

# WHERE WE LIVE

Winter 2024

Town Hall Forum  
Budget Update  
Hurst Employee Recognition



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## CITY COUNCIL

- Henry Wilson Mayor
- Gary N. Waldron Mayor Pro Tem
- Jimmy Meeks Council Member
- John Miller Council Member
- Cathy Brotherton Council Member
- Jon McKenzie Council Member
- Cindy Shepard Council Member

## CITY STAFF

- Clay Caruthers City Manager
- Clayton Fulton Assistant City Manager
- Malaika Farmer Assistant City Manager
- Greg Dickens Executive Director of Public Works
- Rita Frick City Secretary
- Steve Niekamp Police Chief
- Brent Craft Fire Chief
- Chris Connolly Executive Director of Economic Development and Tourism
- Kyle Gordon Executive Director of Community Services
- Michelle Lazo Executive Director of Planning and Community Development
- Stephanie Jenkins Executive Director of Human Resources



# OUR COMMUNITY

## Citizen Survey

### Priorities determined for upcoming budget

Each year, the City of Hurst engages in our Strategic Planning Process to determine priorities for the upcoming budget. This process allows the city council to evaluate community needs and assess their impact on the city's budget while also helping the city determine which services to provide and at what level they are offered. Our annual citizen survey is a critical factor affecting the strategic planning process.

We will open up our survey for responses during the month of February. You'll be able to access it during that time at [hursttx.gov/citizensurvey](http://hursttx.gov/citizensurvey). Once the survey is closed, staff and council will evaluate how responses have changed over the past year to develop a strategic plan to guide the budget process effectively. These survey results are direct feedback and information that is critical to developing the council's priorities that staff uses to develop the proposed budget.

We are excited about the opportunity to continue to provide high-quality services to our citizens. We sincerely appreciate all who have responded to our surveys now and in the past. The responses we receive help us develop a budget that meets the needs of our community today and tomorrow.

**Visit [hursttx.gov/citizensurvey](http://hursttx.gov/citizensurvey)**

Access the survey during the month of February





# BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM

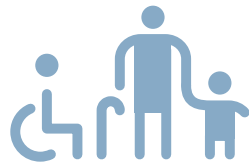
Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.



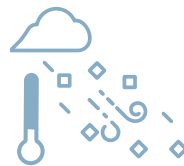
## FEMA

FEMA V-1014/June 2018

Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.



Greater risk



Can last a few hours or several days



Can knock out heat, power, and communication services

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING, FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

Stay off roads.



Use generators outside only.

Stay indoors and dress warmly.



Listen for emergency information and alerts.

Prepare for power outages.



Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.



Check on neighbors.



## The Social Media Connection

### City of Hurst

WEBSITE: [www.hursttx.gov](http://www.hursttx.gov)

FACEBOOK: @CityofHurstTX

TWITTER: @TheCityofHurst

INSTAGRAM: @CityofHurstTX

NEXTDOOR: City of Hurst

### Hurst Public Library

WEBSITE: [www.hursttx.gov/library](http://www.hursttx.gov/library)

FACEBOOK: @HurstPublicLibrary

INSTAGRAM: @HurstPublicLibrary

### Hurst Police & Fire

FACEBOOK: @HurstPoliceDepartment

TWITTER: @HurstPoliceDept, @HurstFireDept

NEXTDOOR: Hurst Police Department

### Hurst Conference Center

WEBSITE: [www.hurstcc.com](http://www.hurstcc.com)

FACEBOOK: @HurstCC

INSTAGRAM: @HurstConferenceCenter

### Hurst Parks and Recreation

FACEBOOK: @HurstParksandRecreation

INSTAGRAM: @HurstParksandRecreation

### Hurst Senior Activities Center

FACEBOOK: @HurstSeniorActivitiesCenter



# City of Hurst Town Hall Forum

## February 29

Hurst Conference Center | 1601 Campus Drive | 6 - 8 p.m.

Join us at the Hurst Conference Center for our Town Hall Forum on February 29! This is a great opportunity to hear from city staff and connect with our mayor and city council members.

From 6-7 p.m., enjoy refreshments while listening to a few presentations, then stick around from 7-8 p.m. for a meet and greet with our mayor, city council, and city departments. We look forward to seeing you there!



# Join Team Hurst

**Are you seeking a new career opportunity  
focusing on serving your community?**

The team members at the City of Hurst are passionate about serving the public, providing excellent customer service, and responsibly managing our resources to take care of the city now and in the future.

**By joining the City of Hurst, you get to:**

- serve our local community
- take pride in your work
- be a part of an excellent culture
- save for retirement (with an employer match)
- receive tuition reimbursement
- participate in professional and leadership development
- receive health, dental, vision insurance + more

If this sounds right up your alley, take a look at our open positions at [hursttx.gov/openpositions](http://hursttx.gov/openpositions) and consider applying!

**Visit [hursttx.gov/getconnected](http://hursttx.gov/getconnected)**  
to get alerts in your inbox when new jobs become available.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



@hurstpubliclibrary  
hursttx.gov/library

### Train Car Creations

**When**

4:30-7:30 p.m. | January 9, 11

**Where**

Hurst Public Library | Program Room North/South

Join us to create kid-sized train cars. We provide the boxes and craft supplies, and you supply the imagination! Afterward, parade your creation in the Train Car Parade on Saturday, January 13, at 11:00 a.m. Open to children of all ages.



### Train Car Parade and Story Time

**When**

11:00 a.m. | January 13

**Where**

Hurst Public Library | Parade begins in Program Room North/South

The Kids' Express will chugga-chug around the Library for all to enjoy. See the custom train cars kids and families have created or, better yet, be a part of the fun and make your own train car on January 9 and 11! At the end of the line, join us for a special storytime celebrating trains.

## Take Your Child to the Library Day

### When

Library open hours, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. | February 3

### Where

Throughout Hurst Public Library

It's Take Your Child to the Library Day! Join us in the morning for Donuts with Grownups and Baby Time (registration required). Follow it up with a fun scavenger hunt, or guess how many bookworms we're collecting for a chance to win a prize! At 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., we'll take you on a tour of the Library and show you the secrets of keeping you well-stocked in books; first-come, first-served. Make your own bookmark, and then join us for Whatever-Makes-You-Happy Hour at 4:00 p.m. We can't wait to show you what magic awaits everyone at the Library!



## Wildlife on the Move: The Unhuggables

### When

2:00 p.m. | March 13

### Where

Hurst Public Library | Program Room North/South

Have some creepy fun for spring break! Come see large hissing cockroaches, creepy tarantulas, slithery snakes, and other various reptiles and invertebrates. For Families.

## MasterWorks Concert Series Presents: Michael Hix

### When

6:30 p.m. | March 14

### Where

Library Park | Rain out location is Library Program Room North/South

### Save these dates for upcoming MasterWorks concerts

June 6 | September 26 | December 14 | December 19

The Hurst Public Library and Arts Council Northeast are proud to partner to bring you this year's MasterWorks series! Join us in Library Park for a night of music with Michael Hix, along with games, crafts, and snacks for the whole family. Bring your own chairs or blankets for lawn seating.





# City of Hurst Budget Update

## New fiscal year marks time for strategic planning

October 1 marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for the City of Hurst. The initial step when developing our budget each year is making our annual citizen survey available for community input. The City Council and staff discuss the feedback received from the survey and use the information to develop the annual budget.

The budget process includes a review of our property tax rate and calculating the tax rate as outlined by the State's Truth in Taxation forms. There has been a lot of discussion recently about property taxes and tax relief. Did you know that the majority of your property tax payment - typically around 75%, goes to your local school districts, Tarrant County, Tarrant County College, and JPS Health Network? That means that only about 25% of your tax bill is used to fund city services. In fact, under the adopted tax rate, you receive full city services, including police, fire, streets, parks & rec, library, and more, for less than \$3.60 per day. That's

an incredible value and provides far more than your average morning cup of coffee.

It's also important to know that Hurst was an early adopter of tax breaks for our citizens. For decades, the City of Hurst has offered the highest level of homestead exemption allowed by law. And, there are other exemptions homeowners may qualify for. Qualifying seniors receive a tax ceiling on their city assessments in addition to a senior discount on the city's portion of their tax bill, and their annual taxes paid to the City of Hurst will not increase. In fact, through state and local exemptions, Hurst has over 1.8 billion dollars in value exempt from property taxes. That's about 31% of the total market value of property in Hurst.

Property taxes continue to be the most reliable and stable revenue source for our General Fund, which supports important services such as police and fire

operations. The Fiscal Year 24 general fund budget was increased by 5.17%, totaling \$42.7 million. Over the past ten years, the average general fund budget increase has been 2.87%, while inflation costs facing cities have been around 3-3.5% on average over the same period.

Realistic inflation increases are included within the budget. Cities are facing the same issues as private businesses with increases in utilities, fuel, supply, labor, and other costs. This is especially apparent in the market for maintenance contractors and supply vendors, who have increased costs significantly over the past year. Additionally, the cost of labor in the maintenance market has increased significantly in the last few years. The adopted budget includes a citywide pay adjustment and other targeted increases following a study of the local municipal employment market. The City of Hurst remains committed to attracting and retaining top municipal talent. This includes competitive wages & benefits, maintaining a positive culture, following best hiring practices, and maintaining our high training standards. Having high-quality municipal talent helps us reach our goal of providing excellent customer service as a return on your investment.

Following the Strategic Plan, City Council and staff focus on five strategic priorities when developing the budget each year. Those priorities are Public Safety, Leadership, Innovation, Community and Economic Vitality, and Infrastructure.

As shown in the annual citizen survey, Public Safety, Infrastructure, and Community and Economic Vitality were your top priorities for us to focus on for the upcoming budget year.

Hurst employees are committed to providing exceptional customer service while being responsive to the needs of the community. Personal dedication and our passion for providing public service are key, but having the necessary equipment and training to complete job assignments is extremely important. This is especially critical for our Police, Fire, and EMS

services. The upcoming budget includes replacing our police radio system, which has become obsolete and is no longer supported for maintenance by the vendor. Six new vehicles that previously were unobtainable due to supply chain issues will be purchased for police. The budget also includes the purchase of fire and EMS equipment, including new extrication tools, life pack monitors, stretchers, and stair chairs.

Infrastructure is also a critical part of our public safety program. Safe and well-maintained streets and reliable water, wastewater, and drainage infrastructure contribute to community safety and livability. The City has several street projects in the works through partnerships with Tarrant County and recent street bond issues the past few years. This includes major street projects like Pipeline Rd. and less visible projects like moving a signal light to Redbud and Precinct Line Rd. Recent population growth and strategic operation plans have pushed the City towards building a new elevated water storage tank. This will be our first tank built since 1982. This tank is necessary to meet demand and continue to meet the state's water storage requirements from TCEQ. The tank will be constructed on Mary Drive at Central Park near our Recreation Center.

The Council adopted a tax rate of approximately 58 cents, which is lower than the previous fiscal year's tax rate. This tax rate supports essential city services, including police, fire, public works, and community services operations.

After careful consideration of the financial position of our Utility Fund and with news that our wholesale water costs continue to increase, a decision was made to move forward with a reasonable increase of 4% to our retail water and sanitary sewer rates. We also conducted a review of our Storm Drainage Utility Fee, which will increase by \$0.50 per month to help fund needs related to our storm drainage system. The fee was adopted in 2008, and this is the first-ever increase.

You can learn more about this year's budget by visiting [hursttx.gov/budget](http://hursttx.gov/budget).



## CodeRED Emergency Notification System

The City of Hurst uses the CodeRED Emergency Notification System to notify the entire city or only the affected areas, via telephone or cell phone, about emergency situations in a matter of minutes. The system is available to all Hurst residents free of charge. These phone calls will begin with “This is a CodeRed Emergency message from The City of Hurst.”

### In what case would I receive a CodeRED message?

- Homeland Security related emergencies
- Hazardous material emergencies
- Drinking water contamination
- Other emergency situations where rapid and accurate notification is essential for life safety
- Missing persons report
- Warning of significant weather

### What should I do if I receive a CodeRED message?

Listen to the entire message carefully, and follow the instructions  
DO NOT call 9-1-1 unless instructed to do so.

To sign up, visit [hursttx.gov/CodeRED](http://hursttx.gov/CodeRED).



Hurst Way Advocacy Team Members receiving Team Hurst Award.

# City of Hurst employees receive recognition

Congratulations to our Employee of the Year and Team Hurst Award Recipients!

This year’s Employee of the Year is Sergeant Mark Bruner. Mark is a dedicated member of the Hurst Police Department who wholeheartedly supports the City of Hurst’s culture, builds lasting relationships with the community, and upholds the City’s Code of Ideals. He has shown extreme enthusiasm for the Hurst Way Advocacy Team, an internal committee that shapes the organization’s culture, and has effortlessly spearheaded leadership development opportunities for our team members. He has the ability to bring a positive attitude to any situation and is always willing to take on an extra challenge.

The city manager selects the annual Team Hurst Award to recognize a group of employees who have displayed teamwork while going above and beyond on a project. This year’s Team Hurst Award was presented to the Hurst Way Advocacy Team. This team is a group of exceptional individuals who have not only weathered the storms of the many challenges faced over the last several years but have steadfastly upheld and nurtured



Sergeant Mark Bruner pictured with Mayor Henry Wilson and City Manager Clay Caruthers while being recognized as Employee of the Year.

our cherished “Hurst Way” culture. “In a world that witnessed unprecedented disruptions and shifts, it’s heartening to know that amidst all the uncertainties, our Hurst Way culture endured and remains the cornerstone of our success. I appreciate the tireless efforts of this remarkable committee of employees. They exemplify the spirit of resilience, adaptability, and unity that our organization stands for,” said City Manager Clay Caruthers.

We are proud of our Hurst team members for all they do to support our community and organization.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



@HurstParksandRecreation



### Daddy Daughter Dance

**When**

4:00-6:00 p.m. | February 3

**Where**

Hurst Senior Activities Center | 700 Heritage Circle

**Tickets**

\$40 for a couple and \$20 per additional daughter. Tickets go on sale Wednesday, January 3 at 8 a.m. at <https://dancingqueen.eventbrite.com>. Space is limited; get your tickets ASAP to guarantee your spot at the event.

Dancing, photos, crafts, dinner and more! This is an evening she will never forget!

## Eggstravaganza

### When

5:00 p.m. | Tuesday, March 19

### Where

Hurst Community Park | 601 Precinct Line Road

Activities begin at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy our FREE petting zoo, photos with Mr. Bunny, face painting, crafts, pony rides, and egg hunts! Food is available for purchase from one of our amazing vendors. Egg hunts are available for ages 0-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. The first hunt begins at 6:30 p.m. We will stagger times for each age group. Please, no pets or glass containers during the event.



## Sensory-Friendly Egg Hunt

### When

5:30 p.m. | Friday, March 22

### Where

Hurst Central Park | 700 block of Mary Drive  
(across from the Tennis Center)

This FREE sensory-friendly event is for children under 16 and their families. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. and includes a petting zoo, face painting, crafts, snow-cones, photos with Mr. Bunny, and egg hunts, including an area for those with mobility restrictions. Egg Hunts are offered for ages 0-5 and 6 and up. The first hunt begins at 6:45 p.m. We will stagger times for each age group. Please, no pets or glass containers during the event.



## Doggone Egg Hunt

### When

Photos begin at 8:30 a.m. | Saturday, March 23

### Where

Hurst Dog Park | 900 TCC Road

Em-BARK on a delightful canine adventure at the Dog Park with your furry companion! Join us for memorable moments with Mr. Bunny, indulge in treats, snag some giveaways, and partake in the exciting Egg Hunt. It's a tail-wagging good time for all! The small dog egg hunt begins at 9:15 a.m. The large dog egg hunt begins at 9:30 a.m.



## Recreation Survey

The Hurst Recreation Center is looking for community input on ways we can improve our services and programs. By completing this online survey, you will be entered to win one FREE month membership to the Rec! Don't miss out on the opportunity to share your feedback with us.

Visit [hursttx.gov/recsurvey](https://hursttx.gov/recsurvey) to make your voice heard!

## Recreation Center Open House

January 20

Hurst Recreation Center | 700 Mary Drive | 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Join us for an exciting day of exploration and wellness at the Hurst Recreation Center Open House! Discover everything our facility has to offer!

At the Open House, you'll have the opportunity to participate in engaging classes and gain valuable insights into our personal training program. Don't miss out on the FREE giveaways and activities for the whole family! Whether your a fitness enthusiast, an on-the-go parent, or looking for a new community, there's something for everyone. Explore all the ins and outs of the Hurst Recreation Center and learn how we can help you achieve your health and wellness goals.

We look forward to welcoming you! For more information, visit [hursttx.gov/recreation](https://hursttx.gov/recreation).

# HURST AQUATICS



## AVAILABLE POSITIONS

Lifeguard\*  
Swim Lesson Instructor  
Aquatics Facility Attendant  
Pool Cashier

MAKE A SPLASH.   
EARN SOME CASH! 

## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Paid training & staff events  
Free Rec Membership  
Free certifications  
Flexible hours  
Lifesaving skills



\*Recruiting lifeguards  
15 years and older\*

APPLY ONLINE AT  
[HURSTTX.GOV/AQUATICS](http://HURSTTX.GOV/AQUATICS)



# FACILITY INFORMATION

## Hurst Recreation Center

### Hours of Operation:

Monday-Thursday: 5:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday: 5:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

### Contact Information

700 Mary Drive

Hurst, Texas 76053

817-788-7325

To view the full class and program schedule, please visit [hursttx.gov/recreation](http://hursttx.gov/recreation).



## Hurst Tennis & Pickleball Center

### Hours of Operation:

Monday-Thursday\*: 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., 5 – 9 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: Noon – 4 p.m.

### Court Rental Fees

Resident: \$3

Non-Resident: \$5

\* Gates are open for free play from 1-5 p.m. on weekdays

### Contact Information

701 Mary Drive

Hurst, Texas 76053

817-788-7330



## Hurst Public Library

### Hours of Operation

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

### Contact Information

901 Precinct Line Rd.

Hurst, Texas 76053

817-788-7300

Find out all the information on the Hurst Public Library, including programming, at [hursttx.gov/library](http://hursttx.gov/library) and on social media @HurstPublicLibrary.

## Hurst Senior Activities Center

**Hours of Operation:** Monday-Wednesday & Friday: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Thursday 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.  
For the latest news and updates, please visit [hursttx.gov/hsac](http://hursttx.gov/hsac) and on Facebook @HurstSeniorActivitiesCenter.

### Contact Information

700 Heritage Circle  
Hurst, Texas 76053  
817-788-7710



# PARK SYSTEM

## Taking Care of Hurst Parks

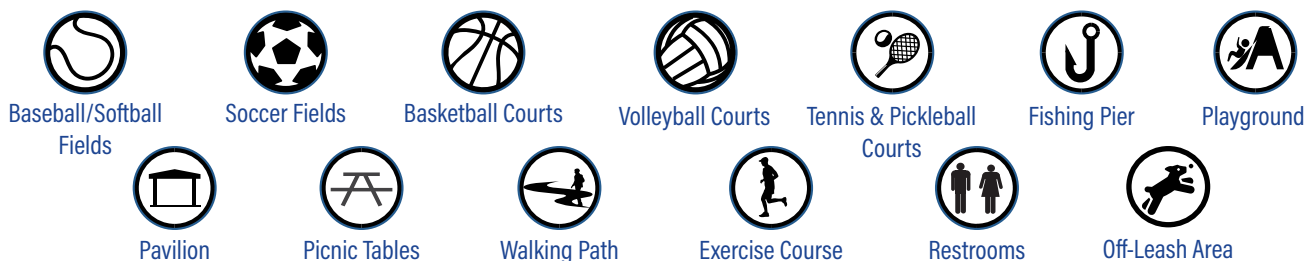
Parks crews inspect parks regularly for safety, litter, vandalism, and minor maintenance items. If you notice anything that requires our attention, please call 817.788.7325. Residents and guests may also report concerns via our 'Where We Live' app found in the Apple App store and Google Play store.

[www.hursttx.gov/parks](http://www.hursttx.gov/parks)



Community Parks													
<b>Central Park</b>			●		●		●	●	●	●			
700 Mary Dr.													
<b>Chisholm Park</b>	●		●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
2200 Norwood Dr.													
<b>Hurst Community Park</b>	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●	
601 Precinct Line Rd.													
Special Purpose Parks													
<b>Heritage Village Plaza</b>								●	●	●			
841 W. Pipeline Rd.													
<b>Hurst Athletic Complex</b>	●	●					●	●	●			●	
2104 Precinct Line Rd.													
<b>Rickel Park</b>							●	●	●	●			
1001 Bluebonnet Dr.													
<b>Windmill Park</b>									●				
840 W. Cheryl Ave.													
<b>Hurst Dog Park</b>												●	●
900 TCC Rd.													

### Symbol Key





Neighborhood Parks												
<b>Bellaire Park</b>	●	Closed due to HEB ISD construction					●		●	●		
500 Pecan Drive E.												
<b>Echo Hills Park</b>		●					●	●	●	●		
500 Heneretta Dr.												
<b>Jaycee Baker Park</b>	●	●					●	●	●	●		
500 Belmont Dr.												
<b>Mayfair Park</b>	●	●					●	●	●	●		
1725 Norwood Dr.												
<b>Redbud Park</b>		●					●	●	●	●	●	
525 Redbud Drive W.												
<b>Smith/Barfield Park</b>	●				●		●	●	●	●	●	
640 W. Pleasantview Dr.												
<b>Vivagene Copeland Park</b>		●	●				●	●	●	●		
500 E. Pecan St.												
<b>Wan Ka-Kani Park</b>									●			
748 Shady Lane												





City of Hurst  
1505 Precinct Line Rd.  
Hurst, TX 76054

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
HURST, TX PERMIT NO. 21



Visit [HURSTTX.GOV](http://HURSTTX.GOV)