



News Release

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

For release: 02/13/2019
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Highland Village Parks Foundation to Donate Funds for Kids Kastle Entrance Feature

On February 12, Austin Adams, President of the Highland Village Parks Foundation, presented the Foundation's intent to donate \$125,000 to the City of Highland Village. The donation will partially fund the construction of the entrance feature to provide an historical visual of the beginnings of Kids Kastle and the importance of Unity Park to the community as well as an entrance feature to the pavilion and play area. City staff, the Highland Village Parks Board and the Foundation agreed upon a concept plan which will cost approximately \$180,000 and will be built in conjunction with the rebuild of Kids Kastle. The Highland Village Parks Foundation was formed nearly 20 years ago with the purpose of assisting the City to improve and support parks systems and recreational facilities through land acquisition and development of existing parks and to improve opportunities for visual and performing arts within the City.

City Council received the City's racial profiling report confirming the police department's compliance with state law governing racial profiling. The law requires each law enforcement agency in the state to adopt a written policy on racial profiling and prohibit its practice, as well as submit a report containing the information compiled during the previous calendar year.

Also, the Council received a presentation and discussed the ramifications of the proposed SB2 and HB2 property tax legislation currently under consideration by the state legislature. The proposed bills would reduce the Rollback rate from 8% to 2.5% for taxing entities that collect more than \$15M a year in property tax and sales tax revenues. An election with approval by 60% of voters would be required for cities to exceed the cap. Council received the presentation from staff on the impacts over the last two years if the cap were in place. While the state required Rollback rate calculations are complicated, the simplified explanation for Highland Village and its residents is the potential on-going loss of \$.5M in annual revenue to fund city services to provide an average \$85 annual savings for each residential property. To put the lost revenue into perspective, four departments within the City have an annual budget of less than \$.5M. Highland Village Council and staff are attending Denton County Days in Austin on February 19-20 and will present a compromise to provide property tax relief to residents while maintaining the City's ability to provide the services and amenities Highland Village residents expect.

In the City Manager Report, the [HVTV Update](#) shared the Shopping Saturday segment featuring Décor to Your Door in The Shops at Highland Village, information about pet registration, and community education classes offered by the parks and recreation department during spring break.

The City Council early work session and regular session is available on HVTV (Spectrum 15; Frontier 43) and via website streaming by searching HVTV. The meetings are also available for on-demand viewing on the city [website](#).