



MATT KRAUSE

DISTRICT
93

State Representative ★ House District 93

Matt's Corner

“We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.” These words were more revolutionary than we often remember. For the first time in human history, a society was being formed that asserted that rights come from God, not from man. Therefore, government was to recognize and respect those rights, not invent them. It is because of this philosophical foundation that America has stood strong for the past 240 years. And it is up to each one of us to carry on the legacy and heritage of our founding fathers. This July, I hope you can take some time to talk about the importance of the Declaration of Independence with your family. It is only by knowing our past that we can maximize our future. Happy Birthday America! Here’s to another 240 years!”

Spotlight Interview: Haltom City Mayor David Averitt

by Ernest Dominick

Impact. Education. Transformation. These are words Haltom City Mayor David Averitt said he lives by in an interview last week. “Being a part of redefining what it means to be a part of this community is why I wake up every morning.” As a Haltom City native, becoming mayor wasn’t Averitt’s first time working in the city. “I’ve been involved with the city council for a total of twelve years. This community has given so much to me, which is why it’s important to positively impact those around us,” he said. Averitt said being mayor is vastly different than his previous positions. “As a councilman, I voted on policies,” he said. “As mayor, my role is to provide clarity for the council’s vision.” Currently, Averitt and his wife run a real estate business, and their children, Josh and Chloe, attend school in the area. His wife, Lisa, is actively involved in the PTA. “We’re big believers in giving back to our community,” he said. A devoted family man who has a real heart for his city, Averitt highlighted successful past renovations to municipal facilities and the importance of keeping those spaces pristine and modern. “Our parks, recreational facilities, our library, our police station, our two new fire stations, our public works building... these are places where our city government conducts business,” he said. Averitt emphasized the role of citizens taking the initiative in lending a hand to those in need. “I encourage everyone to do their part because community involvement doesn’t always have to be organized,” he said. Averitt said mutual aid extends beyond citizen-to-citizen assistance, but also between citizens and their public servants, as well.



*City of Haltom City, Mayor David Averitt
Photo courtesy of
www.haltomcitytx.com/haltom-city-mayor-david-averitt*

Mayor Interview Continued:

Averitt said mutual aid extends beyond citizen-to-citizen assistance, but also between citizens and their public servants, as well. “They educate us on the issues and challenges they face in their lives and what help they need from us,” he said. “It’s up to us to educate them on what options are available to them.” Averitt said he and his team consider the Haltom City citizens a vital component to their jobs on the city council. “Our first priority is to inform and improve the lives of our constituents,” he said. “Once we understand that, the way we work is changed for the better.” When asked

what is one surprising thing about himself, Averitt stated he is a natural introvert. As mayor, Averitt encouraged fellow introverts to not let being an introvert hold them back from pursuing their goals. “I quickly learned that we have to put those things aside and do what our constituents need,” he said. “If you truly set your sights on a goal, you will rise to the occasion.” One goal Averitt said he is constantly working to accomplish is redeveloping the city.

Averitt and his team are currently finishing two projects: (1) a realignment project consisting of 4 new street corners at the intersection of State Highway 183 & US Highway 377 and (2) planned visual enhancements (e.g., sculptures, murals, artwork, etc.) to popular city spaces.

He explained, “We’re taking the gradual merge of these two streets [183 & 377] and turning it into a hard corner. This will provide more areas for economic development.” He also shared, “We believe the new visuals will enhance our property values.” Averitt said he is confident in Haltom City’s potential for success. “Because of our geographic location, there’s no reason why we shouldn’t be exploding economically,” he said. “It’s a great time to live and do business in Haltom City.” In addition to accomplishing his goals, Averitt said he constantly puts himself in new and challenging situations to reach his highest potential. “Success is always just outside of our comfort zone,” he said. “If you are comfortable, you are not growing.” In closing, Averitt shared what he considered the definition of leadership. “Leadership means inspiring others to collectively accomplish a common goal,” he said. “And I think that’s what we’re doing with my city council.”



*Mayor David Averitt and Family
Photo Courtesy of Facebook*

SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT TOURISM

HD93 cities [Arlington](#), [Fort Worth](#), [Haltom City](#), [Haslet](#), [Keller](#), and [Saginaw](#) offer constituents a plethora of summer entertainment for all ages! Click on the city links above to discover just a taste of your district's recreation and relaxation.

CONGRATULATIONS, TEXAS RANGERS!

*First Place in the American League
Western Division*



DALLAS COWBOYS 2016 TRAINING CAMP

July 18th - August 28th in Oxnard, California

“For current information on players, training coaches and upcoming games, visit www.dallascowboys.com. Practices are typically NOT every day, so please see the schedule for specific days they will be publicly training. The schedule can change, so check back here for practice schedule changes before you come.

The Dallas Cowboys Training Camp offers youth the opportunity to watch football players up close or participate as they train for the upcoming season. Start planning now to join the fun!”

Click [here](#) for more information and schedule.



*Image courtesy City of Oxnard,
Credit Michael Cabezas*

Calendar

July 4: Independence Day

“Various known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.”
More history [here](#).



Photo courtesy of www.examiner.com

July 24: National Ice Cream Day

“The holiday was created by an official proclamation by President Ronald Reagan in 1984. At the time, the holiday was supposed to be only celebrated once - on July 15, 1984. The ice cream industry however, decided to continue the tradition every year since. In addition to observing a National Ice Cream Day, the proclamation also designated July as National Ice Cream Month. This too has now become a tradition.”
More fun history and ideas to celebrate [here](#).



Keep Texas Beautiful

Save the date! On July 18, the Texas Package Recycling Forum will showcase the results of a collaborative effort to advance package recycling.

Sponsored by [State of Texas Alliance for Recycling \(STAR\)](#), [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, TCEQ](#), Carton Council, and NCTCOG, this summit is an opportunity for the project’s four working groups to share their findings and facilitate discussion on opportunities for synergies and next steps.

When: July 18, 8:30am - 4:30pm

Where: [North Central Texas Council of Governments](#)

616 Six Flags Dr. Arlington, TX 76011



HD93 Chamber Events

Arlington: July 15, 2016 [Dirty Dozen Brass Band](#)

Arlington: July 21, 2016 [Heartis Ribbon Cutting](#)

Fort Worth: July 14, 2016 [Membership 101: Orientation, Networking](#)

Fort Worth: July 15, 2016 [TCU Football Preview Luncheon](#)

Keller: every Friday in July [Local Leads](#)

Keller: July 21, 2016 [“The Builders Corner” Networking Group](#)

Northeast Tarrant: July 12, 2016 [High Heels and Hot Meals](#)

Northeast Tarrant: July 21, 2016 [Boots & Bling Casino Night](#)

Northwest Metroport: July 14, 2016 [Ambassador Meeting](#)

Saginaw: July 12, 2016 [SACC Board Meeting](#)

Saginaw: July 21, 2016 [Luncheon at the Saginaw Recreation Center](#)

Trivia

Did you know?? The Texas flag is the only flag of an American State having previously served as a flag of a recognized independent country.

Find out more about the Texas flag [here](#).



Photo courtesy of house.state.tx.us

Haltom City Features

Haltom City and TxDOT Realignment Proposal for Hwy 377 and Belknap

“The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the City of Haltom City, propose to realign US377 (Denton Highway) to intersect E Belknap Street approximately 500 feet north-east of the existing signal. The new signal will have a fourth leg that will provide a connection to Highland Avenue. The new signalized intersection will have a dual right turn movement from northeast bound Belknap to northbound Denton Highway. The existing Highland Avenue tie into Belknap will change from signal controlled to stop controlled with the through movements along Belknap operating freely.”

More information [here](#).

NTE 35W Project

“The \$1.6 billion NTE 35W Project spans 10 miles in Fort Worth from north of I-30 to US 81/287. It is being built in segments in coordination between NTE Mobility Partners Segments 3, LLC (NTEMP3) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). TxDOT has received a proposal from NTEMP3 to build Segment 3C from U.S. 81/287 to Eagle Parkway. All of these improvements will reduce congestion by doubling capacity; reconstructing the existing lanes and adding two TEXpress Lanes (toll man-aged lanes) in each direction.

The NTE 35W Project segments include:

- Segment 3A is 6.5 miles of I-35W from north of I-30 to north of I-820
- Segment 3B is 3.6 miles of I-35W from north of I-820 to US 81/287
- Segment 3C is 8.0 miles of I-35W from US 81/287 to Eagle Parkway

Construction began on Segment 3B in May 2013 with completion estimated in 2016. Construction began on Segment 3A in July 2014 with completion estimated in 2018.”

More info [here](#). Sign up for [project updates](#).

Bonds Ranch Road/US Highway 287 Construction

“The current schedule for the roundabouts along Bonds Ranch Road is construction to begin in mid to late July. As this is all asphalt construction, we anticipate completion of the roundabouts and pavement under the US Highway 287 bridge to be complete by late August to early September. The central islands (landscaping and concrete truck aprons) and illumination will be complete by late September to early October. We will have traffic operating in the roundabout configuration by late August (end of the summer).”

-Brian Beck

Haltom City Features

Haltom City Public Library

“The Haltom City Public Library is honored to have a special, interactive exhibit on loan from the University of Texas at Dallas: Inside Out! Patrons, young and old, can place the pictures of the animals on the light pad, mounted to the table, and see the skeleton. We also have “bones” books next to the table for check out. The exhibit will be available through the summer. Check it out!”



A Few of the Featured Photographs

from the 2016 Contest in the Haltom City Calendar



Photography by ISABELLE NORMANDIN Best in Show - Animals



Photographed by EMILY JOHNSON Winner Haltom City Scenes



Photography by LAYLA CARAWAY Honorable Mention Spirit of Haltom City



Photography by KYLIE COPELAND Winner Spirit of Haltom City

BUSINESS

“It’s a great time to live and do business in Haltom City.” Mayor David Averitt

North Haltom City is growing and with it, lifestyle and other development.

Haltom City is welcoming all, in style...

Haltom City Welcomes Its First Commercial Art Sculpture

“The city is excited to have its first outdoor commercial art sculpture as part of the gateway to North Haltom City.”

Haltom City Mayor David Averitt



New Growth in Haltom City

By Rex Phelps, Assistant City Manager, Haltom City

Haltom City, a Northeast Tarrant County city of 43,000 hard-working Texans, takes pride in their comfortable neighborhoods and the town’s unique history as the center of the Birdville Settlement and the original Tarrant County seat. In order for Haltom City to continue to grow and prosper, the city is working on several exciting upcoming projects.

In the middle of the city, the recently completed 820 corridor road construction project, which includes beautifully landscaped backage roads, means that Haltom City has a prime area available for large scale retail and commercial developments. The city is currently considering development proposals from numerous developers. We are so proud of the four, nearly completed, new monument signs at the 820 corridor, featuring the iconic Haltom Theater marquee that boldly welcomes both visitors and residents alike into our city. The plan for luxury apartment homes and a high-end master planned residential community in this area will add even more housing options into the city.

For the 30% of Haltom residents who are under the age of 18, the city is working closely with a developer and BISD to create better access for students and teachers to Haltom High School. The Haltom Trust is working with the city to develop growth strategies and retail opportunities for the intersection currently under construction at Highway 377 and Belknap, which is due for completion on October 1, 2016. With all that is happening in Haltom City, it’s no wonder that it’s a great place to live, work and raise your family.

Coming up in the next HD 93 Newsletter:

The Fourth in our series on the six HD 93 Mayors - Mayor Bob Golden of Haslet.



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