

June 2020

The Dallas Digest

The Mayor's Space

Mayor Brian Dalton



"This too shall pass away." Of this Persian adage, Abraham Lincoln said, *"How much this expresses! How consoling in the depths of affliction!"*

And, indeed we are now afflicted. Pandemic disease stalks us, jobs and businesses are barely emerging from their shuttered state, and now the winds of social change are blowing fiercely around us. Some communities, even here in Oregon, are full of turmoil, unsure of their future.

As the storms pass – and they will – my sense is that Dallas will emerge stronger, better and maybe more quickly than one might suppose. This is due to our innate strength, our persistence, care and concern for one another and our blessed location, close to everything but mercifully a bit aside from the mainstream. Society is in what may be a tectonic cultural shift where the lure of the big, bustling, crowded cities is shifting, where working from home will be in fashion and small-town life like ours is becoming the ideal.

Policing is particularly under the microscope these days. And the larger the city, the more the heartache of us vs. them. Here, small, we can be and are proactive, not reactive. Our relationships are the shields that protect us from the furies which could easily envelop us. Not armored up with intimidating gear to show force, we are armored up with care, concern and the tools of modern cultural interactions to get to the root of social problems - drug and mental health courts, the Resource Center - not reactively attacking the symptoms with a club.

Watching TV these days is like watching a slow-motion train wreck, a horrible experience but you can't take your eyes off it. One thing I've seen in the carnage, is the expression of groups out there feeling discomfort, perhaps fear around police, even in their own neighborhoods - anxiety at being stopped, being accosted by authorities, singled out, and thus anxious about moving freely in society.

Here in Dallas we can readily offer an alternative to that bleak perspective. Granted, the mental adjustment will likely be slow and challenging, but our offer here is safety, acceptance and the notion that our authorities are friendly, helpful and worthy of trust.

Societies, to remain vibrant, must from time to time reinvent themselves. We are on the cusp of that reinvention, and what we offer here in our small world fits perfectly with the longing and need for a bright future. I expect many folks of great diversity will beat a path to our door in the upcoming months and years. They are most welcome and they are unlikely to regret their move.

COVID-19. Can't not mention the Disease. The damned thing pretty much bypassed us – remarkably few cases in our Dallas Zip Code population of 20,000 - but it lurks out there. So, remain wary, be safe and we'll bounce back just fine. Distancing brings us closer.

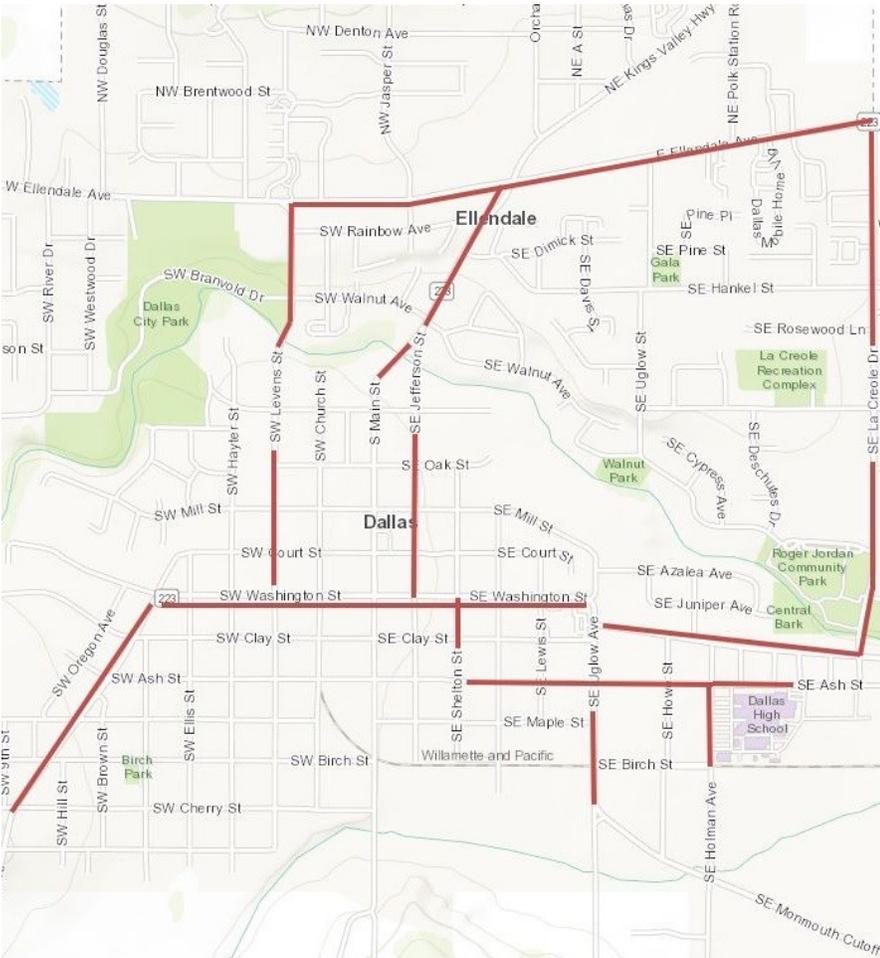
Be well.

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2020 Graduate Banner Program a Huge Success!

On June 3, 2020 the City of Dallas partnered with the Dallas High School, Morrison School and Pacific power to honor the graduating class of 2020. Community volunteers worked tirelessly to gather student photos and assemble 228 banners. The banner project was funded by a local donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Shana Lavier, project volunteer says, "This project is all about our amazing kids. We want them to know their community supports them, loves them and cares deeply for them during these uncertain times. Senior year is a time in their lives to be remembered in the most positive way and we hope these banners add to their celebration."

The map below displays the location of all banners throughout the City of Dallas. Banners will be on display until the end of June.



Polk County Applies for Phase 2

Phase 2 of Oregon's Covid-19 phased reopening plan will "Relax some of the restrictions that have been in place and some sectors will be able to reopen". For more information on Phase 2, please visit Governor Brown's website for Covid-19: <https://govstatus.egov.com/reopening-oregon#phase2>



Municipal Court Back in Session

Dallas Municipal court will return to Dallas City Hall in early June. Patrons are highly recommended to wear masks. Courtroom capacity will be limited in order to adhere to six feet of social distancing .

For more information on Dallas Municipal Court, please visit the Dallas City Website: <https://www.dallasor.gov/170/Municipal-Court>