



State of the City 2023

Melissa is a Contemporary, Innovative, Ever-Evolving Community Where Our Residents Enjoy the Opportunity for a Meaningful Life!



Melissa City Council



Work Sessions - 5:15 p.m.
2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Regular Meetings - 6 p.m.
2nd and 4th Tuesdays

City Hall, 3411 Barker Avenue
Melissa, TX 75454

[Click here for Council Member
contact information](#)



Content Summary

| | |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 004 | <u>Governance</u> |
| 006 | <u>Commercial</u> |
| 008 | <u>Downtown</u> |
| 009 | <u>Mobility</u> |
| 013 | <u>Financial</u> |
| 018 | <u>Police</u> |
| 019 | <u>Fire</u> |
| 020 | <u>Trail Connection</u> |
| 021 | <u>Events</u> |
| 024 | <u>Engagement</u> |
| 025 | <u>Contact us</u> |

Governance

Updated Mission, Vision, Values

- Council began quarterly training sessions with The Elim Group

Vision

Melissa is a Contemporary, Innovative, Ever-Evolving Community Where Our Residents Enjoy the Opportunity for a Meaningful Life!

Mission

We provide a life of quality opportunities by encouraging collaborative participation in the development of the City of Melissa. We are forward thinking and focused on rich residential and commercial communities, deliberate infrastructure, open and active spaces, successful education and the effective stewardship of resources.

Governance

Successful Charter Amendment election

- Council called an election to proposed 13 amendments to the City of Melissa Home Rule Charter
- 9 person citizen commission reviewed the propositions
- Election held in November 2023, with 12 of the 13 propositions passing
- 12.1% turnout

Code of Conduct updated

- 2011 Home Rule Charter required a Code of Ethics to be adopted
- The Code of Ethics was retitled the Code of Conduct and updated in early 2023 to match state law changes

Commercial

Welcome to the Community



[Back to content summary.](#)

New Certificates of Occupancy

Action Behavior Center

Bliss Nails

Cornerstone Chiropractic

Eternity Nail

Hazel & Billie's

Cardinal Carrier Express

Jaguar Jiu Jitsu

Lau Ba Thai

McDonalds

Melissa Family Chiropractic

Melissa Med Spa

Melissa Montessori Academy

Melissa Pediatric Dentistry

Melissa Wellness Village

Milrany Ranch Amenity Center

Public Storage Melissa

Scooter's Coffee

Sherwin Williams

Starry Nails & Spa

Tia's Mexican Grill

Whitewater Express Carwash

209 Salon

Downtown

- Road designs underway for Cooper, Harrison, and Red River
- Lighting standards upgraded to help identify when you are in the downtown area
- Cooper Street building retrofit
 - Redesigned an old metal building for city offices; still under construction but the exterior will look like turn-of-the-century structure
- Facade grant offered to existing Downtown buildings



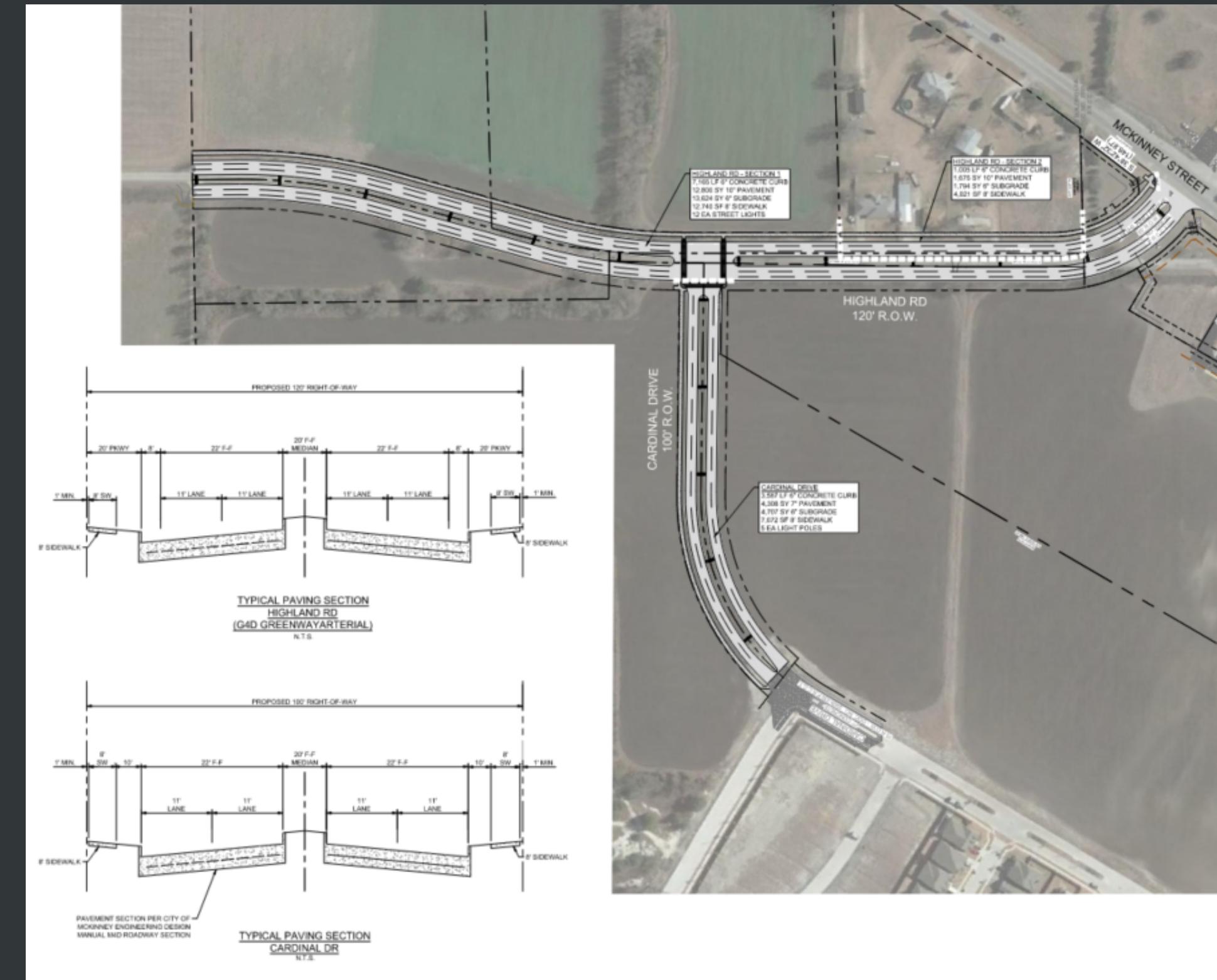
Mobility

- Cardinal/Highland Road Project
- High School Roads Project
- SH 5 widening through Melissa
(TxDOT project).



Cardinal /Highland Road Project

- This project extends Cardinal Drive to Highland Road and reconstructs Highland Road from Cardinal Drive to State Highway 5
- Project allows school traffic and general traffic around City Hall to have access to a signalized intersection at Highland Road and SH 5
- Signal should improve traffic flow in this particular area
- Project estimated to be completed in Spring 2024



Greer/Gleason/ Sparks Way

- Two major collector roads bordering Melissa High School were opened in 2023, creating a second point of access to East Melissa Road
- Project will soon allow connectivity from Melissa High School to the Z-PLEX so students could access the Z-PLEX without having to use East Melissa Road
- Signal study being conducted to provide TxDOT justification for a traffic signal at Greer Way and Melissa Road



SH 5 widening through Melissa

- TxDOT started the State Highway 5 widening project through Melissa in July 2023
- Current SH 5 will be widened to a four-lane highway with a raised median from the Outer Loop to SH 121
- \$43 Million, 2-year project
- Project has a completion date of Fall 2025



Financial

- Reduced tax rate from .456 to .454
- Implemented 5% homestead exemption for residential properties
- Bond rating increase by S&P and Moody's



Reduced tax rate from .456 to .454

Tax comparisons with Collin County cities

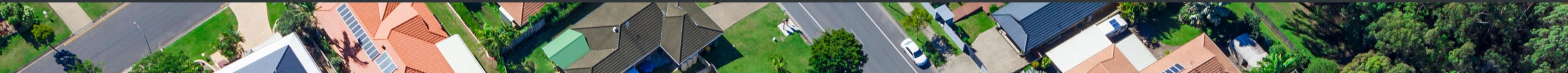
| City | HS Amount | Total Rate |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Lucas | 8.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.256758 |
| Fairview | \$0 | 0.311683 |
| Murphy | \$0 | 0.408046 |
| Plano | 20.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.4176 |
| Allen | 5.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.4205 |
| McKinney | \$0 | 0.427513 |
| Frisco | 15.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.432205 |
| Princeton | \$0 | 0.440226 |
| Melissa | 5.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.454728 |
| Prosper | 15.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.51 |
| Anna | 3.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.510717 |

| City | HS Amount | Total Rate |
|--------------|----------------------|------------|
| Wylie | \$0 | 0.538882 |
| Van Alstyne | \$0 | 0.553713 |
| Carrollton | 20.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.55375 |
| Richardson | \$0 | 0.56095 |
| Royse City | \$0 | 0.584 |
| Celina | \$0 | 0.612154 |
| Sachse | \$0 | 0.650416 |
| Garland | 10.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.689746 |
| Farmersville | \$0 | 0.7124 |
| Dallas | 20.00% (\$5,000 min) | 0.7357 |

Collin County cities with Adopted Residential Homestead Exemptions

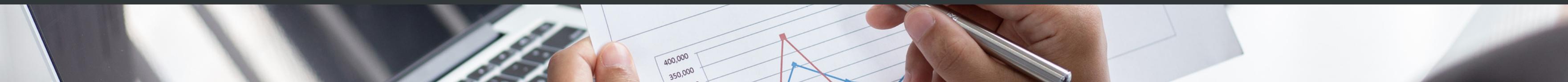
| Entity | HS Amount |
|------------|----------------------|
| Plano | 20.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Carrollton | 20.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Dallas | 20.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Frisco | 15.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Prosper | 15.00% (\$5,000 min) |

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Garland | 10.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Lucas | 8.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Allen | 5.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Melissa | 5.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Anna | 3.00% (\$5,000 min) |
| Lavon | 1.00% (\$5,000 min) |



City General Fund positions per 1,000 population

| City | Positions | Population | Positions per 1,000 people | City | Positions | Population | Positions per 1,000 people |
|------------------|-----------|------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------------------|
| Denison | 258 | 25,179 | 10.25 | Prosper | 214 | 35,410 | 6.04 |
| Plano | 2,515 | 291,200 | 8.64 | McKinney | 1,242 | 206,654 | 6.01 |
| Flower Mound | 684 | 78,570 | 8.71 | Celina | 198 | 31,796 | 6.23 |
| Highland Village | 134 | 16,670 | 8.04 | Princeton | 108 | 20,046 | 5.39 |
| Sherman | 360 | 43,239 | 8.33 | Anna | 121.5 | 20,243 | 6.00 |
| Frisco | 1,564 | 222,849 | 7.02 | median | 58 | 22,000 | 6.80 |
| Allen | 741 | 109,039 | 6.80 | | | | |
| Corinth | 155 | 22,800 | 6.80 | | | | |
| | | | | Melissa | 58 | 22,000 | 2.64 |



Bond ratings increased

S&P rating increased from ‘AA-’ to ‘AA’

Moody’s rating increased from ‘Aa3’ to ‘Aa2’

Bond ratings explained:

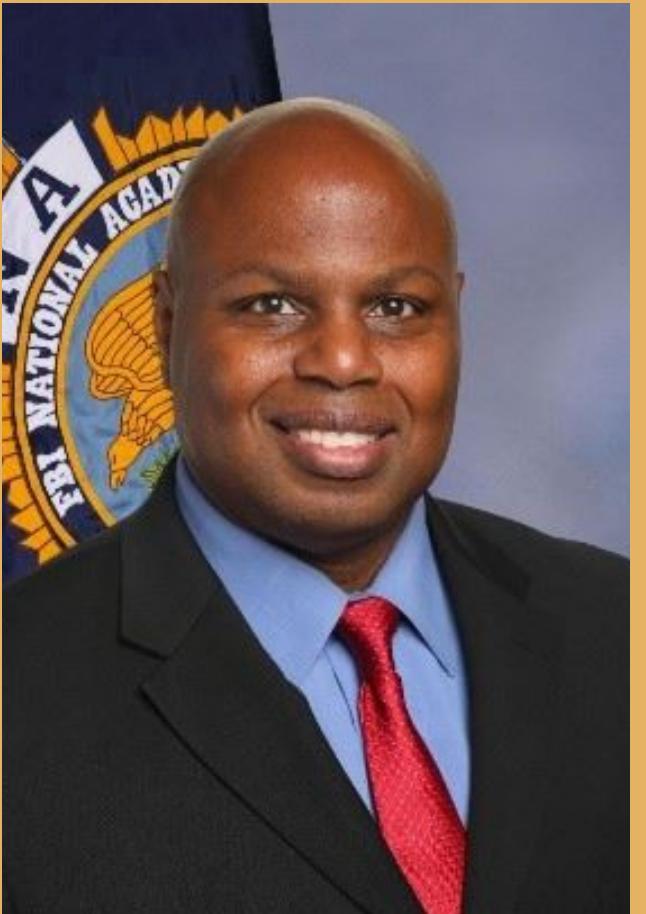
Think about your own credit score. Credit scores and credit ratings are similar. Companies use credit scores (ranging from 300 to 850) to assess people’s ability and willingness to make car or mortgage payments. Investors in municipal bonds use credit ratings to assess creditworthiness, or the ability and willingness of the state or local government issuing the bond to pay investors their money back, plus interest. Credit ratings are symbols (e.g., AAA).

Source: Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board

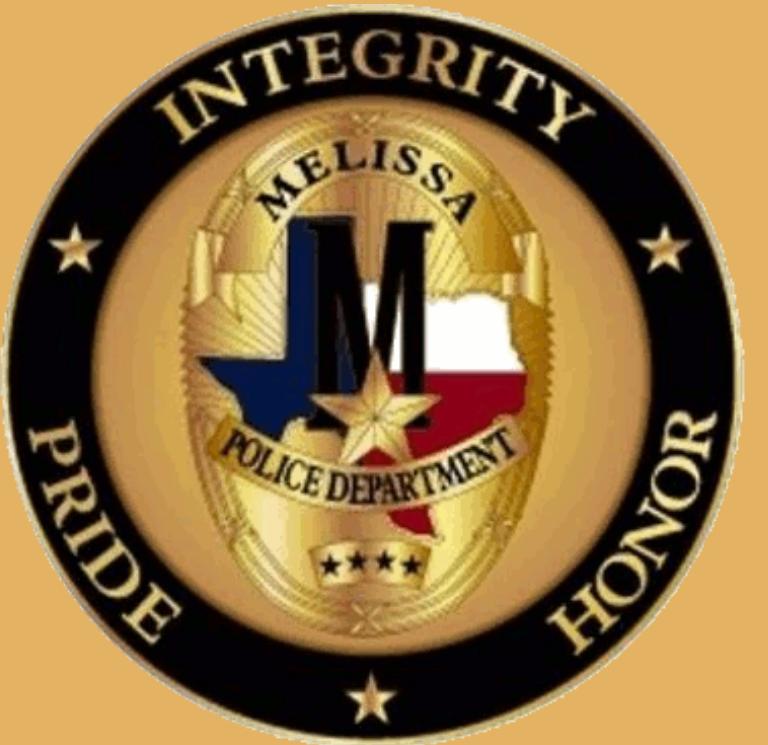
| MOODY'S | Aaa | Aa1 | Aa2 | Aa3 | A1 | A2 | A3 | Baa1 | Baa2 | Baa3 |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|------|------|
| S&P | AAA | AA+ | AA | AA- | A+ | A | A- | BBB+ | BBB | BBB- |

Police

New chief selected



- Former Police Chief Duane Smith retired after 22 years as Chief
- Erik Stokes was selected as the new Police Chief in July 2023



Fire

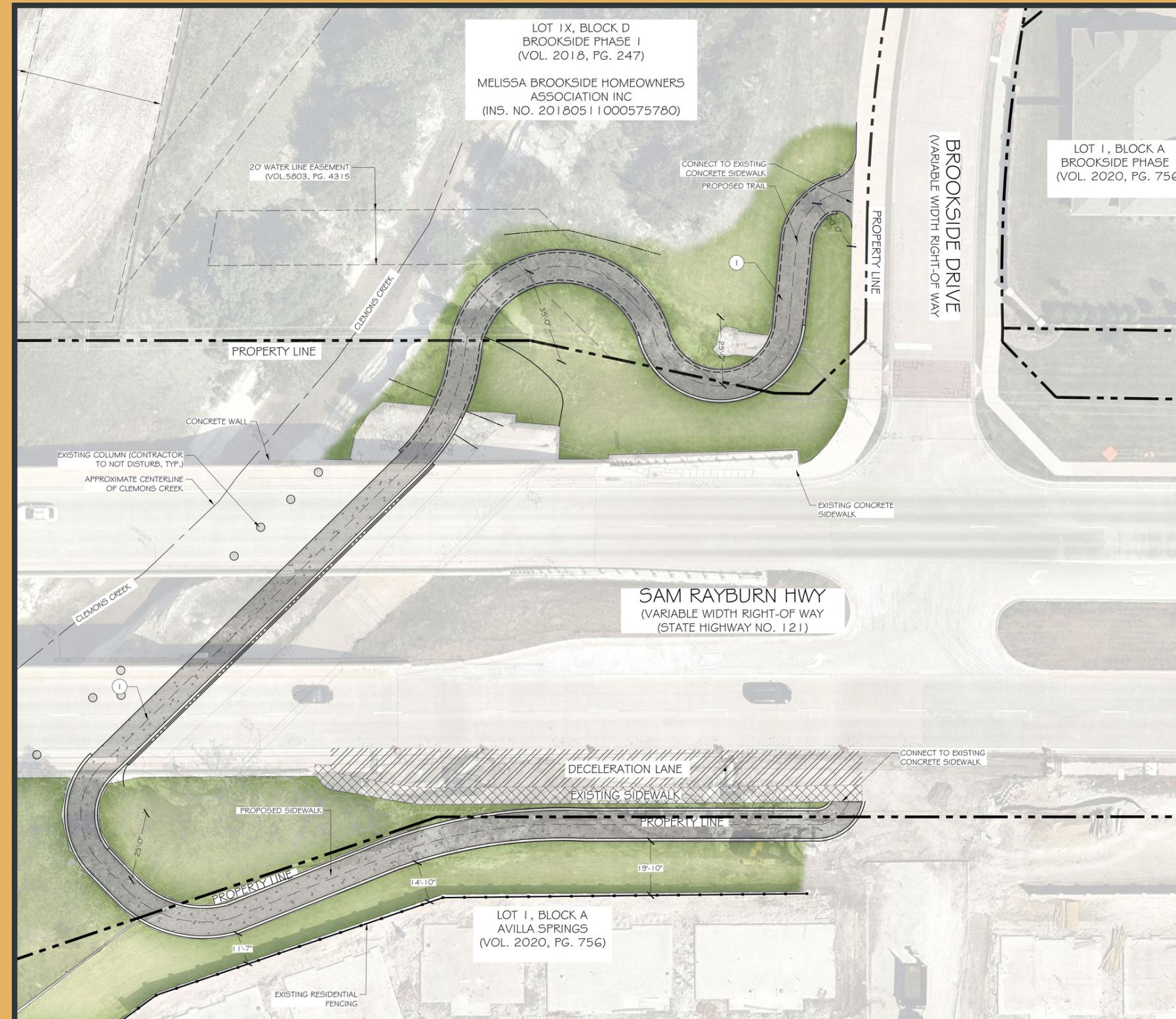
- HEART Safe community designation
 - Awarded in November 2023
 - Presented in January 2024
- CPR training for all employees
 - All employees are trained on CPR as part of onboarding
- Melissa Fire Clowns Squad taught Fire Safety Programs at local elementary schools



Trail Connectivity

Grant for Trail connection under SH 121

- Project to connect the north side of SH 121 to the south side of SH 121 by utilizing the bridge structure at Clemmons Creek
- Project designed and awaiting TxDOT approval
- Project partially funded with a grant from Collin County Open Spaces



Events

- Melissa Road Tribute Fest
- Tree Lighting Ceremony

[Back to content summary.](#)



Melissa Road Tribute Fest

- Free music festival was first city-organized community event
- Will be an annual event
- Estimated attendance was 1,500

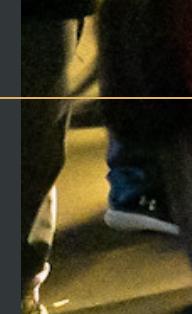


[Back to content summary.](#)



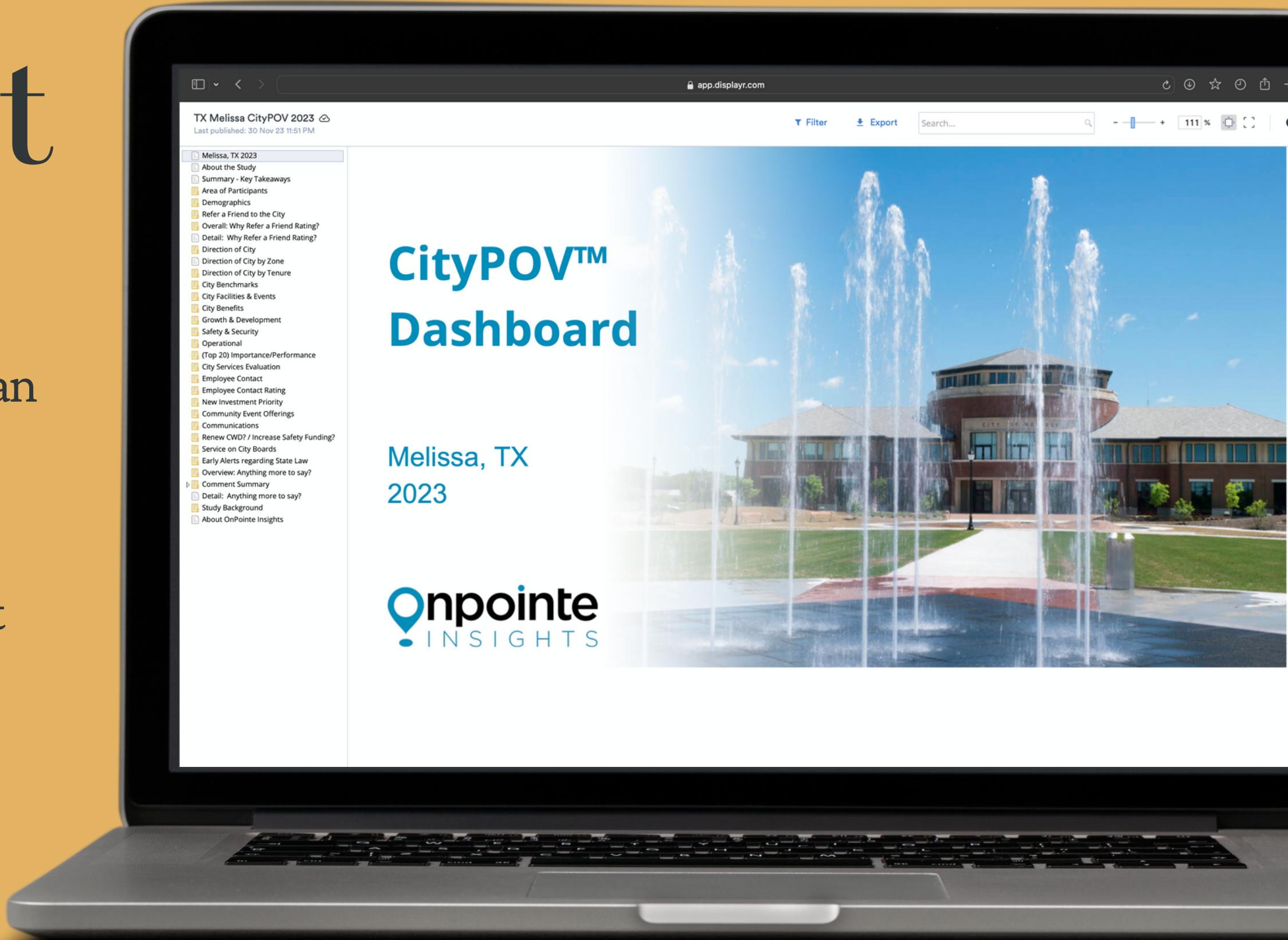
Tree Lighting Ceremony

- 2023 was the first year for the citywide Tree Lighting Ceremony
- Will be an annual event
- Community event creates a small-town feel
- Estimated attendance was 350 for the inaugural ceremony



Engagement

- Citizen Survey completed
 - 1,600 responses.
 - Feedback to serve as an action plan for the next 12 months.
 - View report at www.cityofmelissa.com.
- Internal communications department created.
- 49 Melissa Minute Newsletters sent.
- Instagram account added.
- 1,368 new Facebook followers gained.



Contact Us

The City of Melissa offers many ways our residents to stay connected and informed about the latest happenings within the City:



- Visit our [News Center](#)
- Sign up for [The Melissa Minute e-newsletter](#) and [updates](#) (generally every Friday)
- Sign up for notifications of press releases, news items, meetings, and more with [Notify Me](#)
- [Follow us on X](#)
- 'Like' us on Facebook:
 - [City of Melissa Facebook page](#)
 - [City of Melissa Police Department Facebook Page](#)
 - [Melissa Fire Department Facebook page](#)
 - [Melissa Public Library Facebook page](#)
- Receive emergency notifications and weather alerts from [CodeRED](#)
- View [Press Releases](#) and other [Legal Notices](#)

Posting/Commenting Guidelines
Please be sure to view our [Community Posting/Comment Guidelines](#) if you will be participating with us on one of our social media platforms.