



MIDWAY MESSENGER

CONTACT US:

Website: midway.municipalimpact.com

Email: cityofmidway@yahoo.com

936.348.6800



VOL: 1 ISSUE 7

Latest News and Updates

April 1, 2025

From the Mayors Desk:

In last month's article on Texas cities (TT&C), I highlighted cities' essential functions and services and stated that we would discuss those subjects this month. Instead, I would like to give you an overview of why those issues are important and the dynamics of changes in Texas Cities. These changes are featured in the January 2025 issue of *The Texas Municipal League (TML) magazine*, titled "Texas Town and Cities."

The Growth of Texas Cities

Navigating Change in a Complex Landscape

Since the turn of the century, Texas has added more new residents than any other state — adding nearly 3 million more than Florida, the next closest. Texas continues to attract new residents drawn by economic opportunity, lower taxes, and the allure of city life.

Demographic Shifts and Urban Migration

In the early 2000s, Texas was still home to substantial rural population but by 2023, the majority of the state's residents now live in urban areas. The states largest cities—Houston, Dallas, Austin, and San Antonio— have experienced significant population growth, often surpassing the national average.

The Role of Annexation in City Growth

There are legislative changes and restrictions have changed dramatically. This shift represented a major departure from the traditional annexation process, which had allowed cities to incorporate land unilaterally under certain conditions.

Moving Forward: The Future of City Growth

With annexation power curtailed and unknown challenges on the horizon, Texas cities must now focus on alternative strategies to foster growth. Incentivizing landowners to join cities voluntarily will become a key tactic in maintaining growth. Offering clear benefits such as access to city services, infrastructure development, and the vibrant life that cities offer will be crucial in persuading property owners to agree to annexation. Moreover, cities will need to emphasize the long-term advantages of urban development, such as economic opportunities, improved public services, and enhanced quality of life, to counteract the reluctance of rural and suburban landowners to be included into the city limits.

Getting back to the 13 Issues in the March news letter, we will only look at 2 of those issues that will impact us the most and how our comprehensive plan plays a role in our direction.

The value of building codes

Municipal economic development.



*Let love and faithfulness never
leave you; bind them around
your neck, write them on the
tablet of your heart.*

—Proverbs 3:3 (NIV)

Historical Moments in Midway:

A.V. Lee Historical Marker Dedication was Saturday, March 22, 2025 at the A.V. Lee Recreation Center in Midway, Texas.

Albert Lee School named after longtime educator Albert Vernal Lee (C. 1888-1967). The Albert Lee School educated generations of African American Students in Midway. The first dedicated school for the African American community was built in 1915. Ten years later, Midway ISD built Midway colored school using Rosenwald Funds. A.V. Lee, a Midway native, began teaching in 1925, and five years later, was promoted to principal. Other extraordinary educators at Midway colored school included Ida May Blackwell, Fannie Carter, William Bridges, and Pauline Gooden. When Lee retired in 1960, the school was renamed Albert Lee School in his honor. School integration forced its closure in 1963. Dedicated alumni groups remained active decades later (2023).

If you need help paying your Atmos gas bill, go to the city's website. On the home page, under featured news, there will be information for assistance.

City Hall: 936.348.6800

Website: midway.municipalimpact.com

Email: cityofmidway@yahoo.com

Pet Safety:

Please secure your animals for their safety.