



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City to Enact Temporary Moratorium on Development – Starts December 16, 2022

Magnolia, TEXAS – December 14, 2022 - The City of Magnolia Texas has enacted a Temporary Development Moratorium starting on December 16, 2022. This temporary moratorium becomes effective on that date in accordance with Texas Local Government Code Section 212.134. It will affect permits for new development related to subdivision, site planning, development, land use, and construction in the City limits and Extraterritorial Jurisdiction for both residential and commercial projects. During the moratorium, no City department will accept permit applications for development where a waiver has not been approved. If it is extended past December 25, 2022, applicants will be able to apply for exceptions or waivers.

The City of Magnolia recognizes the impact of rapid growth on providing for responsible development, especially as it relates to density, transportation, and the provision of water. Currently, the City has reached its commitments on water capacity. The City has started construction on a water well to be completed and operational in August 2023, with hopes that it will come online sooner. The City is also started the process to take bids this December to start a second well, which is scheduled to be online and operational on or before December 2023. Thereafter the City has plans in place and is in the process of acquiring three new property sites for water plants that will have two additional wells on each site for a total of 6 additional water wells. The City plans are to put in two wells each year starting in 2024 to meet commitments to provide water. Magnolia will use the moratorium to give the City time for responsible development and future planning, to prevent new development from being detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the city, while also addressing the need for sustainable infrastructure.

“The City’s responsibility is to provide utilities and sometimes that requires the City to consider and/or make tough, but necessary decisions,” said City Administrator Don Doering. “The rapid growth that Magnolia and the surrounding area has experienced is unprecedented. Enacting the temporary moratorium would allow the City to protect the current water capacity while allowing time to construct two

new wells in 2023 and additional wells thereafter to provide sufficient water capacity to serve current commitments and future growth.”

The Temporary Development Moratorium will begin on December 16, 2022 and will be in effect until December 25, 2022, unless it is extended by the City Council. The City Council held its first public hearing on December 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the City Hall council chambers. Below is the schedule for Planning and Zoning to hold a public hearing where residents and affected parties may provide comments regarding the temporary moratorium, and the City Council’s next meeting to consider the moratorium ordinance. The below public hearings will take place at City Hall, located at 18111 Buddy Riley Blvd., Magnolia, Texas 77354, on the following dates and at these times:

- Planning and Zoning Commission, Thursday, December 15, 2022, 4:30 p.m.
- City Council, Tuesday, December 21, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Additional questions on the Moratorium can be emailed to moratorium@cityofmagnolia.com. Due to the anticipated high volume of inquiries on this matter, we request that all questions be submitted in writing.

Media inquiries on the moratorium should be directed to City Administrator Don Doering at 281.305.0554 or communications@cityofmagnolia.com.