



A Message from Mayor Rios

August 29, 2018

Hurricane Harvey - Last weekend we observed the one year of Hurricane Harvey's devastating presence in Rockport. For some, it seems like yesterday. For others, like me, it seems like years have passed. While we still see so many of its adverse effects, individuals visiting the community are amazed at how far we've come. I'd like to thank the various community organizations that participated in the planning and implementation of the numerous events this weekend. They demonstrated the strength and resiliency of our community – one like no other – for which I am both proud and grateful.

Rebuilding continues and we're fortunate to have so much support from government agencies, foundations, volunteer groups and individuals. The Amish, Mennonite and other faith-based organizations are making plans for their return next month and will continue their efforts in rebuilding homes.

Labor Day Weekend - We'll be kicking off the holiday with a three-day music festival. On Friday night, the City is offering a free concert at the Festival Grounds featuring country western star Rick Trevino and Corpus Christi-based cover band The Groove. Gates open at 4 pm and music starts at 6 pm. There will be food trucks on site. The event continues Saturday and Sunday with an incredible line-up of musical talent. Tickets are \$11 at the door. Please note that part of Laurel Street will be closed to traffic this weekend. Additional information and advance purchasing are available at <https://goo.gl/86QjMv>.

LITTLE BAY LABOR DAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

LABOR DAY *Little Bay*
MUSIC FESTIVAL ROCKPORT, TX

FREE KICKOFF PARTY!
sponsored by the City of Rockport

RICK TREVINO

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
NO FOOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED
DOORS OPEN AT 4 P.M.

The Groove

FRIDAY, Aug. 31st

\$11

LABOR DAY *Little Bay*
MUSIC FESTIVAL ROCKPORT, TX

SIGGNO MONSTER

ALL STAR CAST

DEVIN BANDA, JACOB RAMIREZ, JACOB CIRIA

SATURDAY, SEPT 1st

\$11

LABOR DAY *Little Bay*
MUSIC FESTIVAL ROCKPORT, TX

Texas Country

ROBERT RAY, HAYDEN BAKER

JACOB PATTER, AMERICAN ALLEN

SUNDAY, SEPT 2nd

\$11

Taxes – There seems to be some confusion about taxes – both for this year and next. The best place to learn about city taxes is a public hearing, such as the one this past Tuesday meant for listening to comments from residents about the proposed tax rate for FY 2018-2019. Sadly, no one attended.

Comparing the tax rate from one year to another does not really tell you if your city government is taking more money from its citizens. The only way to compare one tax rate to another is to look at the effective rate and the adopted rate's relation to it. The effective rate is that rate that brings in the same number of dollars as the year before and is a simple equation of total assessed value multiplied by the tax rate (i.e., rate x value = tax dollars owed). In other words, if the value goes up, then the rate must come down to keep the product the same. Conversely, if the total assessed value decreases (as it did by 12 percent this year because of Hurricane Harvey), then the tax rate increases. Recognizing the difficult year the community has gone through and that the recovery continues, City Council has proposed a tax rate just under the effective tax rate by 0.4 percent and will raise slightly less revenue than the previous year. Specifically, the tax rate will increase from \$0.385640 to \$0.451963. However, since the assessed value has decreased 12 percent, the average taxable homestead valued at \$199,891 will pay \$3.73 less than 2018 and the median residential property will see a \$2.73 decrease.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend.

Rebuilding a better Rockport.