

# PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



## CELEBRATING A YEAR OF GROWTH, IMPROVEMENTS, AND BEAUTIFICATION

As we approach the end of this remarkable year, we reflect on the strides we've made together in shaping a brighter future for our community. The past year has proven the power of collaboration and collective dedication to sustainable progress and community development.

## ACHIEVEMENTS & MILESTONES



### Infrastructure Enhancements

Throughout the year, significant progress was made in upgrading our city's infrastructure. Roads, water, and sewer project's have enhanced and improved the quality of life for our residents.



### Community Engagement Initiatives

Engaging with you, our valued community members, remained a cornerstone of our efforts. We hosted meetings, workshops, and conducted surveys to gather your invaluable insights, ensuring that our development plans align with your needs and aspirations.



### Sustainable Development

Our commitment to sustainability continually assists with initiatives aimed at preserving our unique small town charm.

## ACHIEVEMENTS & MILESTONES



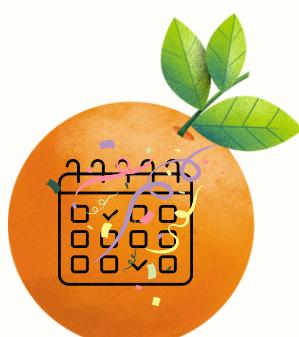
### Economic Growth & Partnerships

Collaborating with local businesses and fostering economic growth has been a priority. We've nurtured partnerships to support entrepreneurship, attracting investments that spur job creation and economic vitality in the City.



### Community Programs

City programs are intended to provide residents and organizations with a way to make the City of Orange a more beautiful place to live, work, and play.



### Community Events

The successful coordination and execution of community events stands as a testament to our collective achievement. Throughout the year, our community actively participated in a series of diverse and engaging events, fostering unity, and positive experiences. These events not only brought everyone together but also enriched our cultural tapestry and strengthened the bonds within our community.

## THIS YEARS FEATURED ISSUES

Explore editions of past newsletters for Planning department news that you can use!

MAY 2023 | ISSUE NO. 1

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO.**

We are excited to share all of the great things happening in the Planning Department. First, we would like to help you get to know the divisions and City services we provide. The City of Orange's Community Development Department is responsible for administering City policies and ordinances as they pertain to land use and development and building construction inspection or review. The department administers the Community Development Block Grant funds that are received from the United States Department of Housing and Community Development. The department also administers the Fair Housing laws and ordinances of the City of Orange.

JUNE 2023 | ISSUE NO. 2

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**ARE YOU PREPARED?**

Hurricane season officially begins on June 1, 2023, and ends on November 30, 2023. For more information, quick links are provided in this issue or you can visit the City website to get more information on hurricane preparedness.

Website Link: <https://orangetexas.gov/423/Hurricane-SeasonAndDPS>

JULY 2023 | ISSUE NO. 3

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**CITY CODE ENFORCEMENT IN FULL EFFECT**

Are You In Compliance?

The Code Enforcement Division is responsible for inspecting properties to determine if they are compliant with the City's property codes. The Division is responsible for receiving complaints about the condition of the property, determining if the property is in violation of an ordinance, and investigating complaints of illegal dumping. The Division also enforces property codes, and testifying in municipal court if necessary. The Division also helps issue permits, electronic filing of plans and documents, and answering questions from the public about property maintenance codes and ordinances.

AUGUST 2023 | ISSUE NO. 4

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ISSUE**

A significant portion of the City's business is performed by boards, commissions, and committees whose membership is solely comprised of volunteers. These dedicated individuals serve the City in a variety of capacities. The City of Orange has several boards and commissions that are staffed by the Planning & Community Development Department. The boards are: Board of Adjustment, Historic Preservation Commission, and Planning & Zoning Commission.

SEPTEMBER 2023 | ISSUE NO. 5

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**BUYING PROPERTY**

*Everything You Might Want to Know*

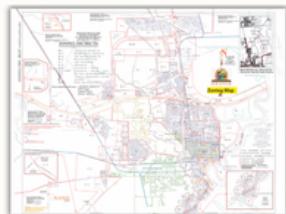
The City of Orange encourages land development and growth. It is important to be informed on regulations upheld by the City prior to buying a property. When considering buying a property you are encouraged to do your homework. Do not neglect to understand as much as you can about the property you would like to buy and the surrounding areas. This could lead to dissatisfaction with your financial investment.

Contact the City of Orange Planning Department to assist with questions or concerns regarding the property. No question is a bad question.

NOVEMBER 2023 | ISSUE NO. 7

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**ZONING**

Determines what land uses are compatible near each other.

Zoning establishes the types of uses permitted on a parcel of land. Zoning also sets the development standards for a site such as building height, setbacks, floor to area ratio, neighborhood compatibility, screening, landscaping, and impervious cover limits.

OCTOBER 2023 | ISSUE NO. 6

### PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City of Orange, Texas



**THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING**

Planning gives design, shape, and structure.

According to the American Planning Association, Planning works to improve the welfare of people and their communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient and attractive places for present and future generations.

To access every issue of our newsletter, kindly visit our website at <https://orangetexas.gov/475/Newsletters>. Each edition is conveniently available for viewing and download.

## PLANNING TIPS FOR 2024

By engaging in these activities and staying connected with the community, residents can contribute to the growth, preservation, and well-being of Orange, Texas.



### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Given our proximity to the Gulf Coast, being prepared for hurricanes and tropical storms is crucial. Have an emergency kit ready, know evacuation routes, and stay informed about weather updates by registering with STAN.



### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Get involved in community events, local organizations, or volunteer opportunities. It's a great way to connect with neighbors and contribute to the community.



### PRESERVING HISTORY

Orange has a rich historical heritage. Engage in activities that help preserve local history, whether it's visiting historical sites, participating in heritage events, or supporting historical preservation initiatives.



### SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Encourage the growth of the local economy by supporting small businesses and artisans. Explore local shops and restaurants to contribute to the community's economic vitality.



### STAY INFORMED

Stay updated on local news, events, and city developments. Following local news outlets or joining community groups can keep you informed about what is happening.



### ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Being near the coast means environmental awareness is crucial. Participate in local clean-up efforts, and support initiatives that promote environmental sustainability.



### ENGAGE IN RECREATION

Take advantage of the new Recreation Center and outdoor activities available in the area, such as parks, trails, and nearby natural attractions. It's essential for both physical and mental well-being.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Stay informed and engaged! Mark your calendar to attend upcoming board and commission meetings. Don't miss out on staying updated on key community information and decisions.

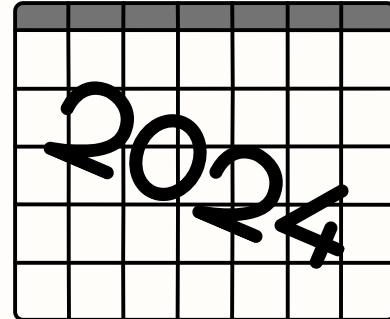
### City Council Meetings

When:

9:00 am on the 2nd Tuesday of every month  
5:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month

Where:

City Council Chambers  
220 N Fifth Street  
Orange, TX 77630



### Economic Development Corporation

When:

8:30 am on the 2nd Tuesday of every month  
5:00 pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month

Where:

City Council Chambers  
220 N Fifth Street  
Orange, TX 77630

### Historic Preservation Commission

When:

6:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month

Where:

Neighborhood Facility  
303 N 8th Street  
Community Room  
Orange, TX 77630

### Board of Adjustment

When:

Meet as needed at 5:30 pm

Where:

Neighborhood Facility  
303 N 8th Street  
Community Room  
Orange, TX 77630

### Planning & Zoning Commission

When:

Meet as needed at 5:30 pm

Where:

City Council Chambers  
220 N Fifth Street  
Orange, TX 77630

If you are interested in applying for a position on a Board or Commission, please [download an application \(PDF\)](#) or fill out the [Application Form](#) from our website, or please contact the Office of the City Secretary at 409-883-1042.

## FAQ'S

### **Permits: How do I obtain a building permit?**

Building permits are typically obtained by submitting an application detailing the project's scope, paying associated fees, and meeting specific requirements outlined by the Planning Department. The process may involve plan reviews and inspections at various stages of construction.

### **Zoning: What is the zoning for my property, and what can I build there?**

Zoning information can be accessed through our zoning maps or by contacting the planning department. Each zone has specific regulations dictating land use, building height, setbacks, and other restrictions.

### **Land Use: What type of business can operate in a particular zone?**

Zoning ordinances dictate what businesses can operate in different zones. Commercial, residential, industrial, and mixed-use zones.

### **Setbacks: What are the setback requirements for my property?**

Setback requirements specify the minimum distance a structure must be from property lines, roads, or other buildings.

### **Fences & Structures: Can I build a fence/structure in my yard, and are there height restrictions?**

Regulations on fences and structures differ based on zoning. Typically, there are height restrictions and guidelines regarding materials and placement. Permits may be required for certain structures.

### **Code Compliance: How can I ensure my project complies with local building codes?**

Compliance with local building codes is necessary for any construction project. Our department offers guidance on code requirements and inspections to ensure compliance throughout the project.

### **Historic Districts: Are there regulations regarding renovations or construction in historic districts?**

Renovations or construction in historic districts often require additional approvals to preserve historical integrity. Our department provides guidance for such projects.

### **Flood Plains: Is my property in a flood zone, and what regulations apply?**

Properties in flood zones have specific regulations to minimize flood risks.

Understanding these regulations is crucial before initiating any construction or renovation work.

### **Fees: What are the fees associated with permits and applications?**

Permits vary depending on the project's scope and type. Our department can provide a detailed fee schedule.

## FAQ'S - BEFORE PURCHASING PROPERTY

### 1. Property Inspection

Hire a professional inspector to thoroughly assess the property's condition. This inspection should cover structural integrity, plumbing, electrical systems, roofing and any potential issues.

### 2. Title Search

Conduct a title search to ensure there are no outstanding liens, easements, or ownership disputes associated with the property.

### 3. Review Documents

Carefully review all property-related documents, including deeds, survey reports HOA agreements (if applicable), and any existing warranties or insurance information.

### 4. Check Zoning & Permits

Understand the property's zoning regulations and ensure that any existing structures or planned renovations comply with local building codes.

### 5. Evaluate Surrounding Area

Assess the neighborhood and surrounding area for factors that might affect your quality of life or property value.

### 6. Financial Considerations

Evaluate the property's market value, property taxes, insurance costs, and potential resale value.

### 7. Legal Assistance

Consider engaging a real estate attorney to review contracts, negotiate terms, and ensure a smooth transaction.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEYS IN 2024

Surveys enable us to identify areas for improvement, allocate resources effectively, and prioritize initiatives that resonate with the community. Your feedback matters. It is the cornerstone of our efforts to create a city that reflects the collective vision and values of the City of Orange and its residents. Visit the link <https://forms.office.com/r/qbeHSiWDKw> or scan the QR code to complete the (1) one question survey.



**Address:**  
303 N 8th Street  
Orange, TX 77630

**Phone:**  
409-883-1070

**Office Hours:**  
• Mondays - Thursdays 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
• Fridays 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM