

## A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR JOSE SEGARRA



The City of Killeen has kicked off the year in high fashion and hit the ground running in a positive direction for 2022.

On Jan. 13, we broke ground on a 368-unit apartment complex that sits on 22 acres of land at the corner of WS Young Drive and Veterans Boulevard, signaling growth and revitalization in the North Killeen area. The complex is named “Robinson42” after Jackie Robinson and will consist of 16, three-story residential buildings for residents to begin moving in by January 2023.

This comes on the heels of introducing a big boost in our City’s Comprehensive Plan, which is the roadmap and vision for our city over the next decade and beyond. The plan was developed out of residents who completed surveys and provided feedback at our meetings about improving roadways, fiscal health, quality and diversity of housing, neighborhoods and the local business community. Make sure to attend our City Council meetings, as we are set to adopt ideas for this plan this Spring.

We want to thank our great citizens for being patient and practicing safety measures during our recent winter weather event. Your actions helped reduce the number of accidents on the icy roadways and keep residents safe. We were able to assist more than three dozen people in our warming centers and thank our Emergency and Public Works teams for working around the clock.

Lastly, we thank our Emergency Management team for helping run more than two dozen COVID-19 vaccine and testing sites throughout the fall and winter months, as cases increased significantly. We know their efforts also helped reduce the numbers and we will continue to inform and assist the public to keep our community healthy. Please take advantage of the free vaccines and tests we’re offering. 2022 has started out on a high note and we plan to continue full speed ahead, with the help of our citizens helping guide us into the future.



The City broke ground on a 368-unit apartment complex in North Killeen named “Robinson 42.”



The Feb. 3-5 ice storm had minimal impact on our roads and power lines, thanks to our residents being cautious.

## ELECTION 2022

Election Day is Saturday, May 7.

Did you know that on election day you can vote at any polling place in the county? Here’s a list of Killeen polling places:

- Liberty Christian Center**, 4107 Westcliff Rd
- Anderson Chapel A.M.E. Church**, 1000 Jefferis Ave.
- Killeen Arts & Activities Center**, 801 N. 4th St., Bldg G, Room G108
- Killeen Community Center**, 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Blvd.,
- Killeen Senior Center @ Lions Club Park**, 1700 E. Stan Schleuter Loop
- Grace Christian Center**, 1401 E. Elms Rd.
- First Baptist Church of Trimmier**, 6405 Chapparral Road
- Robert M. Shoemaker High School**, 3302 Clear Creek Road
- Killeen Annex**, 304 Priest Dr.
- Central Fire Station**, 207 North 28th Street
- Skyline Baptist Church**, 906 Trimmier Rd.
- West Bell Water Supply Office**, 4201 Chaparral Road
- Killeen Utilities Department**, 210 W. Avenue C
- Sugar Loaf Elementary School**, 1517 Barbara Ln., 041
- Roy J. Smith Middle School**, 6000 Brushy Creek Dr.

## A local "Voice"

Mayor Jose Segarra presented Killeen's own Jershika Maple with a proclamation making Jan. 18 "Jershika Maple Day."

Jershika was a Top 5 Finalist on the latest season of the NBC hit show "The Voice."

She moved to Killeen at a young age and has proudly called the city home ever since.

She impressed audiences and coaches with her variety of music, staying true to her faith with a selection of Gospel hits as well as taking on pop hits from Elton John and Adele during her journey.



## Farewell Judge Kimball

Judge Mark Kimball, Presiding Judge of the City of Killeen's Municipal Court, retired in February.

Judge Kimball was sworn in on Feb. 24, 2014, (pictured below) and says he has enjoyed his time working for the City.

"What I've liked most is working with world-class team members who made my job easy," he said.



## Celebrating Black History Month

Mayor Jose Segarra recognized Black History Month during a reception at City Hall on Feb. 8. He presented a proclamation to the local NAACP branch and the Innovation Black Chamber, praising their efforts to empower and celebrate the achievements and contributions of the Black community.

Black History Month was established by Carter G. Woodson in 1926 as Negro History Week. Every U.S. president has honored Black History Month since 1976, designating the month of February for the observance.



## Honoring MLK

Mayor Jose Segarra recognized several, local organizations who united to remember Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in celebrations from Jan. 14-17 with the theme, "The Dream Weekend: Keeping the Dream Alive."

Mayor Segarra presented a proclamation just before the Jan. 11 City Council meeting. The groups consist of the Innovation Black Chamber, the Killeen branch of the NAACP, Village United, Enclave Killeen, So Natural, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.'s Kappa Sigma Lambda chapter and the Step Up Fest which hosts a high school step show.

The MLK-themed activities include an MLK Peace March that began at City Hall, a Culture on the Square entertainment event in Historic Downtown, a high school step show, an oratorical contest, a brunch and virtual events.



## Remembering Our Mayors

The City of Killeen honors the memory of two mayors who passed away this year.

Sidney E. Young was mayor from 1986 - 1989 and also served as a councilman and mayor pro tem. He died Jan. 16

James "Jim" R. Lindley, served as mayor from 1970-1975. He died Jan. 22

## City-wide Boil Water After Action Review

City of Killeen officials presented an after-action review (AAR) on the October 2021 boil water notice (BWN) during the Feb. 1 City Council workshop meeting, using a SWOT analysis (identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats).

Strengths included quick communication with stakeholders and early planning for distributing water. Weaknesses named were the need for clearer instructions to the public and antiquated information tracking systems.

The report included four, main improvement areas going forward, which were working with the Bell County Water Control and Improvement District (WCID) to establish a consistent chlorine conversion plan, completing the install of the three remaining chlorine booster stations, providing training on the complex water systems and proactively creating actionable messaging through graphics. The City of Killeen has maintained a TCEQ superior rating since February of 2019.

## Fire Dept. Class of 22

The Killeen City Council recently approved the Fire Department's budget to add nine new personnel that will allow the city's 9th Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance to be placed in service.

Those personnel are part of the newest "class of '22" pictured here along with new hires who are replacing departed members.

This new ambulance crew began service at 7a.m. Jan. 1!



## Working Hard

Some of the most underappreciated jobs are those that work the hardest. Everyday our Public Works team is out repairing or installing most of the infrastructure that keeps the city moving.

Our Water & Sewer team has been installing new "smart" water meters across the city. A project that will last 10 years and eventually replace 55,000 meters.

Our Mowing and Drainage team replaced deteriorating concrete at the transfer station. This project was quoted to cost approximately \$40,000 and would have caused the transfer station to have days that they would not be opened. However, our team was able to do the work in sections, allowing the transfer station to remain open the entire time and was able to do it for a fraction of the costs, saving approximately \$30,000.

Our Recycling Center team, along with assistance of others, held the Christmas tree recycling event, giving residents an environmentally friendly way to dispose of their trees.

## Recreation Services



Our Recreation Services team hosted the state Youth Advisory Commission Summit Feb. 4 -6. Groups from across the state attend to learn new ideas and share the impact these groups make.



## Killeen Police Safety Week



Officers from Killeen's Police Department visited local schools Jan. 24-28 as a part of Safety Week. They taught students everything from internet safety to avoiding strangers.

## Other Happenings

The City partnered with several entities throughout the fall and winter months to provide COVID-19 vaccines/ tests.

City Council invited the community to several workshops and Town Halls to review proposed City Charter amendments and provide feedback. A draft of the amended charter is available on the city's website at [www.killeentexas.gov/council](http://www.killeentexas.gov/council). Any finalized proposed changes by the Council will be subject to approval by voters during the May 7, 2022, election.

There's a new Silver Line Flex route on the HOP public transportation line. It will run from the Rosa Hereford Community Center to the Lions Club Park Senior Center.

### STAY IN THE KNOW!

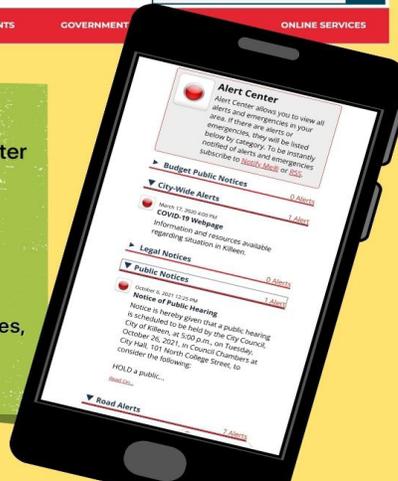
Here's how you can always know what's happening in Killeen



### GET ALERTS!

- 1) Go to [killeentexas.gov/alertcenter](http://killeentexas.gov/alertcenter)
- 2) Subscribe for notifications
- 3) Select which alerts you'd like to receive as an email or text message

Alerts are available for news, meetings, events, boil water notices, road closures and more.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 1-31:** Women's History Month
- March 12:** Love Your Park Day
- March 26:** Family Game Day; Waterway Cleanup
- April 14:** Easter Egg Hunt
- April 28-30:** Celebrate Killeen Festival
- May 7:** Election

SignUp for Emergency Code**RED** Alerts



Visit  
[bit.ly/KilleenEAlerts](http://bit.ly/KilleenEAlerts)  
to sign up today!

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

**April 15**  
Good Friday/Easter

**May 30**  
Memorial Day

[www.killeentexas.gov](http://www.killeentexas.gov)