



Mayor and Council.

The City Manager's Notes for the week ending October 17, 2025, are provided below. This report contains public information and can be freely shared.

Housing Funds / Federal Government Shutdown Update

According to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), households who receive HUD rental assistance—including Housing Choice Vouchers, Project-Based Rental Assistance, and public housing—should have their rent paid at least through November. However, the longer a shutdown continues, the greater the risk to assisted households, and the greater the disruption to essential federal services and programs.

NLIHC further notes that even once the government reopens, final FY 2026 appropriations remain unresolved. Current House and Senate spending proposals would not fully fund voucher renewals, potentially resulting in the loss of 181,900 vouchers under the House bill and 107,800 under the Senate bill.

Interim Utility Director, Donald McKinney

In August, Bernie Parker was brought in to serve as the Interim Assistant City Manager. As part of his interim role, I also designated Mr. Parker as the Interim Utility Director. After his initial assessment of the department, the decision has been made to bring in an additional individual to serve as Interim Utility Director. This will allow Mr. Parker to provide leadership and guidance in other areas beyond Public Services and Utilities. It also allows the City to bring in someone with a set of skills, experience, and a deeper level of understanding of a utility operation to assist in making meaningful operational impacts. Mr. Donald McKinney, who has decades of experience in Public Works and Utilities, began working with the City on Wednesday, October 15. Mr. McKinney has already begun conducting his own assessment and will assist us in developing and improving processes. He will also be assisting staff in improving, documenting Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and developing a culture of pride and excellence. Before we move forward in recruiting key leadership positions in Utilities – specifically the Utility Director – we want to ensure we have created a leadership structure and professional environment which sets up the department for success.

New Officer

Mathew Wisdom graduated from the North Central Texas Council of Government Regional Police Academy, Class #308, the morning of October 13. Officer Wisdom's Pinning the Badge ceremony was held the afternoon of October 13 at the Terrell Police Headquarters.

IT Director Update

Staff has concluded interviews with three finalists for the IT Director position. We anticipated a decision will be made the week of October 20.



City Manager's Notes

**Week Ending
October 17, 2025**

Finance Director Update

Panel interviews are scheduled to occur on Friday, October 24.

Assistant Neighborhood Service Director Update

Staff has concluded interviews with the finalists for the Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services. We anticipated a decision will be made the week of October 20.

Reminders

- American National Bank Event: Saturday, October 18
- Chamber Civic Auction: Saturday, October 18
- City Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 21
- Texas Municipal League: October 29 through October 31 (Fort Worth)
- City Council Meeting: Tuesday, November 4
- Officer Steve Johns Retirement Friday, November 14

In Closing

If staff can provide additional information or clarification, please let me know. Thank you all for your continued service and dedication to the City of Terrell.

Respectfully,

Mark C. Mills
Interim City Manager