

If passed, residents will **NOT** experience an increase to the City tax rate!  
**The City of Rowlett will hold a Community Investment Program bond election on May 9, 2015.**  
*\$25.8 million bond package in three propositions to fund street, park and public safety projects.*

April, 2015

A MONTHLY MESSAGE FROM



**MAYOR TODD GOTTEL**



City of Rowlett  
 4000 Main Street  
 Rowlett, TX 75088

972-412-6100  
[www.rowlett.com](http://www.rowlett.com)

In February 2015, the Rowlett City Council voted to call a Bond Election. Residents of Rowlett will be asked to go to the polls on Saturday, May 9 to consider authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$25.8 million for three proposed bond propositions. Each of these projects was carefully considered and proposed by the Council-appointed Community Investment Program Task Force, and the City Council voted unanimously to place these propositions on the ballot for the citizens' consideration.

**How were the projects to be included in the bond package identified?**

Late last summer, the City Council directed the formation of a citizen ad-hoc committee, aptly named the Community Investment Program Task Force (CIPTF), which was tasked to develop a recommendation for projects to be included in the bond election. This recommendation included project identification, ranking, and prioritization. The CIPTF met every two weeks throughout the fall and early winter, touring City streets, parks and facilities in an effort to

develop a comprehensive project list that could then be refined and presented to the City Council for approval. They welcomed citizen input to assist in the identification of projects through a series of public meetings with citizens, civic groups and City advisory boards and commissions. Citizen input was also received through social media, an interactive website, RTN16 broadcasts, email and hand-written suggestions, and face-to-face conversations.

**How is this possible with no tax rate increase?**

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2018, the City's annual general obligation debt service starts to dramatically decline. This provides an opportunity to capture some of that

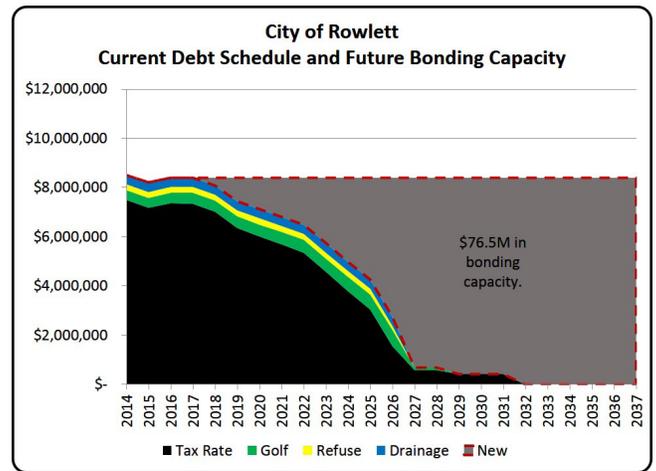
capacity, without an increase to the tax rate, through a series of bonds issued over the next three years. All without a tax increase.

*It has been nearly 10 years since the last measureable governmental bonds were issued.*

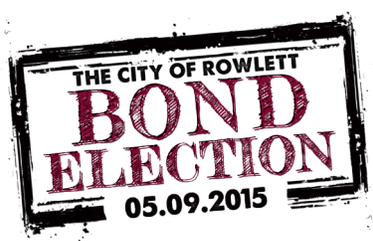
*As a result, the City has a large curve where bonded indebtedness will significantly drop off in the near future.*

*This freed up bond capacity could provide for as much as \$76.5 million over the next 10 years without a tax rate increase.*

*This includes the ability to issue \$25.8 million over the next three years.*



*“The 2015 bond election, if passed, will enable us to construct the projects identified without an increase to the City’s tax rate. I encourage everyone to come out on May 9 and let your voice be heard!”*  
 Mayor Todd Gottel



# Proposition 1

## STREETS \$18,932,340\*



Lake Country Estates  
Llano Street

### **Phase 1 Lake Country Estates Street Reconstruction - \$3,650,000**

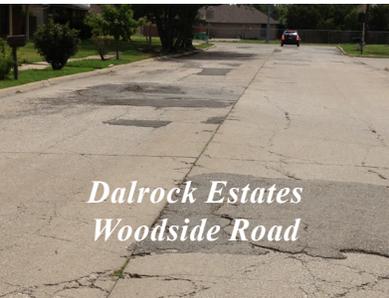
Rebuilding streets, sidewalks, curbs, drainage systems, street trees and lighting on Llano Street, Southridge Drive, Westview Drive and West Lynnwood Drive.

### **Advanced Traffic Management System - \$800,000**

The installation of equipment, monitoring systems and upgrades for the traffic management systems throughout the City by means of an automated control center.

### **Right Turn Lane at Main Street and the President George Bush Turnpike - \$260,000**

Intersection improvement in front of Rowlett High School on Main Street at the northbound PGBT service road.



Dalrock Estates  
Woodside Road

### **Phase 1 Dalrock Estates Street Reconstruction - \$3,400,000**

Rebuilding streets, sidewalks, curbs, drainage systems, street trees and lighting on Highgate Lane, Woodside Road and Yorkshire Drive.

### **Alley Reconstruction Program - \$2,000,000**

Rebuilding the alleys and drainage systems identified in the Top 50 Restoration Plan.



Highland Meadows  
Westfield Drive

### **Phase 1 Highland Meadows Street Reconstruction - \$3,030,000**

Rebuilding streets, sidewalks, curbs, drainage systems, street trees and lighting on Miami Drive, Vernon Drive and Westfield Drive.

### **Primrose Lane Street Reconstruction - \$1,550,000**

Rebuilding street, sidewalks, curbs and drainage systems.



Primrose Lane

### **Main Street Reconstruction - \$1,870,000**

Rebuilding the street, sidewalks, curbs, drainage systems, landscaping and lighting on Main Street to extend the downtown "theme" from the Roundabout to the President George Bush Turnpike.

### **Sidewalk Connections - \$280,000**

Identifying, planning and constructing priority areas around schools, parks and neighborhoods, and completing connections to existing sidewalks.

### **Phase 2 Merritt Road Interconnector - \$1,500,000**

Design and property acquisition of the Merritt Road extension connecting to Liberty Grove Road.

### **Chiesa Road and Liberty Grove Road Intersection Traffic Signal - \$225,000**

Installation of a traffic signal addressing identified traffic control needs in this intersection.

## **What is a Community Investment Program (CIP)?**

Recognizing community needs and balancing demands with the funding available, the CIP is a multi-year plan outlining the goals and objectives regarding the development, modernization or replacement of physical public infrastructure and facilities. It identifies, implements and manages these community improvement projects. For a project to be defined as a 'capital project', it should generally exceed \$25,000 in cost, be a non-

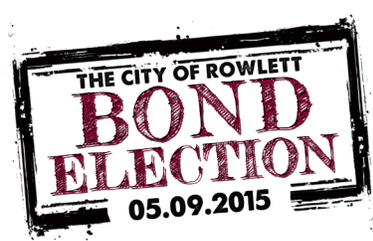
recurring expense, provide long-term benefit and be an addition to the City's fixed assets. This process combined input from City staff, citizens, the CIP Task Force and the City Council, and included addressing existing infrastructure needs, planning for future growth and responding to the quality of life wants and needs of our community. The CIP will prioritize the identified projects into yearly plans based on these categories.



\* Includes the cost of issuance of the bonds and related expenses.

# Proposition 2

## PARKS \$4,206,110\*



### **Wet Zone Waterpark - \$660,000**

Pool resurfacing, restroom improvements, a new feature designed for 5-to-12 year-olds, new signage, foam replacement and hand rails.

### **Hike & Bike Trails Plan - \$300,000**

Review the Hike & Bike Trails Plan, followed by the development and construction of priority projects, which will be identified in that process.

### **New Kids Kingdom Playground - \$557,500**

Replace Pecan Grove Park's Kids Kingdom playground, in part funded by fundraising efforts.

### **Rowlett Community Centre Renovation - \$350,000**

Repair the building foundation and structural components and add access doors for the lower level storage areas.

### **Lakeside Park - \$185,000**

Picnic benches and tables, security lighting and erosion control.

### **Springfield Park - \$600,000**

Trail widening, parking lot expansion, shoreline improvements and Disc Golf Course improvement.

### **Community Park - \$665,000**

Trail improvements, enhanced open space, shoreline erosion control, concession roof replacement, irrigation improvements, lighting and picnic tables.

### **Paddle Point Park - \$165,000**

A crosswalk to Lakeside Park, parking area improvements, lighting and signage.

### **Nature Trail - \$94,000**

New fencing and parking area improvements.

### **Veterans Park - \$33,000**

Improved landscaping features, benches and artwork.

### **Pecan Grove Park - \$75,000**

Additional benches, trail improvements, water fountains and security lighting.

### **Shorewood Park - \$30,000**

Parking area improvements and lighting.

### **Phase 2 Katy Railroad Park Construction - \$310,000**

Fencing, pavilion, picnic areas and restroom installation.

### **Katy Railroad Park Soccer - \$100,000**

Installation of two practice soccer fields.



# Proposition 3

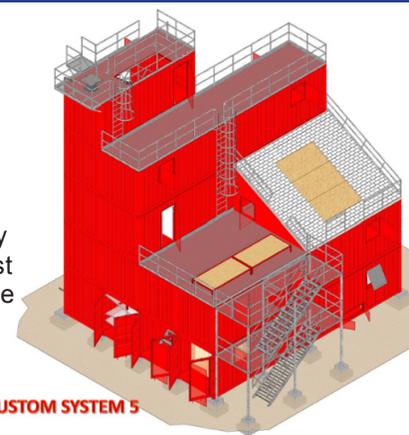
## PUBLIC SAFETY \$2,631,050\*

### **Public Safety Department Training Center and Close Fiber Ring - \$2,250,000**

Hands-on training is one of the most important functions that public safety personnel need to become proficient at their job, which is to protect the community's citizens and property. This facility for the Police, Fire Rescue and Public Works departments, to be located on Schrade Road just west of Dalrock, will include a training tower, confined-space, and trench rescue training. This will provide great improvements in training. This proposition also includes a design plan for the future Fire Station 2, also located on this site.

### **Fiber Optic Communication Lines - \$330,000**

Provides reliable and consistent communications and data transfer to public safety City-wide, linking Fire Rescue, Police, the Emergency Operations Center and City Hall.



\* Includes the cost of issuance of the bonds and related expenses.

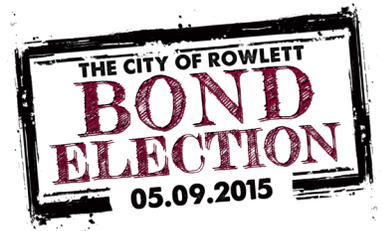
Mon., April 27 - Sat., May 2  
8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

**Early Voting**  
City Hall Annex Building  
4004 Main Street

Sun., May 3  
1:00 to 6:00 P.M.

Mon., May 4 - Tue., May 5  
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

**Election Day**  
Saturday, May 9  
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.



The **Community Investment Program Task Force** used the following criteria when ranking potential projects to ensure the priorities established by the City Council were met.

- *Transportation and Circulation*
- *Public Safety*
- *Existing Infrastructure*
- *Quality of Life*
- *Regulatory Compliance*
- *Availability of External Funding*
- *Revitalization and Balanced Growth*
- *City's Operational Budget Impact*
- *Project Timing and/or Location*
- *Special Considerations*

55 identified projects totaling well over \$117 million were considered by the CIPTF while developing the slate of projects eventually presented to the City Council for their consideration. The Bond target was \$27 million. Since the project needs far outweighed the available resources, the project list was trimmed.

**“The 2015 bond election, if passed, will enable us to construct the projects identified without an increase to the City’s tax rate. I encourage everyone to come out on May 9 and let your voice be heard!”**

*Mayor Todd Gottel*

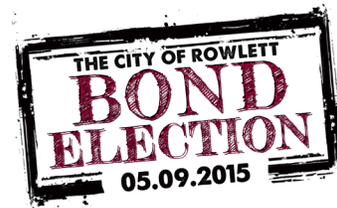


## Meetings and Information



**Telephone Town Hall Meeting**  
Thursday, April 23  
888-409-5380

A unique opportunity to get all the information you need and ask all the questions you'd like about the 2015 CIP Bond Election without attending a formal meeting or even leaving your home! We may call you, but if we don't, simply call this number to join the meeting! View the meeting live at [www.rowlett.com/CIPBondMeeting](http://www.rowlett.com/CIPBondMeeting).



Visit [www.rowlett.com/BondElection](http://www.rowlett.com/BondElection) for more information.

Visit [www.rowlett.com/BondElectionMap](http://www.rowlett.com/BondElectionMap) to see the projects on an interactive map.

Questions? Email [2015Bond@rowlett.com](mailto:2015Bond@rowlett.com)!