FY 19-20 Council Priorities Update

Begin the Development of an Affordable Housing Assessment and Strategy

- Staff issued an RFP in February 2020 and contracted with the consultant Reinvestment Fund to prepare an Affordable Housing Assessment.
- The City of Denton hosted a virtual meeting with community stakeholders, including representatives from non-profit agencies, the development community, social services, UNT, TWU, and Denton ISD on April 22, 2020 to present the initial data findings and receive their feedback.
- After refining the data and incorporating stakeholder feedback, the City hosted another virtual meeting with stakeholders on August 5, 2020.
- The consultants are currently finalizing the report and presentation. Staff has scheduled a work session during the Dec. 7 City Council luncheon to review the assessment information.

Develop project and funding options for City Hall West

- Staff presented a work session to City Council on October 7, 2019 and were directed to return in the future to further discuss the 2017 Committee recommendations, steps to achieve full restoration of the project, establish proposed uses, determine what non-profit agencies will be housed, and identify funding options available.
- Staff returned with a work session presented on January 7, 2020 to discuss possible funding options and received direction to proceed with pursuing the estimated all-in cost of $7.5 million be funded by Certificates of Obligation.
- On April 7, 2020, City Council approved an ordinance authorizing the execution of a contract with The Wilson Group, Inc. for the replacement of the windows at City Hall West. Work proceeded with the contractor under the supervision of City staff and the Architect. This project is approximately 85% complete. All windows have been installed and the contractors just have to finish the trim and caulking. It is targeted to be finished before November 5.
- Staff is developing an RFQ for these services and the public solicitation process should be complete by November.

Complete and adopt Denton Mobility Plan Update

- Staff held the first-round of Public Input Meetings on March 20, 24, 26, 30, 31, and April 2, 2019.
- The Mobility Plan was presented to City Council during work sessions on:
    - December 17, 2019: Mobility Plan Project Overview
    - January 14, 2020: Mobility Plan, Downtown Area
    - January 28, 2020: Mobility Plan, Northern Area
    - February 18, 2020: Mobility Plan, Western Area
    - February 25, 2020: Mobility Plan, Eastern Area
    - March 3, 2020: Mobility Plan, Southern Area
- To continue the public input process, staff held the following virtual Public Input Meetings:
    - September 9, 2020: Downtown Area
    - September 10, 2020: Northern Area
    - September 14, 2020: Western Area
    - September 17, 2020: Eastern Area
    - September 24, 2020: Southern Area

- Staff is preparing to incorporate citizen input gained during the Public Input Meetings and present the information to City Council during Fall/Winter 2020.

Complete and adopt Sustainable Denton Plan Update

- A draft Simply Sustainable Plan was presented to Committee on the Environment on September 9, 2019, November 4, 2019, and January 9, 2020.
- An internal stakeholder meeting to discuss the Simply Sustainable Plan was held on November 18, 2019.
- The Simply Sustainable Plan was scheduled to be presented to full City Council on June 6, 2020, however staff was directed to take back for review by Committee on the Environment.
- The Committee on the Environment made final recommendations to plan on June 25, 2020.
- A City Council work session was held on August 11, 2020 to review the plan.
- "Simply Sustainable, A Strategic Framework for Denton's Future" was adopted on September 1, 2020. It updates Sustainability goals and creates the "Sustainability Advisory Council".

Continue implementing and strengthening the Countywide Homelessness Strategic Plan

- In September 2019, City Council awarded ongoing funding and supplemental funding for homelessness initiatives including funds to MKOC to expand and enhance overnight shelter program and to UWDC for the Denton County Homelessness Barriers Fund to help divert people from homelessness, among others.
- In November 2019, the Police Department hired two (2) Homeless Outreach Officers to formalize the Homeless Outreach Team.
- The City collaborated with the Denton County Homelessness Coalition to facilitate the 2020 Point-in-Time Count.
- Through the City of Denton disaster declaration as response to the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council authorized relief funding to prevent Denton residents from losing housing and the City partnered with UWDC and established the COVID-19 Relief Fund (CRF) to implement a process for coordinated access to eviction prevention funding at various agency entry points in and outside of Denton.
- City staff volunteered to assist local nonprofits who were struggling to meet volunteer demands due to COVID-19 by helping prepare meals, assist in childcare, and provide translation services. From March 18 to June 21, 169 City employees filled 565 shifts and worked a total of 2,094 hours at Our Daily Bread, Grace Like Rain, Monsignor King Outreach Center, and the Denton Community Food Center.
- City Council approved funding to temporarily house individuals and families experiencing homelessness in local hotels to allow for compliance with COVID-19 safety protocols. To make this possible, City staff worked quickly with local nonprofits to set up agreements with them to operate the hotels as temporary shelters. City staff has continued oversight and management of hotels since March.
- The purchase of the property at 909 N. Loop 288 for community services purposes was approved by City Council and the sale closed in August 2020. City staff continue to facilitate discussions among the newly-formed nonprofit "The Junction", formerly MKOC and ODB, to develop an agreement to operate the facility and provide services onsite.

- City staff proceeded with the implementation of the approved Consolidated Plan and Action Plan to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for CDBG and HOME funds. These funds will be disbursed according to Council approved Committee recommendations for program initiation in FY21.

Analyze and consider development of Hunter Cole Ranch

- City Council work sessions were held on December 3, 2019, December 11, 2019, December 17, 2019, and February 18, 2020.
- Public hearings for both Hunter and Cole Ranch developments were held on March 17, 2020.
- Both Hunter and Cole Ranch developments were approved on April 7, 2020.
- Studies were completed to ensure the adequate provision of public facilities are met. These include:
    - Transportation Study
        - On-Site Roadway Infrastructure - Fully funded by the Development
        - Off-Site Roadway Infrastructure – Developer funds their proportionate share through impact fees & contract tax
    - Water & Wastewater Study
        - Developer Improvement Projects – 20 water and wastewater projects completely funded and constructed by the developer. The City's proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Developer's plans are consistent.
        - Offsite City Projects – 14 water and wastewater projects to be designed and constructed by the City, with proportional financial contributions from the Developers.
            - Water – 2 Treatment plant expansions, 1 booster pump station improvement, 4 new transmission lines, and 1 new booster pump station.
            - Wastewater – New treatment plant and phased expansions, 1 new lift station, and 1 new interceptor
    - Facilities Study
        - Land Conveyance – 145 acres
            - Hunter Fire Station – 3 acres
            - Hunter Fire Station – 3 acres
            - DME Substation – 10 acres
            - Water Storage Tank – 5 acres
            - City Parks – 124 acres
        - Capital Contributions - $11.4 million
            - Emergency Services - $10 million
            - Water Treatment Plant Design - $500,000
            - Service Center Annex – $525,000
            - Solid Waste Transfer Station – $225,000
            - Water Booster Pump Station - $75,000
            - WW Lift Station - $45,000

Explore public-private partnership opportunities

- Processed and developed expansion grant incentive packages for two technology companies: TeamOfDefenders and From the Future
- Discussions are taking place with Hickory and Rail Ventures (HRV) regarding operation of Stoke Co-Working Space
- City Council adopted an ordinance on September 15, 2020 authorizing a new Partnership Agreement between the City and the Chamber aligning the work plan with the proposed strategic plan.
- Community Services staff continues to work with non-profit partners to provide services and assistance to the community and took rapid action when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March to assist non-profit partners in adapting services and developing programs to assist individuals in need in the community.