

Andy Sommerman Dallas County Commissioner District 2 Newsletter



BSL RIBBON CUTTING

On March 4th, Commissioner Sommerman attended the ribbon cutting for the Bio-Safety Lab (BSL) – 3 Lab located at 1410 West Mockingbird Lane.

The 63,000-square-foot facility is designed to expand Dallas County’s capacity to detect pathogens faster, contain outbreaks, shorten turnaround times for lab tests, and respond to unknown threats and emergencies without relying on others.



The BSL-3 Lab is equipped with modern public health infrastructure such as:

- Advanced directional airflow systems
- HEPA filtration
- Controlled access zones
- Mechanical and power systems that allow facility to operate continuously, even during severe weather or public health emergencies

These features allow Dallas County Health and Human Services to respond to health threats faster and provide high-quality service to our residents.

“It is very important that we remain independent in terms of our ability to provide health and human services to individuals . We don’t have to rely upon others because of this facility.”

– Andy Sommerman, Dallas County District 2 Commissioner



THE FAMILY PLACE


On March 10th, Commissioner Sommerman toured the facility of Family Place in Dallas. The Family Place is one of the largest family violence service providers in Texas that offers comprehensive support to survivors of domestic abuse. From emergency shelter and counseling to legal aid and life skills. The Family Place provides free services that help individuals and families find safety, stability, and strength.

In 2024, the Family Place provided services to 40,150 unique individuals in English and Spanish.

- 42,140 nights of emergency shelter
- 20,805 nights of transitional housing
- 4,480 hours of counseling
- 6,970 hours of case management sessions
- 6,601 hours of court-ordered psycho-educational groups for batterers.



What does the Family Place do?

- Provides Emergency Shelter
- Legal Advocacy
- Provides supportive services such as housing, childcare, employment
- Provides Counseling
- Programs for children
- 24-hour crisis hotline: 214-941-1991 



Commissioner Sommerman with Dr. Aaliyah G. Miranda, Senior Director (left) and Tiffany Tate CEO of Family Place (right).



Visit familyplace.org to learn more or get help for yourself or a loved one!

NATIONAL THERAPY ANIMAL DAY

On April 21st, Commissioner Sommerman presented the National Therapy Animal Day resolution for Pet Partners.

Since 1977, Pet Partners has registered and supported thousands of volunteer therapy animal teams who have contributed to Pet Partners' mission to improve human health and well-being through meaningful visits.

Pet Partners volunteers visit hospitals, nursing homes, veterans' centers, courtrooms, schools, and workplaces.

Therapy animals provide emotional, physical, and psychological support. They help reduce stress, anxiety, and even improve cardiovascular health.



If you would like to become a Pet Partners volunteer or learn more about the services Pet Partners provides, visit <https://petpartners.org/>

RECENT NEWS ARTICLES



At least 13,000 Dallas County residents showed up at the wrong primary polling place



State wants North Texas foster care provider taken over, citing 2 infant deaths



Dallas primary election voting confusion prompts congressional talk on voter suppression



Use the QR codes to read the article!

Email District2Office@dallascounty.org if you have any questions or comments!

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Facebook: Commissioner Andrew Sommerman

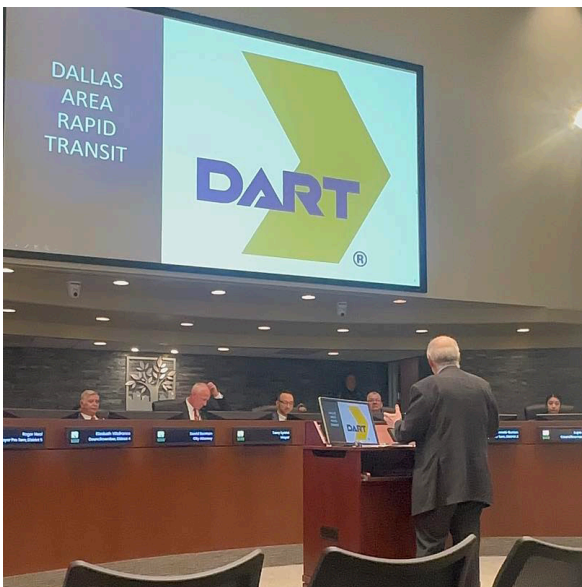
X: @andrewfordallas

Instagram: andrewfordallas



**MARCH 18TH - ROAD &
BRIDGE 4 RESURFACED
THE PARKING LOT AT THE
ESPERANZA COMMUNITY
CENTER**

**APRIL 3RD - COMMISSIONER
SOMMERMAN AND
COMMISSIONER DR. ELBA
GARCIA AT THE DALLAS
FOUNDER LIONS CLUB.**



**APRIL 21ST - COMMISSIONER
SOMMERMAN AT FARMERS
BRANCH CITY COUNCIL,
PRESENTING DALLAS COUNTY'S
DEFLECTION CENTER
INITIATIVE**



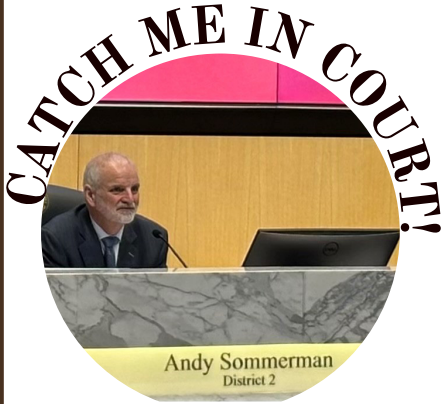
Have Great News in District 2 to add to the newsletter? Would you like Commissioner Sommerman to attend your next neighborhood meeting? Contact us at District2Office@dallascounty.org

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Upcoming Events



Commissioners Court
May 5th @ 9am
To watch online, [click here](#).



RIBBON CUTTING COMING SOON



Esperanza Community Center - Mural in progress