



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**For Immediate Release**

**Friday, June 28, 2019**

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**Lancaster, Texas Named 2019 All-America City Award Winner**

**Lancaster, TX** was recently recognized as one of 10 All-America City award winners at the national All-America City competition in Denver, Colorado. The National Civic League presented this honor to recognize Lancaster's work in inclusive civic engagement to address critical issues and create stronger connections among residents, businesses and nonprofit and government leaders.

Members of the City Council, staff, Cedar Valley College, Lancaster Independent School District, the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, Lancaster Education Foundation, Methodist Charleston Medical Center, students and residents led Lancaster's delegation, whose theme was "Healthy, Safe, and Engaged Community."

*"We are happy to designate Lancaster as an All-America City. They showed us today that they do a great job of engaging the whole city in creating a healthier community."*

-Doug Linkhart  
President, National Civic League

The award is presented by the National Civic League, which has recognized the best in American civic innovation with the award since 1949. The award "recognizes the work of communities in using inclusive civic engagement to address critical issues and create stronger connections among residents, businesses and nonprofit and government leaders," according to the organization's [website](#). The award has been proved to reinvigorate communities with a new sense of community pride, accomplishment, and teamwork. It is also an economic stimulus.



This year the theme was "Building Healthy Communities Through Inclusive Civic Engagement." All applicants submitted their community-wide work and three projects for consideration, and the field was narrowed to 20. This weekend, finalist communities travelled to Denver, Colorado, and presented their projects to a jury of national civic experts. The entire presentation focused on three project examples showing how this community leverages civic engagement, collaboration, inclusiveness and innovation to successfully address local issues.

Lancaster uses civic engagement and robust communications to address community health concerns through: the development and improvement of existing parks; a community health challenge with runs, walks and health fairs; and a robust workplace wellness program.

The City of Lancaster ensures that all residents and stakeholders are engaged and take pride in the city. Each year, residents are engaged in the city council's strategic planning process through an online survey circulated via a dedicated website, app, social media, and additional publications. The Comprehensive Plan was also updated in 2016 using public input gathered through a phone survey, a community charrette, and several public meetings. The city's Civic Leadership



# CITY OF LANCASTER

SHINING STAR OF TEXAS

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Academy educates citizens about city government and gives them a clear path for future appointment on boards and commissions. Additionally, on-site neighborhood block parties and bilingual communications are used to reach residents who have historically been left out of the decision-making process.

*"Lancaster is the Shining Star of Texas! The All-America City Award shines a spotlight on the incredible work taking place daily within our community through local innovation, civic engagement and cross-sector collaboration. We are Lancaster and we are a Healthy, Safe, and Engaged Community!"* stated Mayor Clyde C. Hairston

The City of Lancaster delegation was able to travel to Denver, Colorado for the All-America City competition through the help of generous sponsors, which include 24 HR Wrecker Service, Dal-Tech Engineering, Dakita Enterprises, FFE Transportation, Jba Land Management, Joeris General Contractors, Post L Group, Texas Nameplate, UNFI, and WRA Architects.



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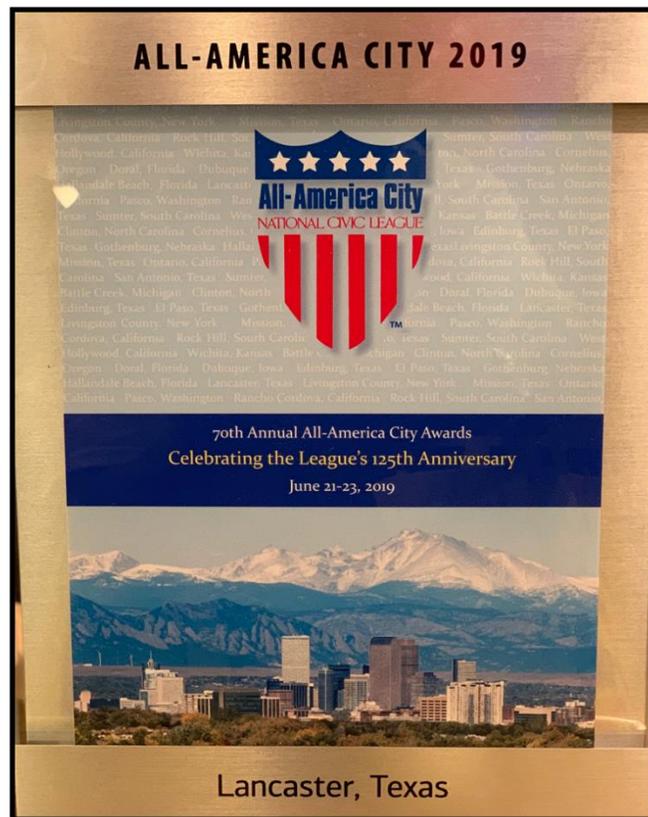
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