

The City of Euless  
201 N. Ector Drive  
Euless, Texas 76039  
817-685-1400  
[www.euless.org](http://www.euless.org)

**W**e are pleased to announce that the Euless City Council approved the FY2008-09 budget on August 26. During the budget process, emphasis was placed on continuing a high level of service to our citizens, maintaining appropriate staffing levels while providing a competitive employee benefits package, maintaining proper reserve levels, supporting public safety, encouraging economic development and revitalization throughout our community.

With a growing population of 54,000, the Council approved a tax rate of 47¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation, which is a continuance of the previous year's tax rate. This is the thirteenth consecutive year that the Euless tax rate has either been reduced or maintained while still providing for enhancements throughout our City.

More and more people are discovering what we already know: Euless is a thriving business community with a hometown feel. The FY2008-09 general fund budget includes total operating and capital expenditures of \$32,776,463. New development during the past year totaled \$33,010,350 bringing the City's total taxable value to \$2,725,665,648, an increase of 4.96% over the prior year.

More people are supporting their community by shopping in Euless. Money spent locally circulates longer within the community and improves the quality of life. For each dollar spent in Euless, 2% of the taxable sales are returned to the City to support public services, lower property taxes, provide for crime control and prevention and to enhance our library, parks and to promote economic development.

The City continues to be strong financially; however, the economic downturn and fiscal conditions affect everyone. Sales tax revenues are projected to only increase slightly due to the slowdown in the economy.

Recommended capital funding includes continued participation in the Tarrant County Home Program which rehabilitates homes for  
*(continued on back page)*

### *Euless offers the following exemptions and deferrals for homeowners:*

- **Homestead Exemption of 20%**
- **Senior Exemption of \$35,000 for residents age 65 and older**
- **Property tax freeze for homeowners at age 65 or disabled**

The owner of a house valued at \$100,000, who has the 20% homestead exemption, would pay \$376 in City taxes annually. Senior citizens with the same value would pay \$211.50 annually. For more information about exemptions or freezes, please contact Tarrant Appraisal District.

## A Word from the Mayor

Dear Citizens,

As a new fiscal year for the city begins the first of October, we are thankful for the very successful year we have completed.

Our population has increased to about 54,000 citizens and we now have five housing developments in progress. We have completed all of the major roadway infrastructures with Glade Road as our last large project. The Shops at Vineyard Village are filling up and dirt is moving at Glade Park.

Have you noticed the beautiful plantings our Parks department has done this year? Main Street, city hall campus and our parks have all benefited from their work. Additional amenities have been added to the parks and even more trails are in our future.

The Library has been renovated this summer with new carpeting, new furniture, new study rooms and the beautiful new local history and genealogy room as well as a study room. The outside gardens have been redone with new seating arrangements.

Our Euless Revitalization program continues to be a highlight for those citizens in need. We work together with Tarrant County and several local churches to revitalize older homes for those who cannot do the work themselves. Euless is such a caring community and those involved are truly rewarded by their service.

Our Texas Star Conference Centre is undergoing major renovations and should be completed early in 2009. Business is going well and we appreciate the support of those who put up with the noise and inconvenience while the work goes on.

We will continue to update our buildings, roads, parks and infrastructure this next year without an increase in the tax rate. Please read through this newsletter to understand our budget for 2008-09.

And, thank you all for being the great citizens of Euless!



*Mayor Mary Lib Saleh*

## PHONE NUMBERS TO KNOW

**Tarrant Appraisal District**  
817-284-0024  
[www.tad.org](http://www.tad.org)

**Tarrant County  
Tax Assessor**  
817-884-1100  
[www.tarrantcounty.com/etax](http://www.tarrantcounty.com/etax)

**Tarrant County College**  
817-515-8223  
[www.tccd.edu](http://www.tccd.edu)

**John Peter Smith (JPS)  
Hospital**  
817-921-3431  
[www.jpshhealthnet.org](http://www.jpshhealthnet.org)

**HEB ISD**  
817-283-4461  
[www.hebisd.edu](http://www.hebisd.edu)

**Grapevine/Colleyville ISD**  
817-488-9588  
[www.gcisd-k12.org](http://www.gcisd-k12.org)

(continued from front page)

those who qualify financially, funding for street overlay projects; funding for citywide computer replacement needs and funding for various equipment needs throughout the city.

The City Council also approved operating and capital expenses for the water and sewer fund totaling \$17,030,647. This budget provides for the distribution and treatment of water and wastewater for Euless customers. The City purchases the majority of its water and has all wastewater treated by Trinity River Authority (TRA). As a result of increased production costs to both TRA and the City, water rates will increase .14¢ and wastewater rates will increase .22¢ per 1,000 gallons effective October 1. This budget also provides approximately \$1 million dollars to continue the replacement of water and wastewater lines and metering equipment throughout the City to keep the infrastructure sound.

The Council is committed to providing for capital improvements to ensure that the City's infrastructure remains sound and using cash reserves whenever possible to limit debt issuance. We are very pleased that the FY2008-09 budget will not require the issuance of any debt. The 2008-09 Capital Improvements Program includes new trail connections at Bob Eden Park, Bear Creek Parkway erosion repair, street overlay projects, a feasibility study for improvements to the Texas Star Sports Complex, which includes both Softball World and the Parks at Texas Star, and a Family Life Center at Midway Park, which includes expansion of the current recreation center, an indoor/outdoor aquatic center, and construction of a new senior center. This project will fulfill the most requested amenities identified by citizen input in our recently adopted Parks Master Plan.

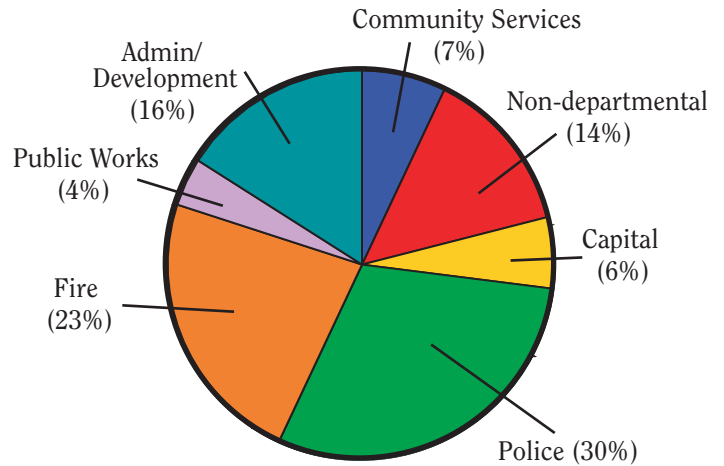
Euless currently operates 20 vehicles with alternative fuel sources. In an effort to assist in fuel conservation, the proposed fleet replacement schedule includes recommendations for alternative fuel and fuel efficient vehicles where possible.

"Programs, policies and procedures have been implemented that not only save valuable tax dollars, but also make Euless a more sustainable place to work and live. Euless City Council and staff pledge to the citizens that we will maintain a solid financial position with emphasis on a stable, low tax rate and reduction of debt," said City Manager Gary McKamie.

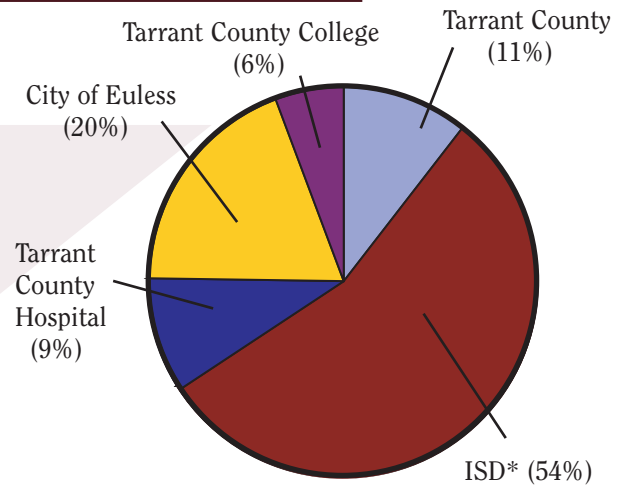
### Betterment Fund Works Hard for Euless

Each month, citizens have the opportunity to contribute 50¢ to the Euless Betterment Fund through their water bills. Monies from this fund are used for the city's 1+1=2 Program. This wonderful program was designed to give away trees at the Arbor Daze celebration. All residents are encouraged to plant trees in their yards throughout the City of Euless. This contribution supports the city's Annual Christmas Parade of Lights and the Holiday Kidz Zone at Midway Recreation Center. It also supports the fantastic programming at the Euless Public Library such as the MasterWorks Music and Arts Series. Thanks to each of you who help make these programs possible.

### General Fund Expenditures - \$32,776,463 Total Expenditures



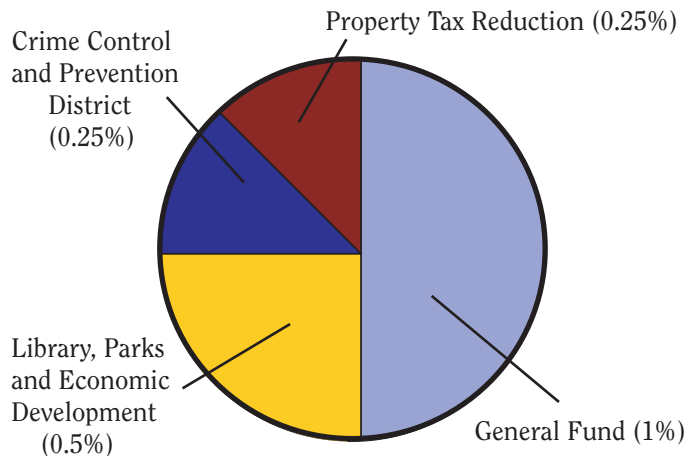
### Where Do Your Tax Dollars Go?



\*HEBISD - \$1,295. GCISD - \$1,290

### Where Does Your Sales Tax Go?

For every dollar of taxable sales in Euless, an 8.25% sales tax is levied. The State of Texas collects 6.25% and the remaining 2% is used by the City of Euless as follows:



If you have questions or comments about this edition of *Euless Today*, please contact Betsy Deck at 817-685-1821.