

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****June 2, 2020**

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**SUBJECT: EGRETS IN THE CANDLERIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide a response to the question raised by Councilmember Jungus Jordan at the May 19, 2020 City Council work session regarding egrets in Candleridge.

Texas is a major route for migratory birds shuttling between the United States and Canada. This annual event can impact residential, commercial, and industrial properties. The nesting birds bring challenges such as noise, odor and significant amounts of excrement covering streets, sidewalks, cars, and mailboxes on public and private property.

This is currently the nesting season for birds. City staff is unable to address any of these issues while the birds are nesting, however, due to their protected status under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. Once birds begin sitting on nests, eggs are probably present. Per the Treaty Act, persons cannot kill, harass, move, or disturb the birds during nesting season.

The egrets have been observed at residences located on Fuller Circle and Johnstone Lane. No birds were noted in Candleridge Park. Listed below is the action City staff is taking to handle the egret situation.

- Code Compliance works closely with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, which also educates residents and enforces the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
- While there have been no reports of dead birds, residents can bag dead birds, place them at the curb Monday – Saturday, and call Solid Waste at 817-392-1234 for pick up.
- Fort Worth Animal Care and Control picks up and cares for any sick or injured egrets that are reported.
- Solid Waste sweeps the streets around Candleridge Park and the additional four to six homes that are impacted two times a week to remove debris.
- Code Compliance and Park & Recreation staffs continue to monitor the situation and provide information to affected residents.

If additional information is needed, please contact Brandon Bennett, Code Compliance Director, at 817-392-6322 or David Creek, Acting Park & Recreation Director, at 817-392-5744.

**David Cooke**  
**City Manager**