



City of Copperas Cove

T E X A S

*City Built for Family Living*

# CHAPTER 6: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND SERVICES

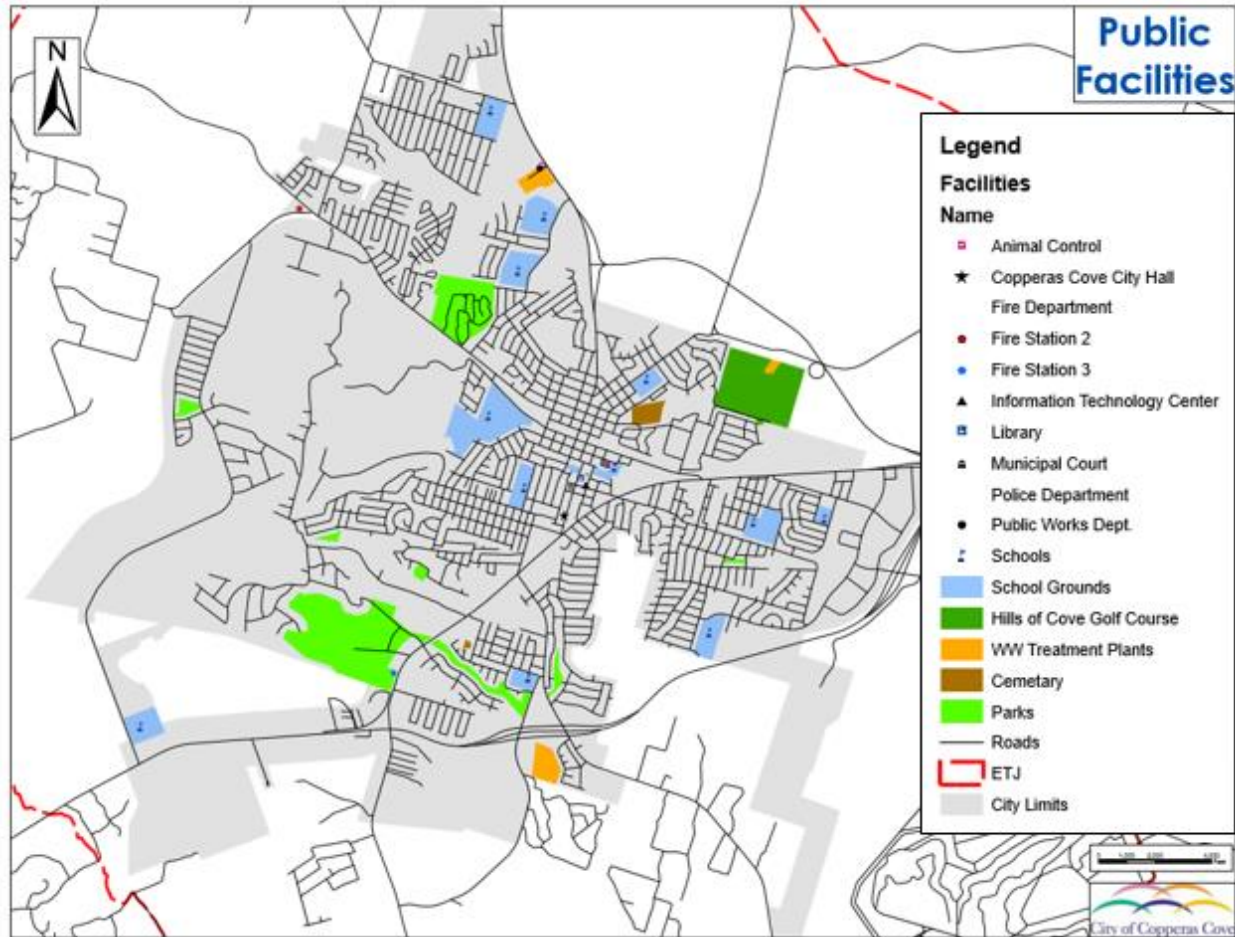
## Chapter 6 – Government Facilities and Services

### Table of Contents

Introduction to Government Facilities and Services.....	6-2
Existing and Future Facilities.....	6-3
City Administration .....	6-3
Police Services and Facilities .....	6-7
Fire Services and Facilities .....	6-8
Library Services and Facilities .....	6-10
Government Facilities and Services Goals, objectives, Policies and Implementation.....	6-11

## INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Public buildings and facilities are a vital component to a thriving community. As a home-rule city, Copperas Cove is empowered by the State of Texas to provide up-to-date emergency services and facilities for the Police and Fire Departments, an appropriate number of schools to meet population growth demands, adequate public works infrastructure and roadways and additional public services including libraries, parks and recreational facilities. **Map 6-1** displays Copperas Cove’s public facilities.



Map 6-1: Public Facilities

The Copperas Cove Independent School District (CCISD) currently manages one Pre-K center, six elementary schools, two junior high schools, and two high schools (one being an alternative school choice). **Map 6-1** shows that the schools are relatively well distributed throughout the City. It is important to continue good communication and coordination with the CCISD to be sure that the community’s educational needs are being met.

Growth in Copperas Cove will predictably mean an increase in the number of schools CCISD will need in the future.

## Existing and Future Facilities

### City Administration

Copperas Cove has five main buildings throughout the City that house City administrative departments and staff: City Hall, Municipal Court, Public Works, Technology Center, and Parks & Recreation. Copperas Cove's City Hall was recently built, and is located at 914 S Main Street and houses many of the City's administrative staff and departments. Currently, City Hall is where citizens can find the: City Manager, City Secretary, Code Compliance, Development Services (Building and Planning), Human Resources, Finance, and Utilities.



The Municipal Court is located at 602 S. Main Street. Court information and services can be found on-line at the City's website.



Public Works also has its own building located at 1601 N. First Street. Public Works maintains operational control of and provides administrative services to the following departments: Compost Services, Drainage, Fleet Services, Sewer Collection, Solid Waste, Streets, Water Distribution and Wastewater Treatment. It also shares the space with Animal Control.





The Solid Waste Department is located at 2605 S. FM 116 and is responsible for the management and operation of the Solid Waste Operational Center, which consists of residential, recycling, brush and commercial collections, proper disposal at the transfer station, and the collection of recyclables through its recycling center. This department also oversees the curbside pick-up of solid waste generated by residential households.



The Technology Center has its own building located at 508 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and contains the following departments: Budget, Information Systems, and Public Information Officer. It also contains the City Council Chambers.

The Budget Department is responsible for developing the annual operating budget, Capital Improvement Plan, Personnel Improvement Plan, and Capital Outlay Plan. Staff also reviews and prepares



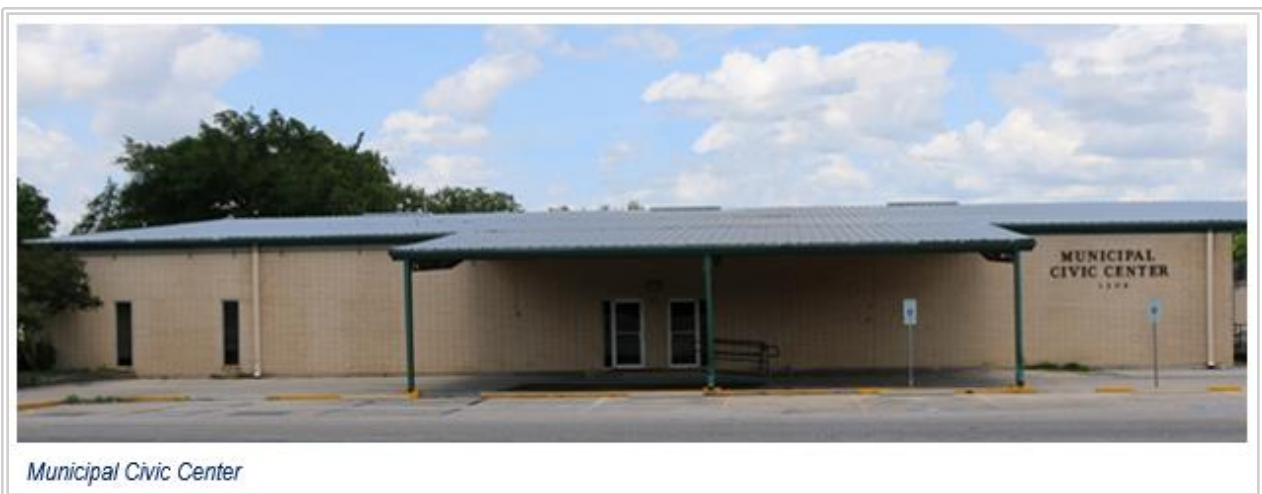
monthly and quarterly financial reports as needed, tracking of budget and project progress, and providing budgetary action recommendations to the City Manager and City Council.

The Public Information Office plans and implements the public relations efforts for the City of Copperas Cove. The office provides relevant, concise, and timely information to the public, media, and City staff, through the use of various communications tools. This information includes services, disruptions in services, activities, City accomplishments, employee recognition and goals.

The primary goal of the Information Systems Department is planning, developing and maintaining the information systems program for the City. The department also provides hardware and software technical support, installation, upgrading and repair services.

The City Council holds two meetings each month, meeting on the first and third Tuesday of the month. The council is composed of a mayor and seven other council members. The mayor and all other council members are elected from the City at large. A council member, can serve for a term of three years, and can serve not more than two terms in succession in the office to which they are elected. The mayor, can also serve for a term of three years, and can serve not more than two terms in succession in the office to which they are elected. The council elects one of its members as mayor pro tem, for a period of one year. The mayor pro tem acts as mayor during the absence or disability of the mayor and, when so acting, shall have the same powers, duties, and restrictions as set forth for the office of mayor.

The Parks and Recreation Administration office is located at the Municipal Civic Center at 1206 W. Avenue B. The Civic Center can accommodate up to 450 people. It hosts various art shows, dances and commercial expositions. It is available to rent for private group gatherings. The center is operated by the City of Copperas Cove, Parks and Recreation Department. The department offers a variety of athletic activities, including soccer, tennis, baseball, softball and basketball. It also offers the Start Smart program. The department conducts a range of exercise programs, including wake-up and walk, stretch and flex, walk and talk, and low-impact and water aerobics. It also provides swimming instructions and organizes cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid training classes.



The Parks and Recreation Department is also responsible for the Hills of Cove Golf Course. The Pro Shop and Grill Bar is located at 1408 Golf Course Road. The course is an 18-hole facility owned and operated by the City of Copperas Cove. The original nine holes golf course was built in 1972, but was expanded to 18 holes in 1999. The course, a par 71, meanders its way through the rolling terrain of northeast Copperas Cove and is made up of five challenging par 3's, nine magnificent Par 4's, and four exuberant Par 5's.



*Hills of Cove Golf Course Pro Shop and Grill Bar*

The Parks and Recreation Department also maintains the Municipal Cemetery located at 415 Avenue A. The cemetery was established in 1987. Information regarding burial permits and a copy of the cemetery ordinance may be obtained at the Copperas Cove Senior Activity Center located at 1012 North Drive, Suite 5.



*Municipal Cemetery*

The City of Copperas Cove maintains one of the oldest burial sites in Coryell County. It is located at 2203 Jay Drive. The small graveyard, with more than 100 years of age engraved in stone, is nestled in the Pioneer addition of the Walker Subdivision at the end of the Jay Drive cul-de-sac. According to City documents, the addition that included the development of the cul-de-sac was platted in 1998. According to Coryell Central Tax Appraisal District, the acreage containing the cemetery was given to Copperas Cove in 2002 and is maintained by the City. Before the land became a housing area, it was called Walker Ranch, according to the land development official.



*Historical Pioneer Walker Cemetery on Jay Drive*



## Police Services and Facilities

Police services are a vital component towards the safety, livability, and economic growth of a city. Without a proactive and vigilant police department, a city can give way to higher crime rates, which makes it less attractive for residents. Low crime rates are a priority for future inhabitants.

The Copperas Cove Police Department is located at 302 East Avenue E. It is organized into two major divisions lead by the Chief of Police. The two divisions are the Uniform Services Division and the Support Services Division. Professional Standards are coordinated through the Office of the Chief of Police.



*City of Copperas Cove Police Station*

Uniform Services Division is led by a Deputy Chief and consists of Patrol Services, which includes three patrol shifts that provide 24-hour coverage; Special Operations Services, which includes the Traffic Section and the School Enforcement Section; and the Communications/Jail Section. Other responsibilities under this division include the Code Compliance Department, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), the Honor Guard, and the Law Enforcement Explorer Program.

Support Services Division is also led by a Deputy Chief and provides a multitude of services to the department. Included within this division are the Criminal Investigation Section; the Organized Crime Unit; Community Relations and Public Information; an Evidence Technician; the Records Section; and the Training and Personnel Section, which includes the supervision of Police Cadets and the Field Training Program. The Animal Control Department is also included under Support Services.

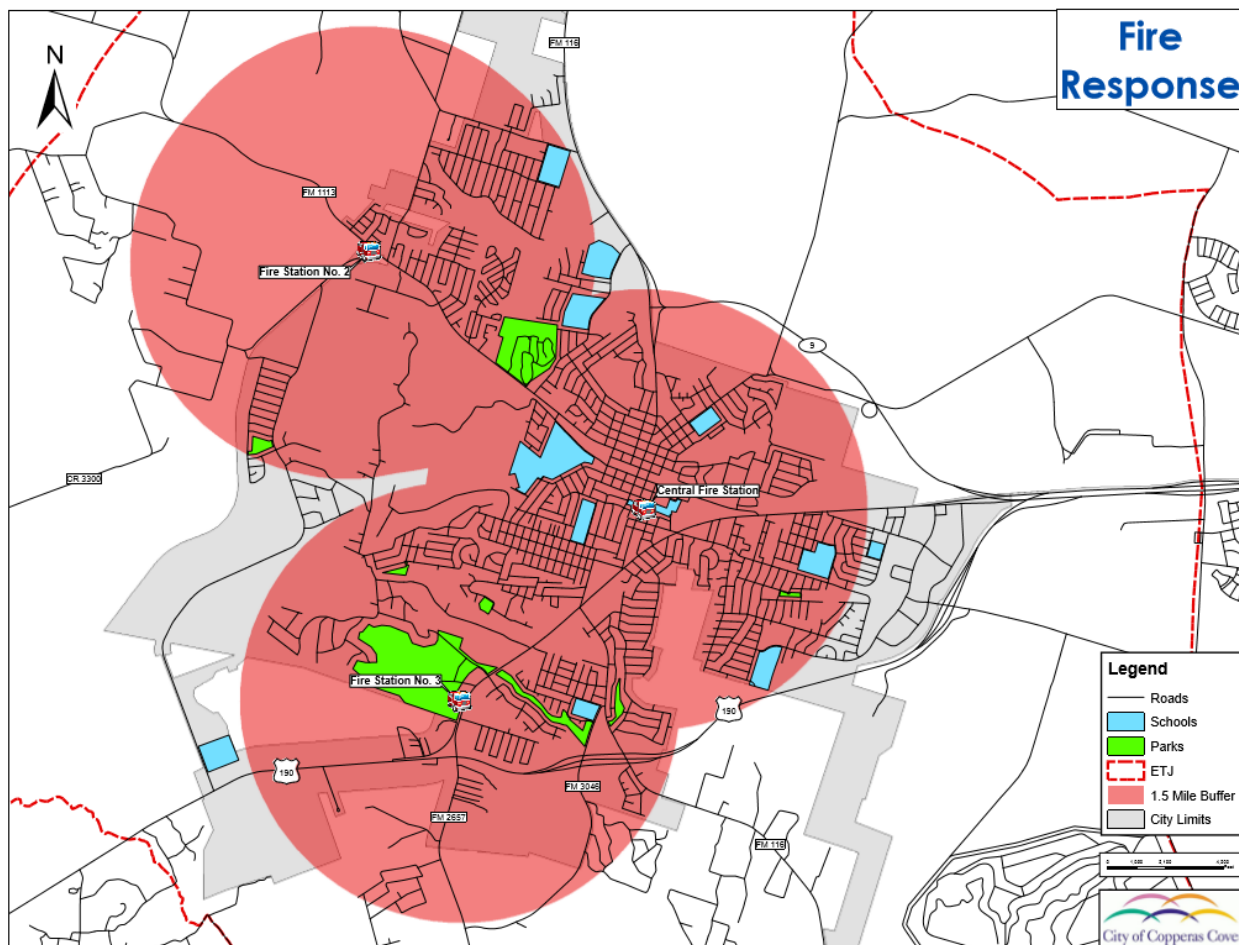
Needs expressed for the Police Department include a training facility and shooting range to be added into a future Capital Improvement Plan along with a fitness center to maintain the physical readiness standards for all officers. In addition, the Animal Control Department currently has a new facility included in the Capital Improvement Plan.





## Fire Services and Facilities

In 2017, the Copperas Cove Fire Department replaced three aging ambulances with new Dodge 4500 chassis with Frazer ambulance modules. The ambulances were also changed to a red color scheme with new graphics to renew the organization’s professional commitment to the community and to signify the City’s Emergency Medical Services are delivered by the Fire Department. In addition to the new ambulances, the department replaced twenty of its structural firefighting ensembles to include coats, pants, helmets, gloves, boots, and hoods.



Map 6-2: Fire Response Educational Facilities

The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) standard for fire facilities is 1.5 miles in urban areas and 2.5 miles in rural ones, these correspond to a 4-minute maximum travel time to the emergency. **Map 6-2** displays Copperas Cove’s fire services 1.5-mile buffer. It shows that currently, Copperas Cove is managing the majority of its population within the ideal response time. But, as Copperas Cove begins to look to expand farther north, west, and south more emergency facilities will need to be built. Kempner has a Volunteer Fire Department built near Copperas Cove’s southwest area of the City.

Fire Stations



**Station 1**

**415 S. Main Street**

Battalion 1	Command Vehicle
Engine 1	Pumper Truck
Engine 11	Pumper Truck (Reserve)
Brush 1	Brush Truck
Ladder 1	Ladder Truck
Medic 1	Ambulance
Medic 11	Ambulance (Reserve)



**Station 2**

**2401 FM 1113**

Engine 2	Pumper
Truck Brush 2	Brush Truck
Medic 2	Ambulance
Medic 22	Ambulance (Reserve)



**Station 3**

**1050 W. Hwy 190**

Engine 3	Pumper
Truck Brush 3	Brush Truck
Medic 3	Ambulance

## Library Services and Facilities

The Copperas Cove Public Library is centrally located at 501 South Main Street, just north of City Hall. The American Library Association does not provide a set standard for library services in America anymore. They realize that libraries are individual, and a square foot amount does not adequately represent a standard for a library. This means it is of vital importance for the library to regularly gain feedback from patrons on their needs and wants for the public space.

Library services include borrowing books, CDs and DVDs, library card holders can download and borrow children's books or current, popular e-books for teens and adults from the library's collection. Card holders can also search licensed online databases of journal articles and other current information. The library also has computers with internet access and Wi-Fi.

The library's collection includes popular fiction and non-fiction books, graphic novels and large print works as well as videos and audio CDs of favorite books. Books not in the inventory can be requested through Inter-Library Loan for a modest fee. There are many special programs offered throughout the year, or take part in the Book Club. Citizens are also always welcome to participate in the Friends of the Library activities or volunteer in the library.

The children's room in the library has a wide selection of books, CD books and videos (both VHS and DVD) and stuffed toys. The library even has a puppet theater! Other programs offered are Toddler Time for 1-3 year old children on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. and Story Time for 3-5 year old children on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. The annual Summer Reading program runs from mid-June into early July with special activities and performers in the library each week.

The library is one of Copperas Cove's best public facilities and provides many programs and services for its residents. As Copperas Cove continues to grow and expand, locating smaller public libraries or flagship libraries in the northern and southern areas of the City could be worth investing in.



*Copperas Cove Public Library*

The Senior Center is located at 1012 North Drive, Suite 5. It offers a variety of recreational activities as well as nourishment, fitness and health programs. This encourages seniors to get out of their house and come to the center, not only for nourishment, but also for programs that will enrich their quality of life and personal health and allow them to socialize with others in their age group.



*Senior Center*

## GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND SERVICES GOALS, OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Goal 6-1: Provide adequate Police and Fire protection and expand service/facilities as growth continues.

### Objective:

- Provide for Capital Improvement funding of Police and Fire facilities that will enhance and streamline budgetary processes of short- and long-range public safety projects.

### Policy:

- New police, fire, and public infrastructure will need to be planned and built as new residents move to the City. Specifically, identifying land to purchase on the west, north, and south side of the City should be examined and budgeted for. Police services should also be expanded through recruiting and training more police officers. The current police building provides plenty of room for future personnel expansions.

### Implementation Measures:

- Plan for Public Safety facilities and staffing needs to ensure efficiency in responding to emergencies, encourage safe neighborhood designs and coordinate and integrate Homeland Security initiatives.
- Maintain and continually update the Emergency Management Plan, exercise a regular program of coordinated drills and training, and develop a program to involve citizen volunteers in crime prevention and other safety programs.
- Provide adequate training facilities, shooting range and fitness center for Police officers and provide suitable emergency services and facilities as the City continues to grow and expands.
- Cooperate with surrounding communities along with Coryell County, Lampasas County, Bell County, and Fort Hood through interlocal cost sharing of public facilities and services.
- Coordinate with Kempner to increase their volunteer Fire Department program in order to meet the demands for services in the ETJ.

Goal 6-2: Plan for the expansion of public services in reference to both projects and future annexations.

### Objectives:

- Ensure educational and senior facilities meet local needs and future population growth.
- Locate smaller public libraries or flagship libraries in the northern and southern areas of the City.

### Policies:

- Coordinate with CCISD on any new locations to serve areas of growth.



- As Copperas Cove continues to expand, access to the library will be important for people who live farther from the City center. Though a new facility is not necessarily required currently, the City can encourage pop up programs (i.e. library on wheels) to access areas farther north and west of the City. This can ensure populations that are not as mobile still have access to library services. This will be especially useful to the aging and retiring populations looking to make Copperas Cove their home.

### Implementation Measures:

- Work with the CCISD to provide information to the entire community concerning major endeavors of the schools.
- Coordinate with CCISD and post-secondary providers to maintain a sound educational system available to all citizens.
- Encourage the CCISD to represent on Citywide boards and commissions that will support unified efforts and prevent redundancy of actions.
- Encourage community-wide support for educational programs that promote successful outcomes for the students, pre-school through higher education.
- The City should coordinate with the Copperas Cove Independent School District to ensure that future sites of schools are located away from major arterial streets. Close communications with CCISD will enhance growth projections and improve planning processes for new facilities. This can be accomplished by:
  - Including CCISD verification in developer packets. This assures the CCISD has been contacted about future projects.
  - Coordinating with CCISD to identify new educational sites including maximum enrollment numbers, acres for campuses, adequate parking, sports facilities and best practices for identifying future school locations (i.e. elementary schools near City parks.).
  - Partnering with CCISD, non-profit organizations, private endowments and the Copperas Cove Economic Development Corporation for funding opportunities.
- Encourage new opportunities through Public Library service grant programs.
- Encourage additional activities for senior citizens and improve the use of City's senior facilities.