

The City has instituted a program to service our fire hydrants and provide fire fighters an updated status on the fire hydrants. The program will service, repaint, flow test and create data for our GIS mapping program for all 300 fire hydrants in Rockdale. The contractor will make sure that each fire hydrant is serviceable, testing all caps. Next, the contractor will test the flow which is important for Fire fighters and public works to know. The water flow is tested by a flow meter measuring the volume of water coming out of the fire hydrant. What rate the flow is will determine what color the cap is painted as determined by The National Fire Protection Association Code 291: Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants. This code gives guidelines pertaining to fire hydrants and their tops and caps should indicate the available GPM. The guidelines recommended are as follows, below 500GPM should be painted **red**, 500-999 GPM should be painted **orange**, 1000-1499 GPM should be painted **green**, and 1500 GPM or more should be painted **blue**. The base of each fire hydrant will be painted silver. This allows first responders to identify on scene, what the fire flow is for the hydrant. If a fire hydrant doesn't work, the fire hydrant will be covered with a black plastic trash bag. The contractor will then collect the grad coordinates for the fire hydrant for future reference. Once all the work has been done and data collected, the information for each fire hydrant will be uploaded into our Geographic Information System (GIS) for Water and Waste Water Systems that allow us to see all this information on tablets and computers for multiple viewers and creates a permanent electronic record. This project of 300 fire hydrants will take about one month and will cause some low pressure situations and appearance of water leaks throughout the City.