

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

CITY ANNOUNCES COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT GRANTS

By Matt Smith, Communications Manager

The City of DeSoto has received access to funds through the CARES Act that are required to be used to prevent, prepare for, or to respond to job loss and impacts related to Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions. The CARES Act will provide the City with \$182,823 in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds from the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and these funds will be paired with a matching \$182,823 contribution from the DeSoto Economic Development Corporation (DEDC). This combined funding will become the basis for the COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM.

The City encourages eligible small businesses to apply to participate in this grant program that will make available short-term working capital assistance for the retention of jobs held by low to moderate-income (LMI) employees.*

Each participating small business will be required to have procedures in place to prevent duplication of benefits. Participants are subject to oversight and reporting requirements to ensure that funds are not used to pay costs already eligible for coverage under other available sources of financial assistance.

Applications are available on the City of DeSoto Website at www.desototexas.gov/SmallBusinessGrant or can be requested at 972-230-9694. Electronic or hard copies of the completed application must be submitted no later than Friday, June 12, 2020, by 4:00 PM. Because social distancing efforts are in place at all City office locations, delivery of your application can be delayed. Therefore all applicants are encouraged to submit their applications well in advance of the due date.

To facilitate program understanding and completion of applications, the City is planning to hold two Town Hall Meetings. Additionally, "Go To Meetings" will be held online from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM on the evenings of June 5th, and June 10th, 2020.

Questions and comments regarding the CDBG-CV program and application must be submitted to smallbusinessgrant@desototexas.gov. City staff will respond as quickly as possible and will post frequently asked questions (FAQ) and the associated responses on the City's website.



*= Based on HUD definition. HUD Income Limits (2020) are defined on Page 4 of the application.

City Calendar

June

1 Arts Commission Mtg. virtual - 6 pm
 1 Park Board Mtg. virtual - 6:30 pm
 2 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 6 pm
 4 Library Board Mtg. virtual - 7 pm
 6 KDB Mtg. - virtual - 6:30 pm
 9 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall 6 pm
 12 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall 9 am
 16 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
 26 Natural Change - virtual concert

July

3 City Facilities Closed - Independence Day
 6 Arts Commission virtual - 6 pm
 6 Park Board Meeting - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
 7 City Council Mtg. - City Hall 6 pm
 9 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
 9 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
 14 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall -7 pm
 20 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
 21 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
 24 Virtual Gospel Concert - 8 pm
 28 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - Civic Ctr. -7 pm

Curbside Brush Collection

Republic Services will continue brush pickup service as normal, but to assist in the removal of brush from our neighborhoods, they ask that our residents limit their brush content to only the most necessary trimming on their property. Additionally, we would like residents to limit the amount of brush placed out to no more than ten cubic yards per week. Please see the diagram below that offers a visual indication of ten cubic yards. It is the equivalent of two standard pickup beds six feet long, five feet wide and four feet tall.



+



10
= Cubic
Yards

City Announces Credits will be Applied to Utility Bills Resulting From The COVID-19 Shutdown

At their May 19, 2020 meeting, the DeSoto City Council approved a plan to provide payment relief to City of DeSoto utility customers impacted by the COVID-19 shutdown. The plan has three components:

- a free month of water and sewer charges for those receiving the senior discount
- others who don't receive the senior discount can apply to receive a credit of up to \$40 of their deposit which will be applied as a credit to their bill
- a free month of water and sewer charges for businesses who were deemed non-essential.

Senior citizens who are registered to receive the 65+ utility bill discount will receive a credit on their statements due in July. This credit will be equal to the amount of their June, 2020 water and sewer charges.

Others can have up to \$40 of their utility deposit applied to their account as a credit. In order to receive the \$40 deposit credit, customers will need to apply for it no later than August 31, 2020. Go to <http://www.desototexas.gov/WaterDepRefund> or call the Utility Billing office at 972.230.9627 for more information. This credit will be reflected on the next billing

statement immediately following application.

The free month of water and sewer credit also applies to brick and mortar businesses in DeSoto that were deemed nonessential and were not allowed to remain open under the Governor's emergency declaration. Those nonessential businesses are eligible for a credit equal to the water and sewer charges on their June water bill. To see if you qualify for the nonessential businesses credit, please contact the utility billing department at 972.230.9627.

If you are a City of DeSoto utility customer and a senior and have not registered to receive your senior discount, it's not too late to do so. You must be 65 years of age or older, and currently reside at the property where service is provided to receive a discount on your monthly water bill and to also receive the free month credit. The form to request this discount is online at <http://www.desototexas.gov/SeniorCitizenDiscount>. Please download the form and provide a copy of your drivers' license verifying your age and fax the information to 972.230.5795 or bring it to the Utility Billing office located in City Hall at 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd. for verification as soon as possible.



DeSoto's Masked Heroes for May 26, 2020



DeSoto's Masked Heroes for May 26th are the City of DeSoto's Veterans Affairs Committee Chaired by Lt. Col. U.S. Army Retired Russell Hooper, and elected officials including State Senator Royce West, Mayor Curtistene McCowan, Mayor Pro Tem Kenzie Moore, and former Mayor and Air Force Colonel (Ret) Bobby Waddle. All came out Monday to honor our precious war dead and all wore masks to protect the living!
Send us your masked hero photos to facemasks@desototexas.gov

The DeSoto Fitness Center Now Accepting Workout Reservations

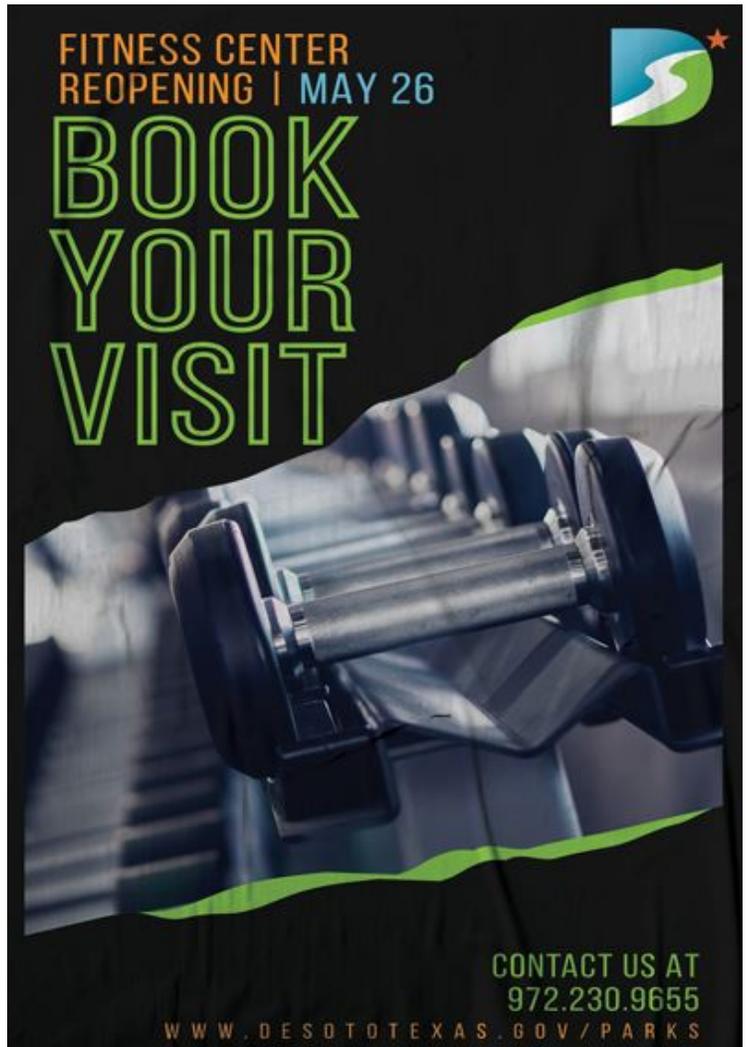
The DeSoto Recreation Center reopened the Fitness Center on May 26, 2020 with restrictions. Patrons will only have access to the Fitness Center during the initial opening phase. It will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 am to 12 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm. The Fitness Center will have a limited capacity. Patrons will be required to schedule an appointment for 45 minutes per visit.

For the safety of everyone, residents who are running a fever, are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, or who have had close contact within the last 14 days with someone who has or is believed to have COVID-19 will be prohibited from entry. Visitors are asked to comply with the following guidelines.

- Sanitize hands
- Clean any surfaces before and after use
- Maintain social distancing - six feet of separation
- Mask or face covering and gloves are required
- Loitering is prohibited

To make a reservation on our Sign-up Genie, click this link or copy and paste the link into your browser: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A49ABAB22A4FC1-fitness>. If you have trouble requesting a workout time, contact the Recreation Center at (972) 230-9655 for assistance. Upon arrival, please present your membership card to the facility staff.

The DeSoto Active Seniors Center on Lion Street will remain closed until further notice. Park playgrounds and restrooms will remain closed until further notice.



FITNESS CENTER
REOPENING | MAY 26

BOOK
YOUR
VISIT

CONTACT US AT
972.230.9655

WWW.DESOTOTEXAS.GOV/PARKS

The graphic features a background image of a row of treadmills in a gym, with a green and blue logo in the top right corner.

Only 30 customers may be in the library building at one time. Library and computer lab visits will be limited to one hour per day per customer.

Modified Opening Hours (Library & Computer Lab)

Monday	12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Tuesday	12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Wednesday	12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Thursday	12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Friday	12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Saturday & Sunday	Closed

Curbside Delivery Available

For the safety of everyone we require you wear a mask while visiting the library and maintain social distancing.

211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., Suite C
DeSoto, Texas 75115
972-230-9656

For more information, check the library website:
www.desotolibrary.info



I COUNT, YOU COUNT,
WE ALL COUNT!



¡YO CUENTO, TU CUENTAS,
TODOS CONTAMOS!

Complete your survey today at www.Census.gov.

The graphic features a central illustration of many hands of various colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) raised in a gesture of unity.

Natural Change Band

Friday, June 26, 2020

LIVE VIRTUAL CONCERT
ON ARTDESOTO.COM



DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION

FOURTH
MUSIC SERIES *fridays*

8 pm

The DeSoto Arts Commission invites you to our June 26, 2020 Virtual Fourth Friday Concert featuring a special performance by Natural Change Band. Natural Change Band offers some of the best in Smooth Jazz and R&B around and is a DeSoto favorite. Bringing that sizzle to the group's unique sound on sax is Paul Rogers. Byron Fuller keeps the heartbeat of the band going on the drums. Tony Blaire is the keyboardist and lead vocalist for the band and Robb Abbs rounds out the group's sound on guitar, bringing sheer electricity induced solos and showmanship to the stage. At this publishing, this Zoom Virtual concert will be broadcast live on ArtsDeSoto.com and other social media platforms. Watch social media for updates.

JUNETEENTH
VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE
|| JUNE 15-19 ||
SPOKEN WORD DANCE MUSIC
ONLINE PERFORMANCE BY
THE INSPIRATION BAND
ALSO FEATURING
RAMONA WHITE // TONI SIMMONS & OBA WILLIAM KING // MICHELLE GIBSON
STEVEN SWANSON // DONALD PAYTON // "9903" HIP-HOP ARTISTS
ALEJANDRO PEREZ JR. // REGINA TUCKER // AMANDA SARGENT
KEREN LEE // SANIYAH MCGREW
PAN-AFRICAN CONNECTION ART GALLERY // ASERONNYJ CLOTHING

JOIN US FOR OUR 5-PART
WEB SERIES
PREMIERES EACH NIGHT AT 7PM

DeSoto Parks & Recreation
Discovered. Experienced. Played!

WWW.DESOTOTEXAS.GOV/JUNETEENTH
e f i y YouTube