



City Manager Report

July 2025

I am pleased to present the City Manager's Report for July 2025. In addition to updates from our departments, including Finance, Fire, Streets & Parks, Police, and Utilities, this report provides a comprehensive overview of key citywide activities, committee work, ongoing projects, community events, and other important updates.

We remain committed to transparency, accountability, and keeping our community informed. I encourage all residents to review this report and reach out with any questions, feedback, or concerns. Your input is always valued and helps guide the work we do.

Committees

Planning and Zoning Committee: The Planning and Zoning Commission met on July 15th at 6:00 PM. Their next meeting will be held on August 5th. The Planning and Zoning Chapter 40 workgroup held its first meeting on July 10th and will have meetings each Thursday to continue their work in updating the City's Zoning Ordinance.

Wildlife Committee: The Wildlife Committee met on July 7th. The next meeting will be held August 4th at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers.

Board of Adjustments: The Board of Adjustments (BOA) had no meetings scheduled for July.

Airport Committee: The Airport Committee met on July 10th and held a workshop on July 15th. The next meeting will be held on August 7th at 3:00 PM.

Parks Committee: The Parks Committee also rescheduled their regular meeting from July 10th to July 17th, which was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The next meeting is scheduled for August 7th at 6:00 PM.

** The City of Granite Shoals is currently accepting applications through August 5th for residents interested in serving on the Board of Adjustments or the Planning and Zoning Commission. These volunteer roles offer a meaningful opportunity to help shape the city's growth and development by reviewing land use proposals, zoning regulations, and building variances. Serving on a commission is a valuable way to contribute to the future of Granite Shoals and support thoughtful, sustainable community planning.*

Administration

New CivicPlus Website Platform

After months of preparation, we're excited to announce the launch of the City's new CivicPlus website platform, now live as of July 2025. The upgraded site features a modern design and an enhanced user experience - making it easier than ever for residents to find information, submit forms, and stay connected with city staff and services. We invite all residents to explore the new site at www.Graniteshoals.org and share their feedback to help us continue improving access and functionality.



Council Updates

Strategic Planning Session

In late May, the City Council and staff participated in a Strategic Planning Session to establish key priorities for the upcoming fiscal year and guide long-term planning efforts for Granite Shoals. This session included a thoughtful review of the Council's responsibilities as policymakers, a discussion on what makes Granite Shoals unique, and a comprehensive SWOT analysis - evaluating the City's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. This process helped identify areas of focus that will support planned growth opportunities and enhance the overall quality of life for residents.

The strategic priorities developed during the session will be translated into a Strategic Action Plan, which City staff will use to guide day-to-day tasks and initiatives. These priorities will also directly inform an update to the City's Comprehensive Plan, which was last revised in 2010.

Some of the Strategic Priorities and key deliverables Include:

Infrastructure

- Advance wastewater planning, particularly along FM1431
- Update the street maintenance plan and funding strategy
- Continue water system improvements and evaluate rates

Growth and Development

- Update the Comprehensive Plan, Future Land Use Map, and Chapter 40 – Zoning Ordinance
- Grow and diversify the tax base
- Pursue a dedicated Zip Code

Community Standards

- Better maintain City-owned property
- Develop code compliance strategy
- Utilize citizen committees to support neighborhood revitalization and engagement

Parks and Public Spaces

- Enhance and develop Quarry Park as a community asset
 - Explore and pursue grant opportunities
 - Building assessment, venue potential
 - Website and branding
- Increase Park activities
 - Explore revenue and rentals
 - Concerts and movies
- Improve entrance signs, wayfinding and other signage

By setting a clear direction, the City Council is helping ensure that Granite Shoals grows thoughtfully and efficiently, in alignment with the community's values and long-term vision.

Police

Welcome Officer Curtis!

We're proud to announce that our Police Cadet has officially graduated from the academy - please join us in welcoming Officer Curtis to team Granite Shoals! You may recognize her from a recent City Council meeting, where she was formally honored for her lifesaving actions in assisting a fellow cadet during her law enforcement training. Officer Curtis is now in the field training phase of her journey and is excited to serve and protect the Granite Shoals community.



FREE Pet Vaccine Clinic – July 26, 2025

The City of Granite Shoals, in partnership with the Hill Country Humane Society, is hosting a Free Vaccine Clinic for pets on Saturday, July 26th from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Quarry Park. Vaccines include Rabies, DHPPV (for dogs), and FCP (for cats).

- Drive-Thru Only
- Dogs must remain in vehicles
- Cats must stay secured in carriers

Marine Patrol Partnership

In response to staffing needs and the anticipated increase in lake activity during the summer months, the Granite Shoals Police Department has partnered with the Sunrise Beach Police Department to co-staff the Granite Shoals police boat during periods of high-water traffic.

For safety and operational effectiveness, a minimum of two officers are required on board during marine patrols. This partnership allows us to meet that requirement while also ensuring that land-based patrols remain fully supported throughout the city.

We're grateful for this regional collaboration and remain committed to protecting the safety of our residents and visitors - both on the water and across the community.

Parks



July is National Parks and Recreation Month! This month is dedicated to recognizing the value of parks, recreational spaces, and the professionals who care for them. It's a great time to get outdoors, enjoy local green spaces, and reflect on how parks enhance our health, well-being, and sense of community.

Granite Shoals has **19 parks** with a wide range of amenities and experiences for residents and visitors to enjoy.

To learn more about each park, and to sort them by available features, please visit: <https://www.visitgraniteshoals.com/parks>

Help Shape the Future of Quarry Park!

The City of Granite Shoals, in partnership with MRB Engineering Group, is working toward the submission of a \$750,000 outdoor recreation grant through Texas Parks and Wildlife. This grant requires a 1:1 match and, if awarded, could bring up to \$1.5 million in improvements to Quarry Park over the coming years.

As part of the grant application process, the City conducted outreach to gather resident input on desired amenities, activities, and upgrades. A community survey was available online through July 18th, offering residents an opportunity to share their ideas and feedback.



In addition, three open forum meetings were held at City Hall on Monday, July 7th, Thursday, July 10th, and Tuesday, July 15th, each at 5:00 PM. These sessions were open to all

residents, well-attended, and provided a valuable space to review survey results and discuss ideas for the future of Quarry Park. Community input will directly inform the grant application and help shape the long-term vision for this important public space.

Streets

Drainage

As many residents are aware, our streets are only as reliable as the drainage systems that support them. With that in mind, City staff are actively developing a priority-based drainage improvement plan to complement ongoing updates to the street maintenance program and ensure long-term infrastructure planning.

Key components of the plan include:

- A schedule for routine culvert maintenance
- Evaluation of additional tools and equipment needed to expand staff capabilities
- Enhancements to drainage system flow and operability
- Identification and assessment of high-impact areas
- Consideration of updated development requirements to better address long-term drainage needs

The City is also exploring what alternative funding opportunities may be available for street maintenance. Currently, 1% of the City's sales tax, approximately \$300,000 annually, is allocated to the Street Maintenance portion of the General Fund. However, the cost to pave a single mile of roadway can range from \$600,000 to \$1 million, depending on pre-existing conditions and materials used.

By aligning drainage planning with street improvements and exploring diversified funding options, the City is committed to building and maintaining safer, longer-lasting roads for the Granite Shoals community. While these improvements won't happen overnight, this approach establishes a clear framework to guide long-term progress and investment.

Trail and Curb Planning on Phillips Ranch Road



We're excited to announce that construction is now underway on a new paved trail along Phillips Ranch Road, extending from FM 1431 south to Newcastle Drive. This project will provide a safer and more comfortable pathway for pedestrians by diverting foot traffic away from the main roadway. It will also improve connectivity between the residential community and key local destinations such as Highland Lake Elementary, nearby grocery

and gas stations, banking services, and Quarry Park. This project is part of the City's ongoing efforts to enhance walkability and neighborhood connectivity and is funded through an existing bond dedicated specifically to improvements along Phillips Ranch Road, Valley View Lane, and Prairie Creek Road.

Thank you to the community for your continued support and patience during construction. We're excited for the added safety and convenience this trail will offer to residents and visitors alike.

Utilities

Watering Restrictions

Effective July 14, 2025, all outdoor watering restrictions have been lifted for customers in Granite Shoals, following a decision by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA). This change is due to significantly improved water levels in the region's reservoirs - Lake Buchanan is currently at 93% capacity and Lake Travis at 75%, according to the LCRA.

Customers may now resume the permanent year-round outdoor watering schedule, which allows for twice-per-week watering based on residential address and designated times.

Odd addresses: Wed & Sat

Even addresses: Thurs & Sun

Watering allowed from midnight–10AM and 8PM–midnight.

Water Plant Operations

On July 16, 2025, the City's Water Treatment Facility was temporarily shut down to allow for testing of a newly installed emergency generator which was recently installed to keep the system operational during power outages or inclement weather. Purchase of the emergency generator was made possible through the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

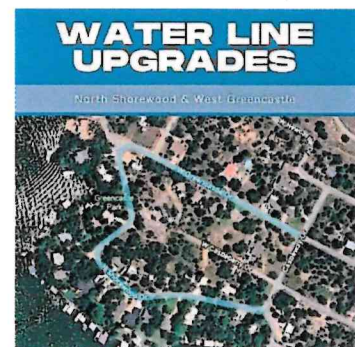
As part of the generator project, it was discovered that Pedernales Electric Cooperative would need to relocate a transformer. During this relocation, the facility operated for several hours, powered by the backup generator. Testing and installation was successful, and regular operations have since resumed.

Tank & Equipment Updates

Texas Tanks completed repairs on the Valley View elevated water storage tank on July 3rd.

Water Transmission Line Upgrade

In late July, the City of Granite Shoals will begin its next major water line infrastructure to replace aging 1½-inch main with a



new 6-inch water line along the 500 block of North Shorewood. The project also includes fire hydrant installation to enhance fire protection in the area.

Construction is expected to last approximately six weeks, with increased activity from City staff and contracted Utility Construction teams during this time. Affected property owners have been notified by mail.

This project is funded through the 2020 Water Infrastructure Bond, which has also supported:

- The elevated storage tank on Bluebriar
- Upgrades to the City's Water Treatment Plant
- Recent water main replacement and fire hydrants along Kingswood Drive
- 1000 block of North Shorewood

Thank you to all residents for your continued patience and support as we work toward a stronger, more resilient water system for Granite Shoals.

Paying Your Utility Bill Just Got Easier!

The City of Granite Shoals offers 5 convenient ways to pay your monthly water and garbage bill:

1. **Free Bank Draft:** Set up automatic payments directly from your bank account with no fees. Simply complete the Bank Auto Draft Form available online or at City Hall, and return it by mail, email, or in person.
2. **In Person:** Pay at City Hall Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4:30 PM (excluding holidays), or drop your payment anytime in the secure parking lot drop box (please, no cash in the drop box).
3. **By Mail:** Mail your check or money order to City Hall – Attn: Billing, 2221 N. Phillips Ranch Rd., Granite Shoals, TX 78654.
4. **By Phone:** Call 877-867-5743 to make a payment using your credit card.
5. **Online:** Make one-time or recurring payments anytime at graniteshoals.org/payments. First-time users will need their account number, last payment amount, and email address. Please note, processing fees apply for credit/debit card payments. These fees are charged by the City's third-party payment processor.



Questions? We are always happy to help. Please contact the Billing Office at: (830) 598-2424

Building & Planning

Please join me in welcoming Becky, the City's new Building and Planning Specialist. Becky brings a strong municipal background and holds certifications in planning, code enforcement, and as a municipal clerk. She is eager to assist residents, contractors, and developers throughout the permitting process and is committed to streamlining services and improving overall efficiency.

As part of these ongoing efforts, the City now offers an online permitting portal, where you can easily view project requirements, submit applications, and make permit payments:

<https://graniteshoals.portal.iworq.net/portalhome/graniteshoals>

Below is a summary of new permit applications processed by the City in June 2025, along with annual permitting statistics from June 2024 to the present.

Type	Volume
New Home	60
New Roof	49
Fence	38
Accessory Building	33
Electrical	31
Building	22
Boat Dock	21
Addition	16
Mobile Home	15
Remodel	14
Replat	14
Plumbing	10
New Pools	9
Demo	6
Mechanical	6
Retaining Wall	4
Sign	1
Total	349

June 2024 - June 2025

Type	Volume
New Home	6
Fence	5
New Roof	4
Replat	4
Accessory Building	3
Building	3
Electrical	2
Boat Dock	2
Mobile Home	2
Remodel	2
New Pools	2
Addition	1
Total	36

June 2025

Finance

FY 2026 Budget Workshops

The City has held budget workshops on June 24, July 8, and July 22. Preliminary budget discussions are ongoing, and additional workshops will be held to address key topics such as:

- Debt retirement schedule
- Revenue sources
- Departmental recommendations for FY 26
- Committee requests

- Fully loaded staffing costs
- Tax rates
- Draft budget figures

The City anticipates receiving final certified property values from Burnet Central Appraisal District (BCAD) on July 25, which will further inform the budgeting process.

We encourage residents to stay engaged and follow along as we continue developing a responsible and forward-looking budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

FY 2024 Annual Audit

The FY 2024 Annual Financial Report is now available on the City's website under Financial Transparency.

Fire

Need a Burn Permit?

You can easily obtain a burn permit through the Granite Shoals Fire Department. Just call 830-596-3338 to schedule an appointment - available 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., unless a burn ban is in effect.

City of Granite Shoals – July 2025 Events & Updates

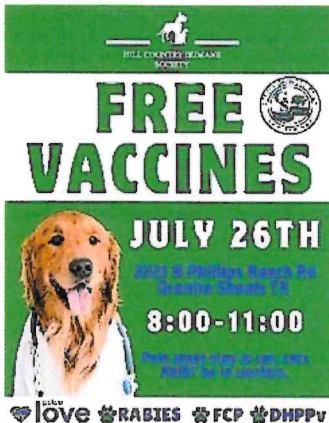


- July 1 Water Consumer Confidence Report**
- July 4 Golf Cart Parade** *Canceled due to rain.*
- July 5 Pickleball Tournament & Social *Canceled.***
- July 7 Storm debris drop off at City Hall**
Debris drop-off will continue throughout the month.
Public Forum: Quarry Park Survey
Wildlife Committee Meeting

- July 8 Budget Workshop**
City Council Meeting

- July 10 Public Forum: Quarry Park Survey**
Airport Committee Meeting
Chapter 40 Workgroup Meeting

- July 15 Public Forum: Quarry Park Survey**
Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting



- July 17 Chapter 40 Workgroup Meeting**
- July 22 Budget workshop**
City Council Meeting
- July 24 Chapter 40 Workgroup Meeting**
- July 25 Certified property values from BCAD**
- July 26 Free Vaccine Clinic**
 (8:00am – 11:00am): Quarry Park

- July 31 Chapter 40 Workgroup Meeting**

A Message to Our Community Following the Recent Weather Disaster

Our hearts are heavy in the aftermath of the recent weather disaster that has brought unimaginable hardship and loss to so many across the Hill Country. On behalf of the City of Granite Shoals, I offer my deepest condolences to the families, friends, and coworkers of those whose lives were tragically lost in the flooding. We grieve with you, and we stand beside you.

The storm tested our strength in every way - relentless rains, saturated ground, and rapidly rising waters caused destruction that will not soon be forgotten. Yet in the midst of such devastation, we have also witnessed something extraordinary: the unwavering spirit and resolve of our community.


In the face of heartbreak, neighbors became lifelines. Private pilots flew in to deliver supplies and help evacuate those stranded. Volunteers and search parties gave of their time and risked their safety to find the missing. Emergency responders from multiple agencies across the state worked around the clock. Donations of food, water, and care poured in. Animals were rescued. Families found shelter. And compassion never ran dry.

I want to extend heartfelt gratitude to our Fire Chief and Police Chief, whose leadership and efforts during this crisis were nothing short of amazing. They each helped guide and assist in the regional emergency response of a large-scale search operation involving more than 500 personnel from a variety of departments including K-9 units, and helicopters. Their efforts didn't just serve Granite Shoals - they strengthened and supported our surrounding communities, too.

While assisting with food deliveries and behind-the-scenes support and coordination, I had the privilege of witnessing the unwavering dedication of our first responders up close. They led with courage, clarity, and kindness when our beloved Hill Country needed it most - and for that, I am deeply grateful.

To every individual and agency who stepped forward with compassion, bravery, and generosity - thank you. To those who prayed for our first responders and all who were impacted - thank you. Whether you gave your time, your resources, or your kindness, know that you made a difference. Together, we will heal. Together, we will rebuild. And together, we will emerge stronger than ever.

With gratitude,



Sarah Novo