

DR. THERESA DANIEL DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021



COVID-19 Vaccines Move Into the Community with Pop-up Sites

With Fair Park, Potter's House, Eastfield College vaccination sites closed, the effort to vaccinate all Dallas County residents has moved into the community. Dallas County and Parkland are doing regular pop-up vaccine clinics to reach people who may not have transportation or who still have questions and prefer a more one-to-one experience.

Most people in the United States are planning to get vaccinated against COVID-19, but some may want more information before seeking vaccination. They may want to know more about COVID-19 vaccines, including the process for developing and authorizing these vaccines and information about their safety and effectiveness. People may also have previous experiences that affect their trust and confidence in the health system, which could affect their decision to get vaccinated.

By taking time to listen to their concerns and answer their questions, you can help people become confident in their decision to get vaccinated. Also, when you decide to get vaccinated and share the reasons why you did, you can have a powerful influence on your family and community. Strong confidence in the vaccines within communities leads to more people getting vaccinated, which leads to fewer COVID-19 illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Six Ways to Help Build COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence

- Encourage leaders in your family, community, or organizations to be vaccine champions.
- Have discussions with your friends and family about vaccination to understand their perspective and encourage their decision to vaccinate.
- Share key messages that promote action through multiple trusted channels.
- Help educate people about COVID-19 vaccines, including how they were developed and their intense safety monitoring, and how you can talk to others about the vaccines.
- Learn more about finding credible vaccine information. When you come across COVID-19 information, cross-check with CDC.gov and learn how to respond to misinformation you encounter.
- Make your decision to get vaccinated visible and celebrate it!

Visit the **Dallas County Health** and Human Services Facebook page for pop-up site info.

For upcoming **Parkland locations**, visit www.parklandhospital.com/CommunityCalendar

Homebound Texans can call 844-90-TEXAS (844-908-3927) and select Option 1 to request a state mobile vaccination team to visit their home.



Top: Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel advertised the pop-up vaccine site on Cedar Springs Rd. during Pride.

Bottom: The Dallas County HHS crew at the Buddhist Temple of Dallas during the Thai New Year celebration (Songkran).

Northaven Trail US 75 Bridge Construction Kicks Off

In May, a groundbreaking for the Northaven Trail Pedestrian Bridge, which will give pedestrians and bikers a safe path over US 75 North Central Expressway between Northaven Trail and White Rock Creek Trail was held.

Expected to open in 2023, the bridge and trail expansion will offer access to White Rock Lake for those traveling from the western side of US 75 and will connect to a number of other trails providing a route to almost any area of Dallas County.

“This is a significant East-West connection,” said Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel. “I am proud to have helped with the eastern connections. People should have a choice about how they travel and this is a great, unique choice to make.”

The groundbreaking ceremony included speeches by District 11 City Councilman Lee Kleinman, who was also the master of ceremonies; Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson; Texas Department of Transportation Commissioner Robie Vaughn; County Commissioners Dr. Theresa Daniel and J.J. Koch; District 13 City Councilwoman Jennifer Staubach Gates; Park Board President and District 13 Representative Calvert Collins-Bratton; and District 11 Park Board Representative and Friends of Northaven Trail President Jeff Kitner.



Photo courtesy of Jeff Kitner



Top: Dallas County and City of Dallas elected officials, City of Dallas Park Board members, and Friends of the Northaven Trail members shovel the first dirt on the Bridge project.

Left: Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel talks with former Dallas County Commissioner Maurine Dickey and former City of Dallas Councilmember Lois Finkelman

Major TxDOT Projects Around District 1

The 635 East Project is a \$1.74 billion design-build roadway construction project by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to improve mobility, operations and safety along Interstate 635 (I-635) in Dallas County. The project spans 11 miles beginning just east of US 75 in North Dallas to I-30 in Mesquite. Construction began in the spring of 2020 and will last through late 2024. I-635 East Project information and text alerts for detours: <https://635east.com/>

The proposed improvements to **I-30 between I-345/I-45 and Ferguson Road** would include ten general purpose lanes (five in each direction), two reversible managed lanes, discontinuous frontage roads in each direction, and reconstruction of ramps and bridges. The proposed I-30 main lanes and managed lanes would be depressed from I-345/I-45 to Dolphin Road. Accommodations for bicycle and pedestrian travel along the project corridor are a component of project development. Fall 2024 to Fall 2029

I-345 TxDOT is facilitating a feasibility study of I-345. This study is just the beginning of a process that will help TxDOT determine the best way to address the needs of the roadway and the traveling public as they plan for current and future development.



Partnerships that Work

Unprecedented Regional Effort to Rehouse Over 2,600 People Experiencing Homelessness

The “Dallas Real Time Rapid Rehousing” (DRTRRH) initiative will serve 100 domestic violence survivors, 100 families and over 2,400 unsheltered individuals. It will also be used as part of Dallas’ strategy to address homeless encampments.

Local governmental and civic leaders announced today a broad coalition to address the increasingly visible homelessness crisis in our community. Leveraging funding and housing vouchers provided by the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), the City of Dallas and Dallas County will each contribute \$25 million; the Dallas Housing Authority, Dallas County and the City of Mesquite will each contribute 100% of the vouchers they received under ARPA (450, 124 and 41, respectively), worth \$9.4 million; and MDHA will spearhead the raising of \$10 million of philanthropic contributions. Agencies in the Homeless Collaborative, Dallas and Collin Counties’ Continuum of Care, will provide the direct service to the people being served.

“I have spent many years working to address housing and homelessness in our community and we have never before been able to plan a program of this scale,” commented Dallas County Commissioner Theresa Daniel. “The funds allocated to the Dallas metroplex in the American Recovery Plan Act provide a once-in-a-generation opportunity to truly put a dent in homelessness in our community and I am grateful to work with like-minded partners on this issue.”

MDHA Chairman and Interim CEO Peter Brodsky concluded, “The answer to homelessness is housing and we could not let the opportunity to house so many of our neighbors pass us by. In addition to the funding that Dallas, Mesquite, Dallas County and DHA are contributing, I am grateful to the people who will be doing the really heavy lifting – the homeless services agencies in our continuum of care. This project is testimony to the power of collective impact, and I am thrilled for MDHA to quarterback an initiative that will improve so many lives.”

Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa Daniel Elected Chair of Regional Transportation Council

Collin County’s Webb, Fort Worth’s Moon also named officers



*Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa Daniel, left, and
Collin County Commissioner Duncan Webb, right.*

Dallas County Commissioner Theresa Daniel will lead the Regional Transportation Council for the next year after being elected chair of the 44-member transportation policymaking body for the Dallas-Fort Worth area on Thursday. Daniel takes over as chair of the RTC from Johnson County Judge Roger Harmon. Harmon has led the RTC through much of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has significantly impacted the region’s economy and transportation system. He has also steered the RTC through the 87th Texas Legislature.

Daniel has served on the transportation policymaking body since 2018. She has represented Dallas County as a commissioner since 2013. Daniel spent last year as vice chair of the RTC after a year as secretary.

Collin County Commissioner Duncan Webb is the new vice chair, while Fort Worth City Councilmember Cary Moon was named secretary.

The RTC includes local elected or appointed officials from the Dallas-Fort Worth area and representatives from each of the area’s transportation providers.

As the transportation policymaking body for the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth area, the RTC oversees transportation planning for the fourth-largest metropolitan area in the country, which has a current population of more than 7.5 million people.

The RTC guides the development of roadway, rail and bicycle-pedestrian plans and programs; allocates transportation funds; and recommends projects to the Texas Transportation Commission for other programs.

Additionally, the RTC ensures transportation services are coordinated throughout the region and the metropolitan area complies with air quality regulations. Dallas-Fort Worth is currently in nonattainment for ozone and is working toward meeting the federal standards.

IGNITE Honored for Innovative Women’s Health Initiative

ORDER NO: 2021-0585

DATE: June 15, 2021

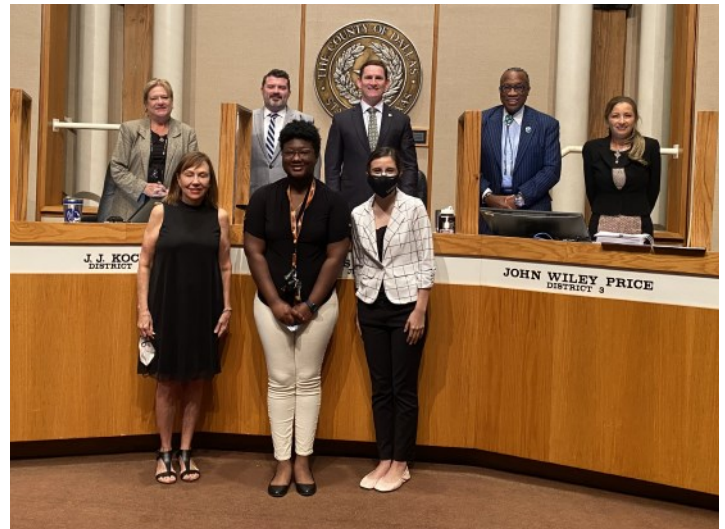
EXCERPT

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, a group of students from Skyline High School’s Ignite program pushed against this disadvantage by advocating for the Dallas Independent School District (District) Menstrual Equity Campaign, an initiative to bring product dispensers with free pads and tampons to all secondary schools in the District; and

WHEREAS, The District accepted the Menstrual Hygiene Campaign proposal in an effort to provide an equitable learning environment for menstruating students. They have since installed dispensers in all high schools and provided for dispensers in all new secondary school buildings. The District is dedicated to expanding the installation of dispensers in middle schools and continuing to provide free menstrual hygiene products for students at all secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, The commonly recognized definition of menstrual equity is partially defined as the affordability, accessibility, and safety of menstrual products for all menstruators, but it is more than that. Menstrual equity is a human rights issue. It directly impacts the way people perceive themselves, their confidence, and their standard of living. 62% of students said they felt that the world is not set up for them to manage their periods with full confidence, and 58% said they are negatively affected by negative associations with periods; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby honor the courage and tenacity of a group of high school students determined to provide a more equitable learning environment for menstruators. The members of IGNITE are the embodiment of what women throughout history have fought for.



Back (L-R): Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel , Commissioner J.J. Koch, Judge Clay Jenkins, Commissioner John Wiley Price, Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia. Front (L-R): Dr. Martha Williams, Micaela Black, Brooke Lopez Below: Students from IGNITE

