



the Breeze

Official news from the City of **portland** the
of possibilities.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

More people are moving to our area and many are choosing to live in Portland. This has caused a significant increase in the demand for housing in Portland. As a result, the City of Portland has worked diligently with residential development companies to meet this demand. While cities do not build any housing developments, cities do provide regulations and frameworks for residential subdivisions to ensure the housing development companies build high quality houses and residential streets.

What to Expect

The City of Portland Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council have recently approved five new housing developments! These new housing developments will meet or exceed the sight standards of Portland's existing subdivisions. For example, sever-

al of the subdivision roadways will be constructed of concrete, instead of asphalt.

Approximately 1,300 homes will be built in these new subdivisions. To ensure the best building quality and meet market demands, all of the developers will build in phases. The developers are expecting to break ground on about 500 lots this year.

Other Benefits of Growth

Growth in a community is a good thing. The addition of buildings and homes has taxable value and helps expand the overall tax base. This ultimately leads to improvements, expansion or new amenities that Portland residents want. Additionally, the growth brings in more commercial businesses in the restaurant and retail industries.

...continued on page 2

HURRICANE SEASON

We are in the peak months of the 2020 hurricane season. If you have not refreshed last year's or created a hurricane preparedness kit and evacuation plan, now is the time! Remember, preparing for hurricanes and other high intensity storms involves the whole family.

If you are not sure where to start, utilize the National Weather Service's Official 2020 South Texas Hurricane Guide. Their guide can be found here: [The Official South Texas Hurricane Guide 2020](#). This guide includes important information regarding hurricane preparedness, evacuation, forecasting, State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry, other emergency contact information for your evacuation or shelter, and more.

MAP OF DEVELOPMENTS

Most of the residential growth is occurring in the west side of Portland. See the legend below for more information on the subdivisions.

Map Legend

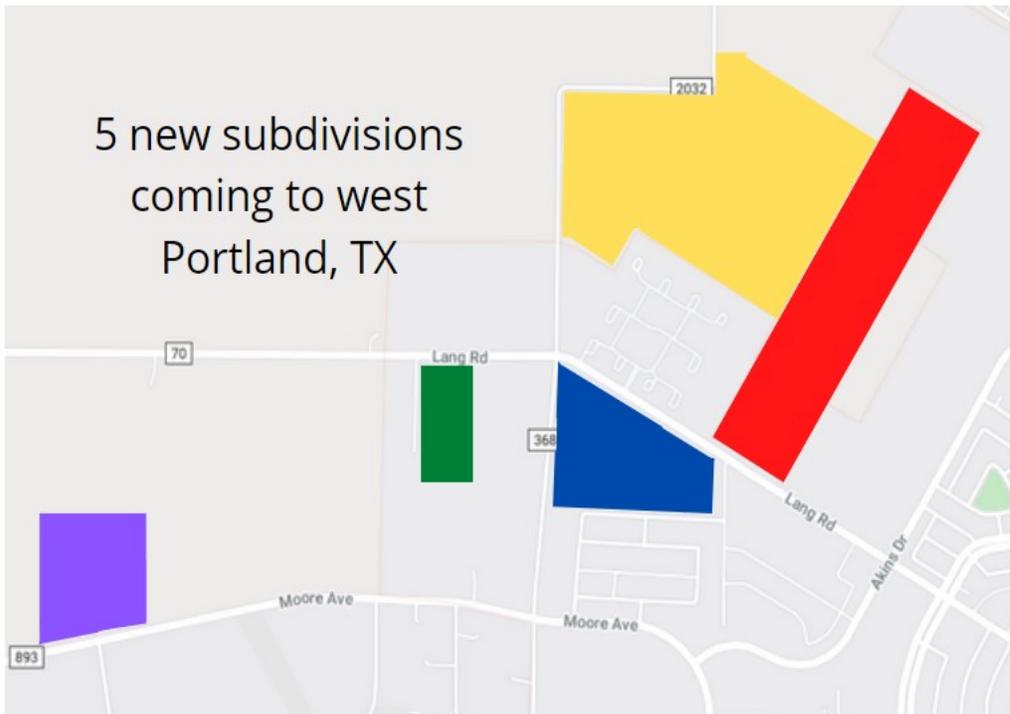
Purple — Portland Village

Green — Garnett Estates

Blue — Fox Landing

Yellow—David Estates

Red — Reserve West Portland



CENSUS 2020 PROGRESS

The 2020 Census staff has delivered Census questionnaires to all households! If you live within the city limits, you should have received letters in the mail with your unique Census ID. If you live in an area that does not have a physical mailing addresses (i.e. you have a P.O. Box), your Census packet was left on your front porch, instead of having a Census representative hand deliver it like usual, to help prevent unnecessary exposure to persons who are not of the same household.

If you have not already, open the letter or packet from the U.S. Census. You will find your household's unique Census ID. Once you have your Census ID, you can complete the 2020 Census:

- Online by visiting <https://2020census.gov/>,
- Over the phone by calling 844-330-2020,
- Or by mailing the completed packet to the address specified in your packet (either Phoenix, AZ, or Jeffersonville, IN)

The Census is available in over 50 languages, including Spanish.

Why Your Response Matters

The Census results help determine how billions of dollars of federal funding is designated to states and communities. Some notable funding resources include: hurricane recovery funds, programs for schools and special education, local emergency services, coastal and wildlife management programs, highway planning and construction. The results of the Census also determine how many Congressional seats each state gets for the next 10 years!

Response Goal

In 2010, Portland's Census response rate was approximately 60%. Our response goal for the 2020 Census is 80%! At the end of July, Portland's response rate was approximately 55%. Help increase our response rate by reminding friends and family to respond!

NEW DEVELOPMENTS, continued

Planning and Zoning Role

As discussed in the July edition of the Breeze newsletter, the City of Portland Planning and Zoning Commission plays a key role in growth and development of Portland as the first line of review for feasibility and sustainability. The seven Portland residents that sit on the Planning and Zoning Commission have held monthly meetings, collected public comments, and conducted technical reviews of these proposed housing developments. Their process ensures the new developments follow all the regulations the City of Portland

sets and are able to be executed accordingly.

If you are a Portland resident and would like to be a part of the Planning and Zoning Commission, you must submit an application to be considered for one of the three positions that are up for appointment this year. The City Council reviews the applications and appoints the chosen residents to a two-year, unpaid term. Applications are available until August 21, 2020. Please visit portlandtx.com for more information.

CO-EXISTING with COVID

We must all keep in mind that COVID-19 is still a threat to our area and we must all do our part to slow the spread! This is achieved by washing your hands regularly, wearing a mask while shopping or visiting people not of the same household, and social distancing. Please visit portlandtx.com/COVID to see updated case counts, Executive Orders, and health safety protocols. Also, please review the reopening guidelines before visiting our partially reopened facilities or utilizing our in-person services for your safety and ours!



Stay Home.



Stay Safe.



Save Lives.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday, August 4, 2020: Portland City Council Meeting
- Tuesday, August 18, 2020: Portland City Council Meeting
- Friday, August 21, 2020: Planning and Zoning Comm. applications due