



State of the City of Horseshoe Bay
Steve Jordan, Mayor
October 2018

The measure of a well-managed and open government is transparency and accountability. Your Mayor and Council Members have made these two issues our top priorities.

I am happy to report the state of our City of Horseshoe Bay is very sound. Our Future Land Use Map (FLUM) has been the focus and study of our Planning and Zoning Commission. Having gone through the required Public Hearings, it will be up for adoption by the City Council in November. Controlled growth is our focus to preserve the lifestyle our citizens have chosen, by influencing the behavior for future development. We have approximately 7,200 full and part time residents of which 4,100 are estimated to be full time. New home construction is on the rise with 93 residential building permits issued in FY 2018, a record number surpassing the 80 last year.

Property tax valuations reached \$2.057 billion, an increase of 6.63% over 2017. The property tax revenue to be raised from property taxes in 2019 is an increase of 9.51% or \$477,000 of which \$106,502 is from new property. Our City continues to enjoy an AA+ tax bond rating, positioning us in an elite group.

Horseshoe Bay operates primarily with two separate budgets, the General Fund \$8,556,500 and Utility Fund \$8,196,000 with a combined total of \$16,752,500. The General Fund FY18 revenue over expenses totaled \$1,065,115 while the Utility Fund FY18 revenue over expense totaled \$874,826. For the first time, in addition to adopting a combined budget for FY19, the Council also approved a comprehensive five year plan to prepare for the future with no surprises. The FY19 General Fund budget adds one new full-time employee position in the Police Department and three full-time Fire Fighters. The Utility Fund Budget adds two new full-time employee positions. The City will have a total of 90 full-time employees. As of September 30, 2018, the General fund has a balance of \$3.8 million or 4.8 months in keeping with the required reserve balance of a minimum of the greater of \$2.5 million or 3 months of annual expenditures. The policy also directs the Utility Fund to begin creating a cash reserve not to exceed 3 months of personnel and general operating expenditures. The budget is posted on our website: www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov. We are proud to report, the City of Horseshoe Bay received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, one of 146 government entities in Texas and 1,491 in the US and Canada.

The tax rate was increased from \$26 cents per \$100 valuation to \$.26702, which is effectively an 8.03% increase. Utility rates have been comparatively low however, in keeping with the five-year outlook, water and wastewater rates were increased accordingly by 7%. Our city continues to replace and expand our utility infrastructure. The good news is that upon completion of the expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Center, estimated to cost \$5.6 million, all major infrastructure improvements will have been completed for the foreseeable future.

One of the most notable projects for which we are proud has been our street improvement plan. Having completed 55 miles, the City is in the process of upgrading 1.6 miles, in keeping with the 15

house per mile or the equivalent policy. In addition, we are continuing the seal-coating plan every 4 to 5 years to maintain and extend the life of our streets.

The City of Horseshoe Bay continues to demonstrate its commitment to our Mission Statement “to serve and protect our citizens while preserving our heritage and planning for our future.” The implementation of the Long Range Plan adopted October 2016 is virtually complete with the exception of a plan to improve the Broadband services. The Broadband Advisory Committee has been narrowing its options and should be making an announcement soon. The widening of FM 2147 project from Big Spur to Bay West Blvd. has not started however, it has been approved by TxDOT and is awaiting its long-awaited completion.

A sad state of affairs... The mail delivery system in Horseshoe Bay has fallen woefully behind, due to the neglect of the U.S. Post Officials who are responsible in planning for the mail delivery service in our growing community. After repeated efforts to get their attention all the way to Washington D.C., we now have our Marble Falls Post Master’s commitment to find a solution and fix the problem. Our residents deserve much more ...

Good news !

- Welcome to the Phoenix Center of Marble Falls, the nationally acclaimed provider of the highest level mental health to children and their families. They have selected a site in Burnet County off HWY 71 on the south border of Horseshoe Bay to make their future headquarters.
- John and Sandy Smith, in the name of their two daughters, Whitney and Shelly, have given the City the use of 12 acres on a long-term lease on property located on Golden Nugget to establish a Nature Park.
- The resurfaced pickleball courts in Martin Park which now are available to all residents.
- The multimillion-dollar improvements and additions announced by the Horseshoe Bay Resort are well underway. Time frames for completion of major projects have been announced for completion of Cap Rock and Waterfront Bar & Grill along with the renovation of several other favorites.
- In keeping with the City’s focus on projects in support of our aging community, Tuscan Village, a 300-home senior living project within Summit Rock is well underway with models scheduled for completion later this year.

It has been my privilege to serve as your Mayor along with five outstanding Council members and staff. Mayor Pro Tem Craig Haydon has chosen not to stand for re-election. I have had the privilege of serving with him for 6 years and value his contributions and friendship. The other Council Members were Jerry Gray, Cynthia Clinesmith, Reagan Lambert and Kent Graham. Our dedicated staff led by City Manager Stan Farmer has focused on the following values: Excellence-Loyalty-Integrity-Stewardship and Teamwork.

Horseshoe Bay’s future is bright! The challenge that lies ahead is to manage and control the development to protect the lifestyle and character of the community that brought us here. Please be advised that next year will be my last, as I will have termed out my tenure as Mayor of Horseshoe Bay.