

# City of Pharr

## Department of Public Works

### 2009 Annual Report



# Office of the Director

- Department of Public Works (DPW) has had another busy and productive year. I hope, after reading this report, you will agree with me that our services are an essential part of your everyday life. I am truly proud of the Public Works Staff who, through their efforts, truly strive to enhance the livability of this community. Revitalizing, renewing and reinvesting in our infrastructure have been the Public Works vision for some time. I believe the dedication and creativity of our staff will ensure that Public Works services continue to be the premier constructive department for the All America City of Pharr in the future. Looking forward, there are some exciting opportunities on the horizon for early 2010. The Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO) has been allocated a sum of \$16.9 million in America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funds. One of the HCMPO selected projects for allocation is Sugar Road (Sioux Road to Owassa Road). A well overdue project that serves our population of 60,000 residents as a major arterial road that leads towards the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas. West Hall Acres Road, an existing urban off-system collector will also be reconstructed from a 2 lane road to a 4 lane road. Any and all Public Works road projects is to improve efficiency of the transportation system, alleviate congestion, increase safety, and ensure efficient access to jobs and services. We look forward to continuing to work with and serve the residents, merchants and visitors of Pharr throughout the next year. If you have questions or comments, please log on to [www.pharr-tx.gov](http://www.pharr-tx.gov) for departmental email directory or contact my office at (956) 787-9772. Continued feedback is an important element to the success of DPW and I look forward to hearing from you.

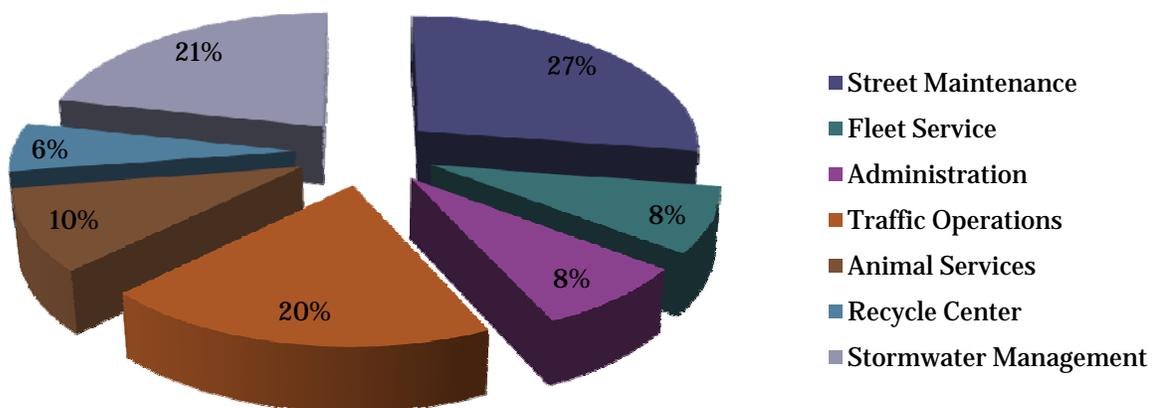
- -Roy Garcia, CPM
- *Public Works Director*



# Department Summary

- The Department of Public Works is dedicated to excellence in developing and maintaining an advanced infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing community. The Public Works Department consists of the administrative staff and six (6) divisions that provide various services to the city. These divisions are: Animal Control Services, Traffic Operations, Transportation, Storm Water Management, Fleet Service Center and the Pharr Recycle Center. Function of each division is as follows:

## Department Staff Utilization



# Administration

- The administrative staff works closely with each division to ensure proper communication and delivery of services in a timely manner. Staff also offers assistance to other City Departments and private developers to promote private development and compliance with City requirements. Continued feedback and excellent customer service are vital and important elements to the continued success of the Public Works Administrative Department.



*Left to Right; Top Row, Rogelio Palacios (Animal Services Supervisor, Roberto Leal (Traffic Ops Supervisor), Jesus Garza (Storm Water Mgmt. Supervisor), Epi Macias (Trans Supervisor), Rene Saenz (Asst Director), Bottom Row, Claudia Gutierrez (Secretary), Claribel Perez (Admin. Asst.), and Grace Segovia (Environmental Coordinator), and not present is Robert Vela (Fleet Service Supervisor).*

# Animal Services

- The Animal Control Officers (ACO) promotes responsible pet ownership through education and enforcement of City's Animal Control Ordinances. The division is also responsible for impounding cats/dogs involved in bite incidents as mandated by State regulations. It is staffed by one Supervisor and three ACO's. Entire division has successfully passed exams/classes required by State. In August 2008, all ACO's were certified by Texas Animal Control Association (TACA) to carry Bite Sticks and Pepper Spray. Staff is also certified to euthanize animals saving the City thousands of dollars which it would have to pay to euthanize injured or dangerous undomesticated animals. Our current records show an estimated of 2,600 live animals rescued or impounded and 6,400 dead animals picked up and disposed of. And estimated \$360,000.00 savings to our tax payers for this fiscal year due to the successful certifications of our Animal Control Officers as it pertains to euthanasia.



# Traffic Operations

- This division is staffed by one supervisor and 8 technicians that are responsible for the maintenance of all regulatory and warning traffic signs. The division also provides regular maintenance, installation and repairs of traffic signal operations and school flashers throughout the city. To determine if additional traffic control devices are needed in certain areas, this division may perform traffic studies in those specific sites ensuring traffic and pedestrian safety.



# Transportation

- Another good year of constructive accomplishments for this respective division has helped promote a good vital line in our street inventory. Before the appropriate repair strategy can be applied to a distressed street in Pharr, the type and extent of the deterioration must be understood, and the cause of the distress must be identified. The common types of pavement distressed identified in our city are mostly disintegration and cracking. Some of the typical causes of pavement deterioration include: traffic loading, environment or climate influences, drainage deficiencies, material quality or quantity, constructive deficiencies, external contributors, such as utility cuts for new or re-developed homes, businesses, and or utility failures. As implemented in the past, the PWD R.A.M.P (Repair and Maintenance Program) has done a tremendous job performing timely maintenance on these streets that has saved thousands of dollars, up to 30% per improvement project by utilizing in-house personnel along with in-house equipment.



# Transportation Cont.

- **Your Paving and Drainage Assessment Fee at work! Over 13,000 tons of new asphalt has been laid this fiscal year 2008-2009 in our great city and an estimate 300 tons of cold pavement mix has been used for street failures such as pot holes. Accomplishments for this fiscal year are as follows:**
- **South Veteran's (I Road)- Hi-line to Military Hwy (Re-constructed)**
- **West Rancho Blanco- Full Depth Reclamation**
- **La Quinta Subdivision- Full Depth Reclamation, Overlay, Valley Gutters**
- **Bests Subdivision- Overlay**
- **Eller's Subdivision- Overlay**
- **Palm Terrace Subdivision- Overlay**
- **Ridgewood Subdivision- Overlay**
- **El Sol Subdivision- Overlay**
- **La Condesa Subdivision- Full Dept Reclamation**



# Transportation Cont.

- South West and South East Downtown Area 75,000 Sq yds Hot-in-place recycling. This process features a significantly lower greenhouse gas emission profile in terms of pounds emitted per square yard repaved. Repaving of 1 inch of existing pavement, topped by 1 inch asphalt overlay containing 40% RAP (Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement) emits only 7.4 pounds of greenhouse gases per square yard, compared to 12.4 pounds of a 2 inch basic overlay.
- A total of 9 miles of road improvements were completed this year. A total of 600 miles of street sweeping services were conducted.



# Stormwater Management

- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) adopted a new permit (MS4 Phase II), aimed at reducing contaminants in storm water runoff from municipalities. The City of Pharr has been aggressively proactive in complying with State regulations. In November of 2008, the City of Pharr as a member of the Storm Water Task Force aided by Texas A&M (TAMU-K), applied and was granted the permit by TCEQ for the MS4 Permit. The MS4 permit requires the City to enact storm water public education and outreach programs which the city has done regularly. The Storm Water Management Plan is projected to be fully operational in a period of five (5) years. We are currently transitioning from year two (2) into year (3) in which, is the ordinance enforcement side of regulating storm water rules in new construction building in the City of Pharr.



# Stormwater Cont.

- This year we have invested through the Paving and Drainage Assessment Fund a \$275,000.00 Vactor Truck. Equipment specifically designed for storm sewer cleaning applications and has been used to clean 60% of our current storm water system as of today. The first ever preventative maintenance program of our storm water underground system as it pertains to removal of sediment debris that continuously remains a concern throughout hurricane season.



**Before**



**After**

# Fleet Service Center

- Operating with one supervisor and three mechanics, the Fleet service center provides preventive maintenance to all City vehicles. By developing new preventive maintenance plans and strategies, this has helped division keep better track of PM on city fleet, and has reduced expenditures on city vehicles.



# Recycle Center

- On Friday, September 25, a very special ceremony took place in Pharr, it was a special event organized to kick off and introduce the new Pharr Recycling Center facility to the community. The organizers hoped to create more awareness about services and outreach to make the City of Pharr greener and introduced a new slogan for the recycling center which says *“Keeping Pharr Beautiful, Starts at Home”*. The new recycling center facility is located on a 5-acre tract of city-owned land in south Pharr, 1301 W. M (Medina) Street, two blocks south of West Hall Acres Road between S. Cage and S. Jackson. The City of Pharr partnered with Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC), Waste Management, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD, Pharr Chamber of Commerce, Pharr Television 12, Pharr Economic Development Corporation, Pharr Parks & Recreation Boys & Girls Club of Pharr, The City of McAllen, and the Pharr Leadership Class to help promote the use of the recycling center, and, to urge citizens to stop illegal dumping and littering.



# Recycle Center Cont.

- The City of Pharr made history on this special day on becoming a “Green City”. The City of Pharr wants to work with businesses, schools, and neighborhood groups to improve our community by beautifying and becoming environmental stewards. **We believe that behavior such as littering and illegal dumping can be changed!** The Recycle Center initially got awarded a \$20,000.00 grant by the LRGVDC and was marked as our first stepping stone in making this program a reality. The All America City of Pharr is in the process of receiving an additional grant award from the LRGVDC in the amount of \$28,500.00 for recycling equipment. We will continue as public servants to provide the All America City of Pharr a good quality of life.

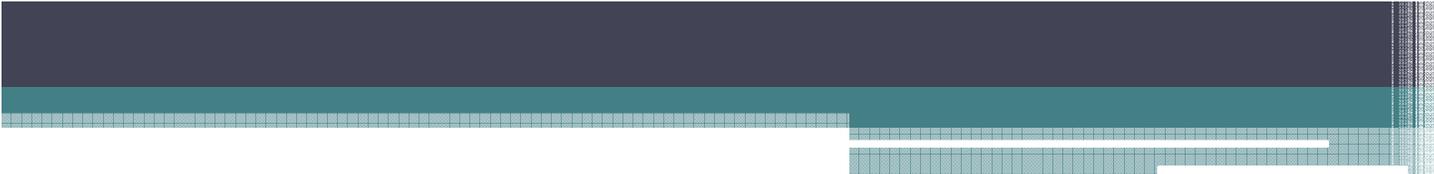


*Fred Sandoval, Comm. Eddie Cantu, The Green Ranger, Dr. Daniel King, Grace Segovia, and Roy Garcia*



*City of Pharr Green Deputies*





# Working for you! 24/7

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