

Around Lakeway

Sports Complex Is Rezoned

Lakeway City Council voted unanimously on Jan. 22 to rezone 70 acres on Bee Creek Road from agricultural to parkland for the future Bee Creek Sports Complex.

Plans include batting cages, multi-use areas for baseball, softball and soccer, restrooms, trails, pavilion, playground, and soccer fields for public use.

The council action follows a unanimous recommendation for approval by the Lakeway Zoning and Planning Commission.



Sweetwater Residents Driven to Create a Safer Highway 71



White ribbons wrapped on trees and streets around the Sweetwater neighborhood during November served as a reminder of the tragic loss of a beloved resident. In late October, his vehicle was struck by a truck that crossed into his lane just east of the Pedernales Summit Parkway intersection, marking yet another fatality on Highway 71.

Members of the newly mobilized Safer 71 organization want to ensure this tragedy is not in vain.

Safer71 is a non-profit comprised of residents of Sweetwater and surrounding neighborhoods. The group aims to achieve a zero-fatality road corridor on SH71 between Southwest Parkway and the Blanco County Line. This stretch of highway has seen 20 auto-collision deaths and 128 serious injuries since 2014. Seven of these fatalities occurred in 2018 alone and collisions are on the rise from previous years.

With many subdivisions far from their full build-out, multiple new schools approved for construction, new sports facilities in the works, and commercial developments springing up along Highway 71, this stretch of road will continue to see an increase in population and traffic. Without safety improvements to SH71 and a change in how people drive along it, the next accident is just waiting to happen.

Working with municipal and county governments, traffic jurisdictions, and local neighborhoods, Safer 71 aims to provide the necessary research, advocacy and outreach programs to ensure that SH71 becomes a road that people can feel safe driving on every day. Their charter focuses on a comprehensive approach to the problems: Engineering, Enforcement and Education.

Safer71 asks that you join the effort by supporting, promoting or volunteering with its efforts. Visit www.safer71.org to learn more, stay informed on how you can help create a safer community for all residents and travelers on Highway 71.

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