

The Woodlands Township is committed to supporting the highest quality of life for its residents, businesses and visitors.



Transition refers to the transition of services and operations of the Community Associations of The Woodlands to The Woodlands Township. These services and operations include:

- The Woodlands Fire Department • Deed Restrictions
- Public Safety • Parks and Recreation
- Service Requests • Environmental Services
- WoodlandsAlert • Neighborhood Services
- Economic Development • Community Relations
- The Woodlands Convention and Visitors Bureau

Do you have a transition question?

Please visit The Woodlands Township Web site at www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov and click *Ask the Township* on the main page. Questions may also be sent to The Woodlands Township, 10001 Woodloch Forest Drive, Suite 600, The Woodlands, Texas 77380.

Located 30 miles north of downtown Houston, Texas, The Woodlands Township is the local government for one of the country's leading master-planned communities. This 28,000-acre residential and commercial development is home to 90,000 residents, more than 2,000 businesses, 160 miles of hike and bike paths, 111 parks, and millions of square feet of shopping, dining, entertainment venues and commercial office space.

Board of Directors



Nelda Blair
Chairman



Lloyd Matthews
Vice Chairman



Bruce Tough
Vice Chairman



Alex Sutton
Secretary



Vicki Richmond
Treasurer/
Assistant Secretary



Tom Campbell
Director



Kemba DeGroot
Director



Peggy Hausman
Director



Claude Hunter
Director



Bob Kinnear
Director



Rev. Ed Robb
Director



www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov

10001 Woodloch Forest Drive, Suite 600

The Woodlands, Texas 77380 • 281.363.2447

5M printed July 2009

Printed on recycled paper.

**Understanding
The Woodlands
Transition in
Governance**



On January 1, 2010, services and operations of the Community Associations of The Woodlands will transition to The Woodlands Township.



Signers to the Transition Agreement were (l to r) The Woodlands Community Association President Jeff Long, The Woodlands Association President and The Woodlands Commercial Owners Association President Joel Deretchin, The Woodlands Township Chairman Nelda Blair, The Woodlands Community Service Corporation Chair and The Woodlands Fire Department President Bruce Tough.

The Transition Agreement ultimately provides a seamless consolidation of the governmental services provided to residents of The Woodlands into a single, community-wide, governmental organization.

In the fall of 2007, The Woodlands voters overwhelmingly voted in favor of expanding Town Center Improvement District (TCID) to cover all of The Woodlands, to change the makeup of its Board of Directors to a fully elected board and to authorize the governmental entity to collect an ad valorem property tax.

TCID changed its name to The Woodlands Township, and the Community Associations entered into an agreement that would transfer services and operations to the Township.

Residents will experience benefits from the transition, including:

- Continuation of quality services and amenities.
- Consolidated operations and one place to call for service.
- One board of directors, fully elected by mid-2010.
- More services funded through sales taxes.
- Tax-deductible property tax.
- Ability for The Woodlands to determine its future governance options.

The Community Associations of The Woodlands, Texas, will cease billing for the annual assessment fees due on January 1, 2010, and delinquent on March 1 of each year.

The services provided to the community will be funded through a new The Woodlands Township Property Tax which will be included on the county tax statement residents receive from J.R. Moore, Jr, Montgomery County Tax Assessor-Collector.

J.R. Moore will send out the 2009 Montgomery County tax bills in October 2009. Starting this year, the 2009 Montgomery County tax bill will include the new Township ad valorem property tax that will be used to fund 2010 community services in The Woodlands Township.

Timeline

- **1999** Houston and The Woodlands MUDs sign a Moratorium Agreement, which prevents the City of Houston from annexing The Woodlands and prevents The Woodlands from incorporating as a city for at least 12 years.
- **2000** Community Associations of The Woodlands begin to draft a plan to educate community leaders and residents about existing governance as well as options for future community governance.
- **2002-06** Joint Ad-Hoc Governance Process Committee and later The Woodlands Governance Steering Committee study and evaluate governance options with resident feedback.
- **December 7, 2006** City of Houston and The Woodlands announce historic agreement allowing The Woodlands to determine their future as they contribute toward important regional projects.
- **Spring 2007** Legislation provides the authority to enter into the Regional Participation Agreements (SB 1012) with the City of Houston and the City of Conroe and to establish, with voter approval, a new governance body for The Woodlands (HB 4109).
- **Fall 2007** Community Associations initiate The Woodlands Decides Committee to provide educational information to residents on the upcoming election.
- **November 2007 Election** Three propositions pass, authorizing the expansion of the former Town Center Improvement District (TCID) to cover The Woodlands (86 percent in favor), the reorganization of TCID's Board of Directors to a seven-member resident-elected board (86 percent in favor), and to allow the entity to assess an ad valorem property tax (78 percent in favor). TCID changes its name to The Woodlands Township.
- **January/February 2008** Community Associations and The Woodlands Township unanimously approve the Transition Agreement that outlines the transition of service delivery from the Associations to the Township.
- **May 10, 2008** The Woodlands voters elect first five at-large representatives to The Woodlands Township. Six members of the existing Township board continue in office until May 2010.
- **2008 – 2009** Associations and Township continue to carry out customary roles and responsibilities.
- **Mid 2009** Township considers budget and capital plan and creates Vision 2034 for consolidated Township operations.
- **September 2009** Township Board adopts budget and sets property tax levy for The Woodlands. This replaces the Community Associations assessments.
- **January 1, 2010** Township assumes full responsibility for Association services.
- **May 2010 Election** Township board transitions to fully resident-elected board with seven members.
- **May 2014** The Woodlands voters may decide if they want to change the governance structure, including consideration of incorporation.