

**CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS**  
**CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

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**Present:**

Mayor Mattie Parker  
Mayor Pro tem Gyna M. Bivens, District 5  
Council Member Carlos Flores, District 2  
Council Member Michael D. Crain, District 3  
Council Member Charlie Lauersdorf, District 4  
Council Member Jared Williams, District 6  
Council Member Macy Hill, District 7  
Council Member Chris Nettles, District 8  
Council Member Elizabeth Beck, District 9  
Council Member Alan Blaylock, District 10  
Council Member Jeanette Martinez, District 11

**Staff Present:**

David Cooke, City Manager  
Leann Guzman, City Attorney  
Jannette S. Goodall, City Secretary

With a quorum of the City Council Members present, Mayor Parker called the City Council Work Session of the Fort Worth City Council to order 1:04 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, in the City Council Conference Room 2020 of the Fort Worth City Hall, 200 Texas Street, Fort Worth, Texas.

**1. Report of the City Manager - David Cooke, City Manager**

**a. Upcoming and Recent Events**

There were no upcoming and recent events.

**b. Organizational Updates and Employee Recognition(s)**

City Manager Cooke called on William Johnson, Assistant City Manager, to recognize Cherie Gordon, Economic Development Project Manager, and team who received the 2023 Impact Award in Advanced Manufacturing by Business Facilities Magazine for the New Siemens Manufacturing Facility Project.

City Manager Cooke called on William Johnson, Assistant City Manager, to recognize Maria Herrera, Public Events Department, who won The Visit Fort Worth “Beyond Award” which recognizes outstanding frontline professionals who serve visitors and guests of Fort Worth with incredible service and commitment.

City Manager Cooke called on Richard Zavala, Park and Recreation Department Director, to announce the award from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Grant for Sycamore Park.

City Manager Cooke called on Valerie Washington, Assistant City Manager, to recognize and congratulate Brandon Bennett and Henry’s retirement.

**c. Informal Reports**

[24-1803](#) Incentives to Build Dog Parks in Multifamily Developments - DJ Harrell, Development Services Director and Richard Zavala, Park and Recreation Director

Council Member Flores requested a summary of the Informal Report.

[24-1804](#) Monthly Development Activity Report - D.J. Harrell, Development Services Director

Council Member Beck requested a summary of the Informal Report and pointed out a correction to make to the Council District listed for Green Oaks. The correct Council District should be Council District 3.

[24-1805](#) Senate Bill 2038 - Monthly Report on the Release of Area from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) by Petition of Landowner or Resident - D.J. Harrell, Development Services Director

**2. Questions Regarding Changes in Membership on Boards and Commissions for February 27, 2024, Council Meeting**

There were no questions regarding changes in Membership on Boards and Commissions for February 27, 2024, Council Meeting.

**3. Questions Regarding City Council M&C Log for February 27, 2024, Council Meeting**

There were no questions regarding City Council M&C Log for February 27, 2024, Council Meeting.

**4. Presentation on Economic Impact of Fort Worth Film Commission – Robert Sturns, Economic Development Director, Mitch Whitten, Visit Fort Worth Chief Operating Officer and Jessica Christopherson, Visit Fort Worth Vice President of Marketing & Film Commissioner**

Presentation was made by Robert Sturns, Economic Development Director, Mitch Whitten, Visit Fort Worth, Chief Operating Officer, and Jessica Christopherson, Visit Fort Worth, President of Marketing and Film Commissioner.

**5. Texas Wesleyan University Update – Dr. Emily Messer, President**

Presentation was made by Dr. Emily Messer, President, Texas Wesleyan University.

**6. Fort Worth Independent School District Update – Dr. Angélica M. Ramsey, Fort Worth Independent School District Superintendent of Schools**

Presentation was made by Dr. Angelica M. Ramsey, Superintendent of Schools, Fort Worth Independent School District.

Mayor Parker requested data on bright spot schools that are excelling.

**7. Presentation on Infant and Maternal Health Report – Sadie Funk, Best Place for Kids National Director and Sara J. Redington, Miles Foundation Chief Philanthropy Officer**

Presentation was made by Sadie Funk, Best Place for Kids, and Sara J. Redington, Miles Foundation.

Council Member Beck recommended partnering with the area first responders to assist with increasing the awareness of the APP.

**8. Presentation on Proposed Temporary Closure of North University Drive from Jacksboro Highway (SH199) to Rockwood Park Drive During Reconstruction in Mid-2026 or Later - Doug Rademaker, Transportation and Public Works Senior Capital Projects Officer and Lauren Prieur, Transportation and Public Works Director**

Presentation was made by Lauren Prieur, Transportation and Public Works Department Director.

**9. Presentation on Urban Forestry Master Plan – LaShondra Stringfellow,  
Development Services Assistant Director**

Presentation was made by LaShondra Stringfellow, Development Services Assistant Director.

Council Member Williams recommended including information on the role of native landscaping and trees.

**10. City Council Requests for Future Agenda Items and/or Reports**

Council Member Martinez requested an update on the City’s interpretation of SB 4 and how Fort Worth Police will communicate its approach to the law.

Council Member Williams requested information on the City’s current ordinance relating to native landscaping practices including native trees.

Council Member Flores requested a report on the use of mobile eye/collision avoidance technology as a tool to assist with reducing collisions.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested a report on the where speed bumps and other traffic calming devices are appropriate and how to request the installation of the devices.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested a report on the number of neighborhood associations over the last five years and how the numbers have changed.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested information on whether the City needs to consider managing neighborhood alliances.

Council Member Beck requested a report on the City’s process for investigating standing water on roadways.

Mayor Parker requested information on how the City determined the 30% tree canopy listed in the Urban Forestry Master Plan.

Council Member Flores requested information on available data relating to the impact trees have with air quality.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Parker adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.