



Champion Great NEIGHBORHOODS

QUARTERLY UPDATE FY2019

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Arlington No. 10 Most Affordable City for Early Retirement

SmartAsset compared cities across ten factors, looking at a combination of cost-of-living and quality-of-living factors to rank where people could retire early. With high scores for low taxes and plenty of access to healthcare, Arlington claimed SmartAsset’s No. 10 spot on the list.

“Arlington ranks highly because of how tax-friendly Texas is to retirees. This city also offers residents plenty of medical access to healthcare. This city ranks in the top 10 for medical facilities per 1,000 residents.”

If retiring in your 50s or early 60s is something you’ve always dreamed of, The American Dream City may be the place to spend your golden years.

Arlington Celebrates 35th Year of National Night Out

Neighborhoods across The American Dream City celebrated the 35th anniversary of National Night Out on October 2, 2018. Block parties included potluck dishes, children’s activities, and the chance to meet with Arlington public safety officials. Residents of the Stagecoach Estates neighborhood in southwest Arlington had a little help with their gathering thanks to the City’s Block Party Trailer.

“It’s really an opportunity for us not only to have parties in our neighborhood, but for everybody to have a party at the same time,” Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson said. “It shows solidarity from neighborhood to neighborhood, no matter where you are in our community, that relationships matter.”



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Highlights

The City of Arlington featured two new neighborhoods this quarter on “Meet the Neighbors”, a regularly scheduled web and video program spotlighting neighborhoods across The American Dream City. Neighborhoods include Parkway North, who came together to brand their neighborhood with the help of a Neighborhood Matching Grant, and Shorewood Estates, who raised the bar at their annual National Night Out party.

Parkway North Neighborhood



Shorewood Estates Neighborhood



Arlington Police Department Wins Texas Municipal League Award for “Bridge Kids” Program

The Arlington Police Department was presented the 2018 Texas Municipal League Excellence Award for The Bridge Kids project in the Public Safety Category.

The Bridge Kids is an initiative started by the Arlington Police Department in 2016 to help kids at a nearby elementary school get home safely crossing over a pedestrian bridge. Parents and neighbors were concerned about juvenile delinquent behavior and bullying of kids near the bridge. The APD met with community members and the school administration to develop a comprehensive plan to address the problems.

The school staff walks with the kids to the edge of campus where officers are waiting. The officers then walk and talk with the kids as they cross the bridge into their neighborhoods. APD also engages the children through presentations at the school that include anti-bullying messages and career planning.

The department also works with managers at a nearby apartment complex to organize a summer tutoring program with volunteers from the school. As the program flourished, APD organized the first Daddy-Daughter dance, which has now become an annual tradition each February. Then, the community wanted to address graffiti concerns in the culvert that the bridge crossed over. Officers and citizens again joined forces one weekend to paint murals to cover the graffiti.

The elementary school administration has credited the Bridge Kids program with an increase in academic achievements, positive classroom environments, and improved behavior from the students. Bridge Kids continues to thrive as officers walk students home from school each day.



Arlington Parks and Recreation Wins 2018 National Gold Medal Award

After being named a finalist in 2014, 2016, and 2017, the Arlington Parks and Recreation Department brought home the 2018 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management. Founded in 1965, the Gold Medal Awards program honors communities in the U.S. that demonstrate excellence in parks and recreation through long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development, professional development, and agency recognition.

Agencies are judged on the ability to address the needs of those they serve through the collective energies of citizens, staff, and elected officials.

“This award is significant in terms of the recognition it provides the agency on an international scale, but more importantly, it highlights the collective will of our residents, City Council, and city staff in providing the highest quality of life for our citizens,” said Director of Parks and Recreation Lemuel Randolph.



Arlington Neighborhoods

by the numbers

POLICE



Number of Dispatched Calls to Police: **31,210**
Number of Self-Initiated Calls to Police: **15,540**



Average Response Time (Emergency Priority): **6.59 minutes**
Average Response Time (Priority 1): **9.23 minutes**



Number of Volunteer Hours: **8,679**

FIRE



Number of Fire Calls for Service: **46,707**
Percentage of 911 Calls Answered in 10 sec. or Less: **89.4%**



Average Response Time: **5.44 minutes**



Number of Fire Prevention Business Inspections: **12,236**

CODE COMPLIANCE



Number Code Inspections Complete
(not including Multi-Family): **23,840**



Average Number of Days from Initial Complaint
to First Action: **1.86 days**



Animal Services Live Animal Release Rate: **79%**

Each quarter, the Champion Great Neighborhoods newsletter features performance data for the City's most critical neighborhood services departments. This quarter includes data from July to September 2018. The Police, Fire, and Code Compliance departments strive to meet and exceed responsiveness goals to provide Arlington citizens exemplary service for an improved quality of life within each Arlington neighborhood.