



Pathfinder

"If you give people the opportunity to learn something new or to show their craft, they will give you their best work. The magic is in providing the opportunity."

- Jill Dark, director of a SWAT team

Teamwork Matters

A message from
the City Manager



JASON STILWELL

There is power in giving back to your community. Sometimes we may not see, or fully understand, our individual impact and sometimes we may think that in the big picture it is irrelevant. In truth, each of us makes a difference.

During this month of November, we give thanks to others, and we should also take time and effort to help those less fortunate. Veterans Day is a day to thank those who sacrificed for what we value as Americans. Thanksgiving is a time to remember family and friends, and remember those occasions when someone helped us.

Deep satisfaction and sense of purpose can come from serving and acting for the betterment of others beyond just serving oneself. No matter where you grew up, almost certainly the community of friends and family around you contributed positively to your formative years. Whether providing volunteer care, organizing activities for a group, or participating in beautification projects, or the Toys for Tots program, each person who steps up contributes to the fabric of society and makes life easier for everyone around them. Community is vital.

As you are aware, the City exists to provide services to the community. A part of that service is to be a partner with local charities and other non-profit organizations. This is the 61st year of the City's United Way workplace campaign, a convenient and proven effective way for employees to donate to local charities.

The City is again providing the opportunity for employees to donate through automatic payroll deductions through the United Way pledge form. The form allows you to designate your donation to the United Way, or to a specific program or non-profit.

All employees who complete the pledge form to donate \$5.00 or more per pay period to the United Way will be entered in a drawing to win time off from work, thanks to leave time donated by Department Directors. Pledge forms will be distributed during presentations at departments, can be found on the Intranet, or can be provided by your Department Secretary upon request.

Thank you for your support. If you would like to start donating (or continue) during this campaign, please complete the United Way pledge form and return it to your Department Secretary no later than Friday, December 13th. Your donation will be withheld from your paycheck starting with the pay summary of January 10, 2020. Thank you to this year's United Way campaign team of **Michelle Ruiz, Mark van de Kamp, and Darlene Hernandez.**

Your work, and the gifts you share, are an inspiration. We make a difference in our community – and as public servants, that is one of our callings.

Research finds that the good feelings and inner peace you experience when helping others may be just as important to your health as exercise and a healthy diet. It is the smile and gratitude from a child or thankful person that shows you are really making a difference in someone's life. That is a great feeling.

Jason