

## City of Anna Staff's Weekly Highlights August 10 – August 14

*The Mission of the Anna City Government is to provide exceptional city services and facilities in a financially responsible and neighbor-focused way through a high performing, professional city team that provides results in adding value to neighbors' lives*

### Growing the Anna Economy

- Economic Development staff met with a Business Park prospect this past week.
- Staff is finalizing a Community Profile / Resource Guide to be used not only by our neighbors but future business prospects.
- Economic Development staff attended the UT Dallas Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting.
- Economic Development sponsored BISNOW's DFW Webinar: "What's Next for the 121 Corridor" – The event can be watched here: <https://bisnow.zoom.us/rec/share/tZZSLoOq5iBJZ6uS0hjkWr4PNYPXX6a81nIdqKALyhutIQLbdycDpcsRSEKqyV5l?startTime=1597163403000>

### Anna – A Great Place to Live

- An amendment to the Park Development Fund ordinance was brought before the City Council and approved. The amended Ordinance allows the use of park development funds for recreational programming and the addition and enhancement of community events and associated staffing.
- The Neighborhood Services Team presented to Council a proposal for a recreation manager position and up to three part-time recreation coordinators. These positions will be paid for from the Parks Development Fund. Adding these positions will allow the City to offer new recreation programs and athletic opportunities never offered to Anna Neighbors. The positions were approved by the City Council.
- The Neighborhood Services Team presented to Council a proposal for an additional Code Compliance Officer. Revenue from the Code Compliance Rental Registration program is anticipated to cover the cost of the Code Compliance position making it budget neutral. The position was approved by the City Council.
- The Neighborhood Services Team continued to develop the Park Capital Improvement Program, (CIP), based primarily on park development funds. The CIP also includes unfunded future capital projects such as the library, recreation/community center, and a sports complex. Staff is soliciting feedback on the CIP from the Parks Advisory Board at their Monday, August 17 meeting. The plan will come before the City Council for consideration as well.
- The Neighborhood Services Director met with the CEO of OrangeBoy, Inc., a market intelligence firm that specializes in helping community organizations connect with neighbors and understand community dynamics in real time through creative market segment designations for strategic planning and responsive service delivery. This platform can also be used to communicate with our neighbors as we expand recreation programming, future library services, etc. A proposal will be forthcoming for consideration of adding this service.

- The Neighborhood Services Team provided a list of 73 stakeholders to La Terra to begin setting up focus group meetings for the Parks Master Plan effort. The stakeholders represent a cross section of Anna Neighbors with a wide variety of interests and all age groups to include kids, teens, adults, and seniors.
- The Neighborhood Services Team continued to work with the City Attorney and the Anna Area Historical Preservation Society to develop a facility use agreement for the depot at Sherley Heritage Park to bring to Council for consideration at an upcoming meeting.
- The Neighborhood Services Team is planning to work with CARDS, the City's new solid waste service provider, to host a household hazardous waste event in the upcoming fiscal year. The team originally planned to host an event on August 29, however, moving the event to a later date will allow our neighbors to take advantage of a provision in the agreement with CARDS to provide for the event and save significant costs.
- Progress is being made on Steam Locomotive No. 201 as it continues to be dismantled and parts prepared for transport to Reader, Arkansas. Thus far, there has been removal of most of the piping from the cab, the stack, and other items from the boiler including the boiler front. The next job is to remove the tubes from inside the boiler and separate the boiler from the running gear. The large components should be in transport no later than August 24.

#### *Sustainable Anna Community Through Planned Managed Growth*

- On Tuesday, City staff meet with representatives of Megatel Homes to discuss a vision of a Master Planned Community that would include a Blue Lagoon and a mixture of land uses. Project representatives stated they would meet with City staff again once a concept plan had been designed. The land area being considered for the master planned community include multiple tracts of land on the east side of Ferguson Parkway, north of Hackberry Drive
- For the week of August 10 – 14 the Building Department received a total of 2 new single-family permits and issued 30 single-family permits for construction. Over the last two week the Building Inspector has conducted over 300 inspections.

#### *High Performing, Professional City*

- City staff will be hosting a Telephone Town Hall on Tuesday, August 18, at 6:30PM to discuss the City's new water rates, give an update on the new solid waste provider, and answer any questions related to water quality.
- Local Fire ordinances were approved by the City Council at the August 11 City Council meeting and are now in effect.
- The Operations Division responded to a trash truck vehicle fire at the intersection of White Street and Powell Parkway. No injuries were reported, and minimal damage was caused to the truck.
- The Fire Department completed its first ever Driver/Engineer promotional process. Three Engineers have been selected and will begin their duties soon.
- Finance Director Dana Thornhill celebrated her final week with staff and peers. The department had a luncheon for her on Tuesday and the Management Team hosted a luncheon on Thursday. We wish her well as she takes care of her family and pursues other opportunities.

Alan Guard takes over as the Interim Finance Director and Halley Burnside steps up as the Interim Neighbor Services Manager.

- The IT Manager met with the Finance Director, finance staff, and the City Manager's Office, to discuss the new ERP system. Staff has begun to outline what the City will be purchasing and has begun developing a plan for implementation.
- The IT Manager and IT intern deployed eight laptops that were requested by the City Secretary to be used by Board Members at Board meetings.
- Court was held virtually on Friday, August 14.