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William Wright Baldwin, acting as president of the South End Land Company, founded Bellaire and Westmoreland Farms after purchasing the 9,449-acre Rice Ranch in 1908. Baldwin was a native of Iowa and nationally known as vice president of the Burlington Railroad. The development was six miles from Houston on the eastern edge of the Rice Ranch, so named for former owner William Marsh Rice. Promotional advertising in 1909 explained that Bellaire was named for the area’s Gulf breezes, but Baldwin may have named it for Bellaire, Ohio, a town served by his railroad. By 1910 Baldwin had invested over $150,000 in capital improvements to turn the treeless prairie into an attractive location for residences and small truck farms. From the site to Main Street in Houston he constructed Bellaire Boulevard. He also incorporated the Westmoreland Railroad Company to build an electric streetcar line down the center of the boulevard. The streetcar, known as the “Toonerville Trolley,” operated from December 12, 1910, until bus service replaced it on September 26, 1927. In 1910 horticulturist Edward Teas was enticed to move his nursery from the State of Missouri to Bellaire to implement landscaping plans drawn by landscape architect Sid Hare. A Bellaire post office opened in 1911.

The South End Land Company advertised nationwide to attract Midwestern farmers and others who were eager to escape harsh winters. Bellaire was promoted as an exclusive residential neighborhood and agricultural trading center with the conveniences of city living and reliable access to Houston. On June 24, 1918, with a population of about 200, Bellaire obtained a general-law city charter. The population reached 1,124 by 1940. Houston’s expansion after World War II transformed Bellaire into a popular suburb, but geographical growth was halted when Houston annexed the surrounding land on December 31, 1948.

In April 1949 Bellaire adopted a home-rule

Welcome to Bellaire, Texas! On behalf of your City Council and our team of dedicated city employees, we are pleased to present this Guide to Bellaire. In these pages you will find a wealth of useful information about our town and all that we have to offer. But don’t stop there! Life in Bellaire is even more rewarding for those who get involved, and there are plenty of opportunities to do so.

Take advantage of our award-winning parks and recreation programs. Connect with fellow residents and the world at our library. Apply to serve on one of our citizen boards and commissions. The possibilities are endless and we invite you to join our thriving civic life.

As an enclave community surrounded by the big city, Bellaire residents enjoy the best of both worlds. We’ve got easy access to conveniences and amenities throughout the Houston area, and peace of mind knowing we can depend on our first-class municipal services and public safety departments that really set us apart. An inviting refuge from all the hustle and bustle, our small-town feel makes Bellaire the ideal place to live, work and raise a family.

We take great pride in serving you and look forward to getting to know you. See you around town!

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Friedberg
The City of Bellaire was incorporated in 1918, at which time it adopted a General Law form of government. The city’s current form of government, Home Rule, was adopted April 2, 1949 and currently operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council is composed of a Mayor and six Councilmembers, all of whom are elected at large. The Mayor is elected for regular terms of two years, and the Councilmembers are elected for regular terms of 4 years. The Mayor and three
Contact Information

Departments

City Hall
7008 S. Rice Ave.
(713) 662-8222

Fire
5101 Jessamine
(713) 662-8202

Library
5111 Jessamine
(713) 662-8160

Recreation Center
7008 Fifth St.
(713) 662-8280

Police
7008 S. Rice Ave.
(713) 668-0487

Public Works
4460 Edith St.
(713) 662-8270

Services

Building Permits, Utility Billing, L.I.F.E. (Seniors)

Fire Safety, EMT, Fire Marshal, Emergency Management

Reference, Story Times, Programs, Wi-Fi

Aquatics, summer programs, fitness activities

Patrol, investigation, community resource, Municipal Court

Water, wastewater, streets, solid waste, drainage, engineering

We are so glad you are a part of our great city. We offer a number of programs and services designed to enhance the quality of life of our residents, and we hope you will feel right at home.

The City of Bellaire cares about the people, business owners, and leaders that make up our community. With that in mind, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. For additional, in-depth information please visit bellairetx.gov. Our website features
The City of Bellaire’s Boards & Commissions are comprised of volunteers from within the community.

Generally, these commissions make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding actions and policies affecting municipal government, City departments, as well as the community.

Citizens who desire to serve on a City Board or Commission may apply by contacting the City Clerk’s office at (713) 662-8275, or by completing the online Boards & Commissions application at bellairetx.gov. You can also find a complete schedule of meetings on
In 1951, the Bellaire Women’s Civic Club formed a library committee for the purpose of starting a public library in Bellaire. After 8,500 hours and $350, the Bellaire City Library was formally opened on May 3, 1951. The City Council approved a budget of $500 for the first year.

The library was only open three days a week and was located in one small room in the Community Building. There were 2,800 books for the 200 cardholders, 140 of which were children.

A new building of 5,808 square feet was built and dedicated on May 9, 1962, at the present location on Jessamine. It was 15 times the size of the original library room. By 1974, a two-story addition had been completed, expanding the space to 10,868 square feet.

Now residents can visit the library six days a week where computers, printers, scanners, Wi-Fi, and access to databases and downloadable materials are available.
The City of Bellaire provides in-house trash and recycling service. All garbage is placed in plastic bags that is then tied and placed at the curb for collection. Collection service is provided twice a week, either on Monday and Thursday, or on Tuesday and Friday, according to the route assigned to your particular area of the City.

The City collects recycling curbside every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, except for holidays depending on where you live.

Large Item Pick Up

“White goods” or heavy trash can usually be accommodated for disposal by making an appointment with Public Works. For more information, please contact us at pw@bellairetx.gov or 713-662-8170.

Yard Waste Pickup

To take advantage of the City's yard waste collection service, please follow the guidelines in Chapter 16, Section 8 of the City of Bellaire Code of Ordinances, which can be found on our webpage at www.bellairetx.gov.

Holiday Collection Schedule

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<th>Service</th>
<th>Area Covered-Crew Assigned</th>
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<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
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<td>A, C, D</td>
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<td>Limbs/ Brush</td>
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Utility Billing & Permitting

Utility Billing

Utility Billing customer service processes the monthly utility bills and payments. Payments are due on the 2nd Friday of each month. Customers may contact a customer service representative to establish or disconnect service, inquire about their utility bill or service disruptions, report water leaks, or purchase additional garbage bags and recycling bins.

Payment options for your utility bill include automatic bank drafts from your checking account, online payments with your credit or debit card, mail-in payment, drop box, pay by phone, or in person. You also have the ability to sign up for the City’s E-Billing system. Forms can be downloaded online at www.bellairetx.gov.

Building Permits

Building Permits are required to construct, modify, or in some cases repair a structure. Work of a minor nature, such as the changing of a faucet, does not require a permit. Any permit issued shall become invalid if the authorized work is suspended or abandoned for a period of six months.

- Residential New/Remodel (Including Accessory Structures)
- Commercial New/Remodel
- Fence
- Driveway
- Swimming Pool
- Demolition
- Irrigation/Draining
- Residential and Commercial Certificates of Occupancy

Development Services is dedicated to providing thorough plan review and inspections, accurate and timely permit issuance, effective code enforcement, and responsible customer satisfaction. Multiple services within the division are offered to residents pertaining to construction, maintenance, and occupancy. In addition to these functions, Development Services also provides Planning and Zoning Regulation, which includes updating the City’s Comprehensive Plan. If you have questions, or need to know if your project requires a permit, please call (713) 662-8230.
The Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department prides itself in keeping each park safe and beautiful for everyone to enjoy. Parks in the community feature playgrounds, picnic shelters, paved trails, ball fields, swimming pools, and many other outdoor amenities. Bellaire Town Square houses the Department’s administrative offices in the Bellaire Recreation Center, complete with a gymnasium and fitness center. Also featured in Bellaire Town Square is a beautiful performance pavilion and event lawn, the Bellaire Town Square Family Aquatic Center, CenterPoint Energy Community Center, and the Bellaire Civic Center.
# Park Amenities

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<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Ballfields/Meets</th>
<th>Football Court</th>
<th>Baseball</th>
<th>Softball</th>
<th>Flag Football</th>
<th>Futsal</th>
<th>Gymnasium</th>
<th>Improved Surfaced Trail</th>
<th>Adult Softball Field</th>
<th>Junior/Youth Baseball Field</th>
<th>Junior/Youth Softball Field</th>
<th>Tennis Court</th>
<th>Youth Soccer Field</th>
<th>Junior Soccer Field</th>
<th>Multi-Sport Court</th>
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*Notes: X indicates the presence of an amenity.*

12
Make a splash and swim with us all year long! Enjoy a family fun recreational pool complete with water slide, aquatic play features, and a high dive during the summer months, and stay to swim during the off season with heated lap lanes and a heated therapy pool.

Bellaire Town Square Family Aquatics Center
7001 Fifth Street
(713) 662-8280

- Water slide
- Zero depth entry
- Play features
- Neighborhood pool with lap lanes
- High dive
- Competition pool

Evergreen and Elaine Wood Therapy Pool
4500 Evergreen
(713) 662-8280

- Neighborhood Pool with Lap Lanes
- Heated Therapy Pool
As a premier law enforcement organization, the Bellaire Police Department’s vision is for the City of Bellaire to be the safest community in the area by blending excellence in policing with community involvement.
The Bellaire Police Department is comprised of 39 full-time commissioned officers. There are also 14 non-commissioned personnel and part-time employees. The department handles approximately 31,000 calls for service each year, with the average response time of 1 minute and 11 seconds for an officer to be dispatched from the time you call.

The Bellaire Police Department offers the residents a number of ways to interact and receive helpful information. The department uses www.nextdoor.com and Notify Me that can be accessed via the City’s website to send out important information. We also have a camera mapping program that allows residents to notify the police if they have a security camera system in the event a crime happens nearby. The Bellaire Police Department is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

The department also employs a full-time Animal Control Officer to help protect citizens from dangers and nuisances created by uncontrolled or diseased animals. Animal emergencies (bites, vicious or injured) are handled 24 hours a day by calling the police department.

The Bellaire Police Department holds community meetings and has a booth at several events in the city throughout the year and looks forward to meeting with residents to discuss any concerns. National Night Out in October is a popular event in the neighborhoods that residents use to get to know their neighbors and send a message to criminals that the city is organized and fighting back against crime. Making a point to meet your neighbors and the Bellaire Police employees can be a big step in combating crime. Visit www.bellairetx.gov for more information.
The Bellaire Fire Department is a combination department comprised of dual certified members. This means our personnel are certified as EMT or Paramedic by the Texas Department of State Health Services and as Structural Firefighters by the Texas
A move to a new community can be filled with concerns for service. The Bellaire Fire Department wants to assure you that you have made a perfect choice when it comes to the safety of your family.

We deploy our personnel on all non-law enforcement public safety issues within Bellaire. Our ambulance is staffed to Advanced Life Support levels and usually is staffed to Mobile Intensive Care Unit levels. Since each member of the department is EMS certified, all fire vehicles have advanced life support capability. This gives our patients the best care available.

The Bellaire Fire Department responds to each fire with a full complement of personnel, apparatus, and equipment necessary to handle each fire. Our automatic aid agreement with our sister cities, West University and Southside Place, ensure we safely and efficiently contain and extinguish each fire. We also have a mutual aid agreement with the City of Houston Fire Department. Our Volunteers assist on all structure fires, major accidents with a prolonged on-scene time, and all special events (Bellaire Trolley Run, July 4th Parade and Holiday in the Park, to name a few).

You may have purchased, or are living in a home outfitted with an automatic fire sprinkler. If you have a system and have questions, please call the Fire Marshal at (713) 662-8203 to discuss the features and maintenance, or visit us online.

The Bellaire Fire Department also offers a Home Safety Analysis to all residents. When you request, we come to your home, inspect common
Community Resources

Property Taxes
Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector
1001 Preston St.
Houston, TX 77002
(Main Location, Branches available)
(713) 240-8000
www.hctax.net

Harris County Appraisal District
13013 Northwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77040
(713) 957-7800
www.hcad.org

Drivers License Renewal
12220 West Gessner
Houston, TX 77071
1-866-DL RENEW (1-866-357-3639)
www.txdps.state.tx.us

Post Office
5350 Bellaire Blvd.
Bellaire TX, 77401
(713) 668-1083
www.uspspostoffices.com/tx/bellaire/bellaire

Water & Wastewater
City of Bellaire Public Works
7008 S. Rice Ave.
Bellaire, TX 77401
(713) 662-8253
www.bellairetx.gov

Electric
Power to Choose
1-866-PWR-4-TEX (1-866-797-4839)
www.powertochoose.org

CenterPoint Energy—Natural Gas
1-800-752-8036
1-800-332-7143 — Electrical Outages
www.centerpointenergy.com

Cable
U-Verse (AT&T)
www.att.com
Xfinity (Comcast)
www.xfinity.com
<table>
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<th>School Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Condit Elementary</td>
<td>7000 South Third Street</td>
<td>(713) 295-5255</td>
<td><a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/conditelem">www.houstonisd.org/conditelem</a></td>
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<td>Horn Academy</td>
<td>4530 Holly Street</td>
<td>(713) 295-5264</td>
<td><a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/horn">www.houstonisd.org/horn</a></td>
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<td>Pin Oak Middle School</td>
<td>4601 Glenmont</td>
<td>(713) 295-6500</td>
<td><a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/pinoak">www.houstonisd.org/pinoak</a></td>
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<td>Bellaire High School</td>
<td>5100 Maple</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congregation Brith Shalom</td>
<td>4610 Bellaire Blvd.</td>
<td>(713) 667-9201</td>
<td><a href="http://www.brithshalom.org">www.brithshalom.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Episcopal High School</td>
<td>4650 Bissonnet</td>
<td>(713) 512-3400</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ehshouston.org">www.ehshouston.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Post Oak School</td>
<td>4600 Bissonnet</td>
<td>(713) 661-6688</td>
<td><a href="http://www.postoakschool.org">www.postoakschool.org</a></td>
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<td>Veritas Christian Academy</td>
<td>7000 Ferris</td>
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A community partner is defined as a non profit organization directly associated with the City. They are considered to be associations, charities, cooperatives, tax exempt and other voluntary organizations formed to further cultural, educational, professional or public service objectives, which do not distribute surplus funds to owners or shareholders, but instead uses them to help pursue its goals. A community partner has a usage agreement or an association with the City.

PATRONS for Bellaire Parks, Nature Discovery Center, Evelyn’s Park Conservancy, Friends of the Library, Bellaire Historical Society, Bellaire Police and Fire Foundation

Community Associate

Community associates are defined as non profits, associations, charities, cooperatives, schools, tax exempt and voluntary organizations formed to further cultural, educational, religious, professional or public service objectives, which do not distribute surplus funds to owners or shareholders, but instead uses them to help pursue its goals.

Southwest Rotary Club of Houston, Bellaire Business Alliance, PTO's in Bellaire, local churches in Bellaire

Sports Association

Sports associations are various youth and or adult athletic organizations & leagues formed to provide organized athletic activities and opportunities to the public and have a usage agreement or an association with the City.
City of Bellaire events are exciting and enjoyable with a small town feel. Learn about the advantages of partnering with the City of Bellaire and join the FUN!

Events Co-Hosted by PATRONS for Bellaire Parks
- Bellaire Trolley Run
  - 900 Participants
- Wine & Tapas
  - 400 Participants
- Party at the Pavilion
  - 200 Participants per Concert
- Dive-In Movie
  - 200 Participants
- Tents-N-Town
  - 200 Participants

City of Bellaire
www.bellairetx.gov

PATRONS for Bellaire Parks
www.bellaireparks.org

Nature Discovery Center
www.naturediscoverycenter.org

Evelyn’s Park
www.evelynspark.org

Events Hosted by the City of Bellaire
- Daddy Daughter Dance
  - 200 Participants
- Trolleywood Movie Series — Spring/Fall
  - 300 Participants per Movie
- Family Safety Day (returns 2019)
  - 500 Participants
- Summer Reading Program
  - 1000 Participants
- 4th of July Parade & Festival
  - 5000 Participants
- National Night Out Kickoff Party
  - 300 Participants
- Friends of the Library Used Book Sale — Spring/Fall
  - 250 Participants per sale
- Great Pumpkin Hunt
  - 300 Participants
- Holiday in the Park
  - 5000 Participants
Bellaire utilizes "Notify Me", the City's listserv, to provide information to its subscribers through email. Anyone can sign up for the service by visiting our webpage (www.bellairetx.gov) and clicking on the "Notify Me" link at the bottom of the page. All that's required is a valid email address.

On the sign up page, subscribers can choose what they would like to be notified about. Each category has a brief description and notification method (email or text message).

Information on meeting dates, events, etc. are sent out on a regular basis. Emergency notifications are sent out when needed.

Channel 16

Bellaire residents with Xfinity (Comcast) cable can stay up to date on City events, information, and watch live meetings by tuning in to Channel 16, Bellaire's Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) channel.

Resident Request Tracker

The Resident Request Center is no replacement for the face-to-face communication or phone calls, however we hope to provide you with another means to communicate non-emergency service requests with us so that we can continue to provide excellent customer service.

All requests are automatically routed to the appropriate city department to handle. Requests are prioritized based on the level of urgency relating to citizen health, safety, and welfare. Requests are categorized as critical, urgent, normal or low. Supervisors ensure that all requests are fulfilled in a timely manner based on assigned priority level.

By visiting our webpage, residents may create a username and password or submit requests anonymously. Residents that elect to create a username can log in later to check the status of their request, upload pertinent pictures or files, add comments, and see the request's priority.
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**City Offices Closed**  **City Council**  **Environmental & Sustainability**  **Planning & Zoning**  **Cultural Arts**  **Parks Advisory**  **Board of Adjustment**  **Building Standards**  **L.I.F.E. Advisory**