

Vote in the City Bond Election

Election Day: **Tuesday, November 3, 2009**
Voting Hours: 7:00 a.m – 7:00 p.m.
Voting Location: **Joshua High School Community Room**
901 South Broadway
Joshua, TX 76028

Early Voting: **October 19th through October 30th, 2009**
Voting Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Monday 10/19 and Monday 10/26
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday 10/20 – Friday 10/23, and
Tuesday 10/27 – Friday 10/30
Voting Location: **City Hall**
101 South Main St.
Joshua, TX 76028

Proposition No. 1 – Joshua Fire Station #1

What is it? – The City is asking the voters for funding to build a new fire station. If approved by voters, the proposed station will be approximately 12,000 square feet, and will include 5 drive thru bays that will accommodate all current and anticipated future fire apparatus. In addition, the proposed station will have sleeping quarters and shower facilities sized to accommodate overnight shifts, and office space to accommodate fire department officers, as well as an area that can be used for training, meetings, and community events. The proposed facility will cost approximately \$2.7 million.

Why is this on the ballot? - The current fire station is located at 200 Santa Fe St., and is just over 4,000 square feet. The current station contains 4 single bays and does not accommodate the 7 pieces of apparatus currently operated by the volunteers, which means that several pieces of equipment are stored outside which not only depletes the life of the equipment, but also exposes the equipment to the potential for vandalism, theft, etc. The current station also has 3 offices to accommodate 9 officer positions. In addition, the current station does not have sleeping quarters, so it cannot accommodate a night shift of firefighters. In addition, the existing station is located in a metal building so the potential for damage during a storm or other event is greater. The Joshua Volunteer Fire Department responds to an average of 1,300 calls each year. This number continues to increase as the City grows. The department will transition to a full time, paid department over the next several years.

Ballot language – This is how the ballot will read for Proposition No.1:

“THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,700,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR CONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING, AND DESIGNING A NEW FIRE STATION.”

For or Against

Proposition No. 2 – Street Construction Projects

What is it? – The City is asking voters for funding to reconstruct City streets with the lowest condition ratings in the City. It is necessary to completely reconstruct these streets or sections of these streets, as they have deteriorated to the point that repairs will not be effective in improving the street condition. If approved by voters, the following streets or sections of streets are anticipated to be reconstructed at a total cost of approximately \$850,000:

| <u>Street</u> | <u>Current Condition Rating</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Edgehill Road (5 blocks) | Fair C 6 |
| Pear Court (900 block) | Fair C 6 |
| Hilltop Place (500 block) | Fair C 5 |
| Ridgeway (700, 800 block) | Fair C 5 |
| Rosewood Place (500, 600 block) | Fair C 5 |
| Apple Street (500, 600 block) | Poor D 4 |
| Plum Street (600, 700 block) | Poor D 4 |

Why is this on the ballot? - In 2008, City staff created an index of every street in the City limits, and assigned a condition rating to each street. Street condition ratings range from Good, indicated by a rating of A 9 – 10, to Unacceptable, indicated by a rating of E 2. The lowest scoring streets in Joshua have ratings of Fair, indicated by C 5 – 6, and Poor, indicated by D 4.

Ballot language – This is how the ballot will read for Proposition No.2:

“THE ISSUANCE OF \$850,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING STREET, CURB, GUTTER AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS (INCLUDING DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY STREETS KNOWN AS EDGEHILL ROAD, PEAR COURT, HILLTOP PLACE, RIDGEWAY, ROSEWOOD, APPLE STREET, AND PLUM STREET), COMPLETING NECESSARY UTILITY RELOCATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING, AND THE PURCHASE OF LAND, EASEMENTS, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND OTHER REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS NECESSARY THEREFOR OR INCIDENTAL THERETO.”

For or Against

Proposition No. 3 – Drainage/Storm Water Improvement Projects

What is it? – The City is asking voters for funding to construct drainage and/or storm water improvements in three areas of the City to provide solutions to storm water runoff and flooding in these areas. Improvements are proposed in the Mountain Valley/Village Creek area, along and adjacent to Coffield Drive, and in Joshua Meadows as follows:

Coffield Area Drainage

- Storm drain improvements and installation along Cofield Dr., Comanche Walk, Dakota, Lone Star, & Bentley Drive – Improve

existing drainage ditch sections, and construct an underground storm drain system in this area. Being an area prone to flooding, the proposed improvements are designed to help prevent and mitigate flooding in this neighborhood by providing an established, underground drainage path for storm water to enter the floodway.

Joshua Meadows Area

- Channel regrading and soil stabilization of major drainage channels through the neighborhood – Regrading the existing channels to improve water conveyance capacity, clean out existing culverts under Running Brook, Big Springs, and Glenwood, and prevent continued erosion and siltation in the channels with the installation of soil stabilization systems and turf establishment systems in all of the regraded areas.
- Installation of concrete flumes at major outfalls along Running Brook Drive to allow the outfall facilities to have adequate flow into the floodway; designed to prevent standing water in these areas.

Mountain Valley/Village Creek Area

- Club House Drive Bridge Improvements – Construct and install new, larger box culverts under the bridge and raise existing roadway profile. Construction of this improvement would significantly increase conveyance capacity for water under the bridge crossing and, as designed, is anticipated to alleviate flooding of the road any time there is a significant amount of rain.
- Country Club Drive Bridge Improvements – Replace the existing structure with larger, concrete box culverts to increase water conveyance capacity with a goal of flood protection, which is an issue during significant rain events. As it now exists, the Country Club Drive Bridge floods and has washed out completely during significant rains.

Total estimated cost of these improvements is \$2,600,000

Why is this on the ballot? – In 2008, the City Council commissioned a study to explore drainage and storm water runoff issues in areas of the City that experience flooding when there is any significant amount of rain. The study included the Mountain Valley/Village Creek area, the Coffield Drive area, and the Joshua Meadows area. The study was completed by engineers with the firm of Teague, Nall and Perkins, Inc. The recommendations of the study were further examined by the Citizens Capital Projects Study Committee, which included citizens and business owners from all over the City. The citizens committee studied the recommendations for several months, and the projects recommended in Proposition No. 3 were determined by this committee to be the projects that are anticipated to have the greatest impact in flood mitigation and reducing the risk of flooding in the future.

Ballot language – This is how the ballot will read for Proposition No. 3:

“THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,600,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS (INCLUDING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREAS OF COFFIELD, JOSHUA MEADOWS, AND MOUNTAIN VALLEY/VILLAGE CREEK), COMPLETING NECESSARY UTILITY RELOCATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING, AND THE PURCHASE OF LAND, EASEMENTS, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND OTHER REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS NECESSARY THEREFOR OR INCIDENTAL THERETO.”

For or Against

Impact on Property Tax Rate if All Propositions Pass

Tax Impact of \$6,150,000 Bond Issue

| | <u>Interest and Sinking Tax Rate</u> ^{(1), (2),} _{and (3)} | |
|--|---|----------------|
| | 2009 Rate | Projected Rate |
| | \$0.132029 | \$0.24250 |
| | | |
| Assessed Value of Property (After Exemptions) | <u>Tax Increase to Homeowner</u> | |
| | Annual | Monthly |
| \$50,000 | \$55.24 | \$4.60 |
| \$75,000 | \$82.85 | \$6.90 |
| \$100,000 | \$110.47 | \$9.21 |
| \$125,000 | \$138.09 | \$11.51 |
| \$150,000 | \$165.71 | \$13.81 |
| \$175,000 | \$193.32 | \$16.11 |

Over 65 and Disabled Homesteads are generally exempt from any ad valorem tax increase.

Footnotes:

- 1) Projections based on no growth in taxable value in the City.
- 2) Interest rate on the Bonds projected to be 5.50%. Term of the Bonds projected to be 20 years.
- 3) \$6,150,000 is the total for all 3 bond propositions.
- 4) Projections are shown only for the Interest & Sinking, or debt service, portion of the tax rate. The portion of the tax rate that funds maintenance and operation is currently \$0.502302, making the City's total tax rate \$0.634331.