

A SUSTAINABLE LEANDER.....IT'S TIME TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

It has been a fun, joyous and very interesting time being Mayor of our city. I thank you all for allowing me the experience. Since taking office in 2003, we have all made great strides in making this a truly great city. Road projects, new parks, our new public library, public facilities such as the police and fire stations, new business coming into Leander, an A-bond rating, are all great achievements for us all and the future citizens of Leander.

Recently, I was informed that Leander/Cedar Park (LCP) Youth Baseball League is, due to over-crowding, changing the format of the League. It is my understanding that this new formatted organization is going to be called **Cedar Park Youth Baseball League**. This is a good and prudent move for all the citizens of Cedar Park and especially the children of Cedar Park. The children of Cedar Park will now be given top priority to play in the newly named league as they should be. If there is space available, Leander youth will be admitted. What does this mean? It means that the citizens of Leander need to get busy by taking care of our youth by building facilities which will allow all boys and girls in our city to have the opportunity to experience good wholesome activity. **Pure and simple**. This is a priority that I feel very passionate about and am planning to speak to your Leander City Council about and to ask them to form a bond task force committee to explore this endeavor.

As evidenced by the recent passage of the \$559,000,000 (that's five hundred fifty nine million) dollar bond election for Leander Independent School District to build new facilities, our city is getting younger. Elementary Schools are being built at record pace, and there is phenomenal growth in both Leander and Cedar Park. That being said, I am also going to ask your Leander City Council and this yet to be formed Bond Task Force Committee to explore the possibility of asking voters to pass a referendum vote for a recreation center for not only our youth but all citizens here in Leander. A recreation center/swim center along with the Leander Youth Baseball League would be a great step in the quality of life that we all have been working toward these last five years. I recently toured the new swim facility the City of Cedar Park built off of the New Hope Road extension, and I observed one thing...it was packed! Ironically enough it looked like about half the folks there were from Leander. I appreciate what the City of Cedar Park has done and LCP has done over the years; Both have made great strides in a quality of life that the citizens of Cedar Park have come to expect, and come May 2009, I believe that these are the same strides the City of Leander and a potential new league for Leander's youth should follow.