



# Mayor's Monthly Message

Mayor Elsie Thurman - April 2025

## City Update from Horseshoe Bay

Last April, we were planning for a solar eclipse, and while that is behind us and not to be repeated until 2045, Horseshoe Bay remains a busy place. I want to update you on some of the highlights.

### Water Restrictions

Beginning April 3, as required by the LCRA, the city will implement Stage 2 watering restrictions, limiting residents to a once-per-week watering schedule. Cindee Sharp, Director of Communications, provided detailed information in last week's Beacon, outlining specific watering allowances for each property address. This information is also available on the City's website at the following link: [www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov/950/New-Stage-2-Watering-Restrictions-effect](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov/950/New-Stage-2-Watering-Restrictions-effect).

The restrictions apply to all residents, including those drawing water from the lake for irrigation. City Water Conservation Inspector Derek Warren stands ready to assist residents in developing optimal landscaping protection strategies. Residents can reach Derek at (830) 598-9973 for personalized guidance.

Horseshoe Bay has always been conscientious about water conservation, and we are asking our community to join us in managing this drought together.

### Recycling Gets a Streamlined Makeover

The City's Reclamation Center is transitioning to a "single stream" recycling method in partnership with Waste Management. Unlike previous practices requiring separate bins for different materials, residents can now dispose of all recyclables—including tin, aluminum, glass, cardboard, recyclable plastic, and paper—into a single container.

Waste Management will utilize advanced robotics and artificial intelligence to sort materials at their Balcones processing center. The City has ordered eight new, more accessible recycling bins to facilitate this change, and we are expecting delivery within the next couple of weeks.

Residents should note a few important guidelines:

- Place all recyclable materials in the main bin
- Use the separate clear bin for plastic grocery bags
- Be patient during the transition period

## Legislative Advocacy in Austin

A delegation of 12 Horseshoe Bay representatives recently visited the state Capitol in Austin to engage with Senators, Representatives, and state agency officials. The City is actively monitoring several legislative proposals that could impact local governance including:

- Potential restrictions on the Texas Municipal League's advocacy for small cities
- Proposed bills regarding accessory dwelling units that could limit local zoning control
- Legislation affecting minimum lot sizes in municipal areas

We need citizens to join us in contacting our Representatives. I will be sending a letter later this week to those who have signed up to participate. Send an email to [speakup@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](mailto:speakup@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov) to join the City's advocacy contact list.



Pictured left to right: Ruben Fechner, Becky Fechner, Willie Reinders, Candy Jones, Mark Knudson, Mayor Elsie Thurman, and Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Jones visited the Capitol on March 19 to meet with elected officials about issues impacting the City.

## **City Infrastructure Developments**

Construction continues to progress in Horseshoe Bay. The new City Center building remains on track for completion by late 2025, with the West Fire Station addition expected to be finished around the same time.

## **Looking Ahead**

As spring emerges, early bluebonnets are beginning to bloom and there is potential rain forecast at week's end. Families are visiting to celebrate Spring Break and Easter will be here very soon.

This is a beautiful place where we live. I am honored to serve as Mayor and am committed to doing all I can to preserve the unique character of our City, while adapting to challenges as they come our way. Thank you!

Elsie Thurman, Mayor  
City Website - [www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov)