's budget reflects that commitment. Public Safety accounts for 31% of the City's total operating budget (73% of the General Fund operating costs).

Also included in the Budget is the City's Five (5) Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP is a multi-year plan of capital projects that reflects the goals of the City through planning, scheduling, managing, monitoring, and financing capital projects. The plan includes improvements to roads and water lines, including improvements to Knipp and Strey over the coming year.

To view the FY 2026 Adopted Budget, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov). For questions about the budget, contact City staff or me.

During the first quarter of my term as Mayor, there have been numerous emails concerning bikes and motorized scooters. E-scooter injuries rose nationwide by 80% to nearly 116,000 in 2024, according to ERideHero's [2025 Electric Scooter Accident Report](#).

- Accidents among children more than doubled, with nearly 18,000 kids under 15 getting hurt. More than 18% of e-scooter injuries last year were head trauma.
- People between 15-24 suffered the most injuries, accounting for more than 23%.
- In Houston, the number of e-scooter crashes increased from three in 2021 to 23 in 2024, including two deaths, [per a City of Houston report](#).

Chief Schultz writes: "Officers are monitoring our newest group of E-bike riders. (It seems about every 3 - 4 months a new group of 14-year-olds get new e-bikes). Unsafe, careless, and dangerous e-bike riders are getting stopped by officers and instructed on village e-bike ordinances. We do keep track of repeat violators, and this past week held our first court-mandated safety class for an unsafe e-bike rider who had been stopped (more than once) and cited by officers. One of the themes that we are currently seeing is parents buying class 3 e-bikes for their kids, not realizing that class 3 e-bikes require the operator to have a license, registration, and insurance on the e-bike. Before buying an expensive e-bike, check with the dealer and ensure you are not buying a class 3 model. A basic rule of thumb is, if it goes over 20 MPH and/or does not have pedals, it is considered a class 3. Additionally, small electric minibikes are considered "pocket bikes" and are unlawful and not allowed. These especially, are hard to see when on the roadway. Again, our goal is 100% about safety for everyone, motorists, pedestrians, and our cyclists."

It could not be said any better. Rest assured that MVPD and the city are aware of the problem and have passed and continue to enforce laws to deal with the problem.

Please remember that we rely on our citizens to be the eyes and ears of the city. Please do not hesitate to bring any kind of concerns, from road conditions to serious crime, to our attention by contacting City Hall at 713-467-9762 or by email at [info@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:info@bunkerhilltx.gov).

Thanks to the City staff, Council, and you for your continued trust and support as we look forward to 2026. It is an honor to serve as your mayor.

*Keith Brown*  
Mayor, Bunker Hill Village



## Twinkle Light Parade



The City of Bunker Hill Village invites you to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Twinkle Light Parade on Thursday, December 18, 2025! Join us for a magical evening as dozens of floats light up city streets with dazzling lights and holiday cheer!

The parade begins at 6:00 p.m. from Frostwood Elementary and will travel throughout the City. The parade will arrive at Memorial Presbyterian Church by 7:30 p.m. for an outdoor community holiday celebration featuring cookie decorating, hot chocolate, snow, live music, and pictures with Santa!

To view the parade route, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/event/2214-twinkle-light-parade](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/event/2214-twinkle-light-parade).

To enter a float, vehicle, or golf cart in the parade, contact Management Analyst Mallory Pack by email at [mpack@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:mpack@bunkerhilltx.gov).

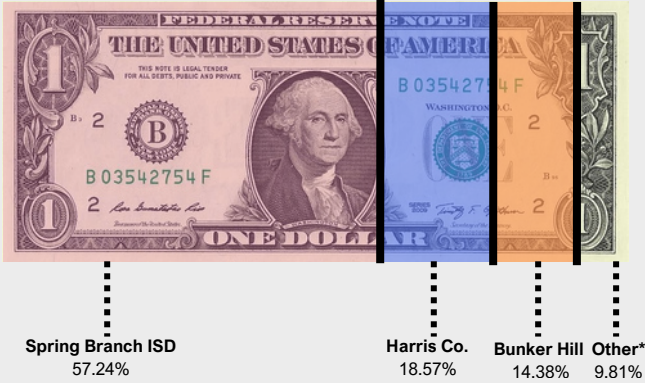
## MVPD House Watch



If you are traveling this holiday season, ensure your property remains secure while you are away by registering your home in the MVPD House Watch Program. To register, contact MVPD Dispatch at 713-365-3700 or visit [www.mvpx.org](http://www.mvpx.org).

## Where Do Your Property Taxes Go?

Property taxes are taxes that are assessed, collected, and used to provide local services. Your tax dollars are distributed to seven (7) local entities:



\*Other entities:

Harris Co. Hospital District: 7.61%

Harris Co. Department of Education: 0.25%

Harris Co. Flood Control: 1.65%

Port of Houston Authority: 0.30%

All values are for tax year 2024.

Source: [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/images/documents/Finances-](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/images/documents/Finances-Budgets/2024/City_of_Bunker_Hill_Village_2024_AFS_Final_002.pdf)

[Budgets/2024/City\\_of\\_Bunker\\_Hill\\_Village\\_2024\\_AFS\\_Final\\_002.pdf](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/images/documents/Finances-Budgets/2024/City_of_Bunker_Hill_Village_2024_AFS_Final_002.pdf)

## New Fire Chief Appointed

The Village Fire Department Commission has appointed Fire Marshal Brian Croft to the position of Fire Chief for the Village Fire Department (VFD).

Chief Croft's career with VFD has included serving as Fire Marshal, Captain, Driver Operator, Firefighter, and EMT. He holds degrees in Public Service Leadership and Fire Science Technology, as well as certifications in specialized areas such as Master Arson Investigation, Master Peace Officer, Master Inspector, Fire Officer I & II, Instructor I & II, and multiple National Incident Management System courses. Chief Croft is a United States Air Force Veteran.

The City looks forward to continuing to work with Chief Croft and the Village Fire Department.

## Keep Fats, Oils, & Grease Out of Drains

This holiday season, protect your drains and pipes by properly disposing of fats, oils, and grease (FOG). FOG is the residue left over from meat fats in cooking and food scraps, butter, sauces, oil, and dairy products.

FOG poured down kitchen drains results in blockages in the City's sanitary sewer lines and pipes inside homes. Blockages in pipes can lead to extensive and costly property damage and foul odors from the backed-up pipes. These clogs in the sewer pipes can lead to a sanitary sewer overflow where raw sewage can back up into your home, yard, and street.

To dispose of grease properly, let it cool and solidify, then scrape it into a sealable container and place it in the trash.

## Beautification Committee Volunteers

The City is seeking volunteers to serve on the Beautification Committee. The Committee is dedicated to enhancing the appearance of the City, focusing on landscaping and tree planting, and provides a direct avenue for residents to contribute their expertise toward projects. The Committee recommends projects to the City Council and oversees their completion.

To volunteer on the Committee, contact [info@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:info@bunkerhilltx.gov).

City of Bunker Hill Village | P: 713-467-9762 | E: [info@bunkerhilltx.gov](mailto:info@bunkerhilltx.gov) | Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Friday 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

## Utility Rates

The adopted FY 2026 Budget includes rate adjustments for water, wastewater, and solid waste services provided by the City. At the meeting held on October 21, 2025, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 25-657, approving an 8% increase for both residential and non-residential water and wastewater rates, as well as an 8% increase to irrigation rates.

Water and wastewater utility user fees directly fund the operation, maintenance, and infrastructure of the City's utility system. These fees are reviewed annually and adjusted as necessary to provide adequate funding for continued service reliability and infrastructure maintenance.

Additionally, Council adopted Ordinance No. 25-658, approving a 3% rate increase for solid waste and recycling collection services for FY 2026. The new rate represents a \$2.33 increase, bringing the total fee to \$80.04 for two (2) months of service.

Utilities are billed every two months. The new rates will take effect December 16, 2025, and will be reflected in the February 2026 billing statement. To view the rate schedule, visit [www.bunkerhilltx.gov/governance/taxes-rates-fees#utility-rates](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov/governance/taxes-rates-fees#utility-rates).

## City Hall Holiday Hours

City offices will be closed on the following days in observance of the following holidays:

### Thanksgiving\*

- Wednesday, November 26, 2025 (offices close at noon) to Friday, November 28, 2025

*Regular business hours resume at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, December 1*

### Christmas\*

- Tuesday, December 23, 2025 (offices close at noon) to Friday, December 26, 2025

*Regular business hours resume at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, December 29*

### New Year's Day\*

- Wednesday, December 31, 2025 (offices close at noon) to Friday, January 2, 2026

*Regular business hours resume at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, January 5*

\*No trash collection services Thursday, November 27, Thursday, December 25, and Thursday, January 1. Trash scheduled for Thursday pickup will be collected on the next regular collection day.

## On-Call Services

The City's Public Works crews are on-call 24/7/365 to respond to water leaks and/or sewer stoppages on City lines. For immediate attention outside of regular business hours, nights, weekends, holidays, please contact MVPD Dispatch at 713-365-3700.