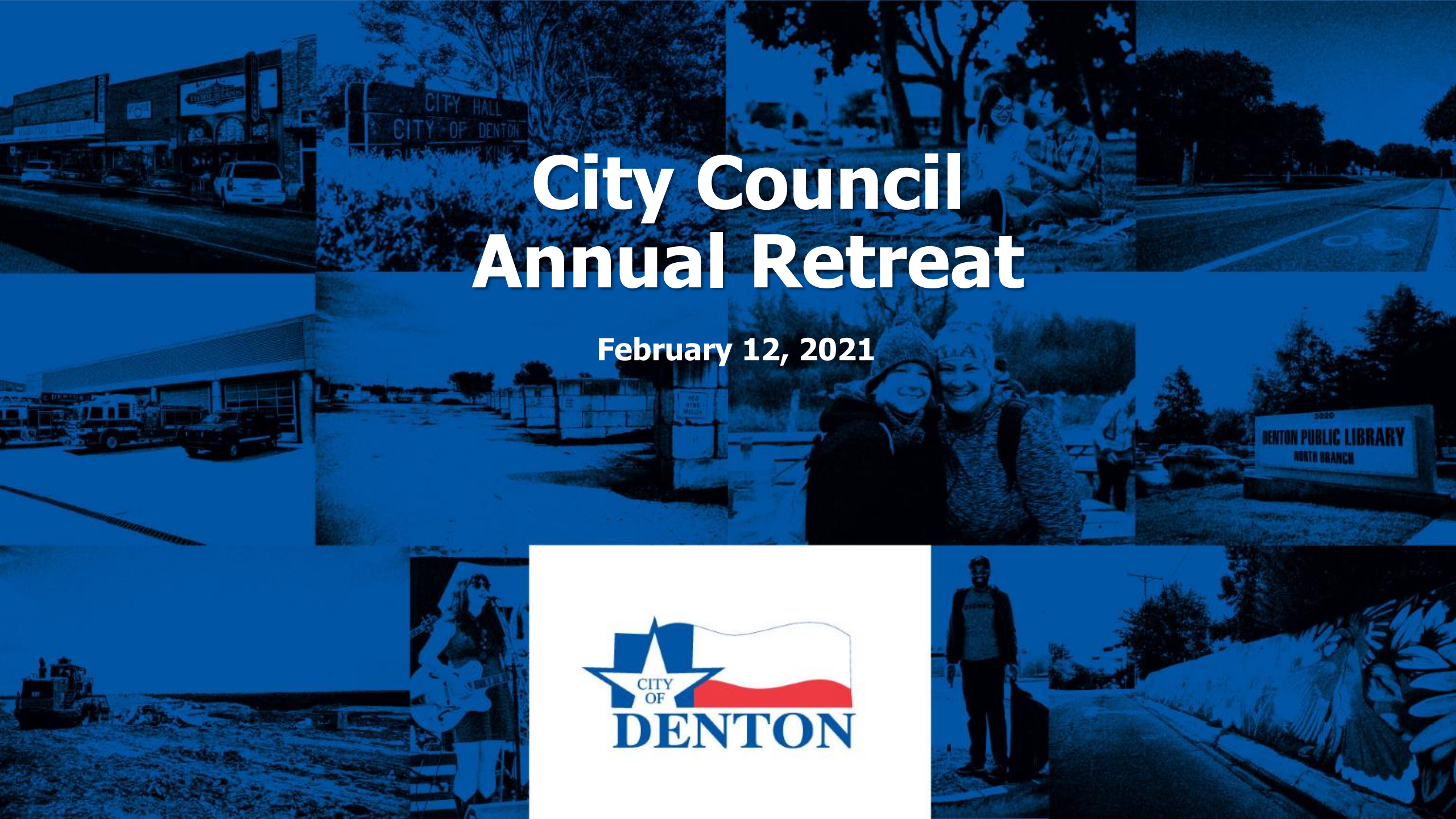
City Council Annual Retreat

February 12, 2021



CITY OF DENTON

Agenda for Today's Retreat

- **First Session (1-3pm)**
  - Review of Retreat agenda and goals
  - Council Members present overview of their items (limit of 5 minutes per Council Member)
  - Staff provides overview of priority topics submitted
  - Council Members indicate support for items to be discussed further following the break
- **Break (3-3:30pm)**
- **Second Session (3:30-4pm)**
  - Council discussion of consensus items and determination of priorities
- **Other Items to Discuss with Staff (4-5pm)**

First Session: Review of Retreat Goals

- The Annual Council Retreat is an opportunity to ensure that organizational goals align with Elected Body.
- These goals will help guide policy, operations, and budget development.
- Once adopted, these priorities will serve as a foundation for budget development and primary staff focus for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Affirmation for current Council projects and new or expanded initiatives following today's discussion will be included in the February 23 resolution and will form the basis for the FY21-22 workplans.

Council Member Presentations

- Each Council Member will have a maximum of 5-minutes to present an overview of their submitted items and overall priorities for FY21-22.

First Session: Overview of Submitted Priority Topics

- Each Council Member submitted proposed priority topics online from Feb. 1-8
- The list has been organized in multiple formats and distributed to Council Members
  - List A - Organized by Council Member
  - List B - Organized by Status of the Item submitted (In Process/ Revision / New)
- Based on submissions, the process has been modified to better use Council's time and focus Council discussion
- Staff will preview the items the following slides by Status of the Item to help facilitate and focus Council discussion
  - In Process (slide 6): *Submitted items in progress, have already received Council direction; showing items submitted by two or more Elected Officials*
  - Change or Enhance (slide 7): *Submitted items requiring a change or enhancement to current policies, programs, or budget*
  - New (slide 8): *Submitted items that would be new initiatives*

Submitted Priorities: In Progress

(Submitted items in progress; have already received Council direction; showing items submitted by two or more Elected Officials)

1	**Implement Economic Development Strategic Plan**	ED Strategic Plan adopted by Council on 2/9/2021, implementation throughout 2021
2	**Develop Loop 288 Building to Serve Individuals Experiencing Homelessness**	Currently in design process, next steps for construction budget and schedule, work continuing throughout 2021
3	**Undergo a Comprehensive Plan Update**	Project kickoff in February 2021, continuing throughout 2021
4	**Develop a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Strategy**	Began in Fall 2020, completion est. in late Spring 2021, implementation beginning in Fall 2021
5	**Develop an Affordable Housing Strategy**	AH Assessment presented to Council in Feb. 2021, received direction for a Phase 3 to develop potential strategies/tools to address identified needs
6	**Respond to COVID-19**	Staff continues responding to COVID in many ways (adjusting operations /services /facilities, HR functions, coordinating with County, IGR, administering grants /funding/reimbursements, managing hotels, coordinating with partners)
7	**Complete Mobility Plan**	Data and public input continuing to be gathered, anticipated to present initial plan to Council in Summer 2021
8	**Improve Capital Project Planning and Communication**	Implementing project management software and developing a comprehensive, interactive, public-facing GIS map

- ***Do Council Members want to affirm that these continue as priority items?***

Submitted Priorities: Change or Enhance

(Submitted items requiring a change or enhancement to current policies, programs, or budget)

1	Establish a Robust Road Maintenance Fund (Davis)
2	Homelessness Policy ramp up, to allow time for acclamation (Hudspeth)
3	Budget to the no new tax rate (Hudspeth)
4	Youth and Senior Citizen Programs - Technology instructional workshops (Johnson)
5	Domestic violence educational programs, support agencies and strong laws (Johnson)
6	Maximize the use of resources from our regional partners and strengthen our relationships with them (Ryan)
7	Authorize electric car traffic on city streets if registered (Hudspeth)
8	City Hall West (Davis, Ryan)
9	City Council limit lower boards and commissions (staff time) (Hudspeth)
10	Commercial/multifamily recycling (Meltzer)
11	Revise tree ordinance to preserve bigger % of trees on lots & preserve wider variety of trees (Armintor)
12	Waive permitting fees, tree survey fees, & impact fees for ALL forms of affordable housing (Armintor)
13	Establish a Well Funded Permanent Economic Development Fund (Davis)

**Items receiving support from 4 or more Council Members will be discussed for prioritization following the break*

Submitted Priorities: New

(Submitted items that would be new initiatives)

1	Remove zoning restrictions & density barriers prohibiting middle housing & residential infill (Armintor)
2	Bond election to fund permanent land trusts in communities at risk of displacement & gentrification (Armintor)
3	Create a Fair Housing mission statement & require FH training for Council & relevant depts & boards (Armintor)
4	Youth Sport Public Private partnership (Include Ice Rink) (Hudspeth)
5	Create a Food Desert & Food Access Solutions Plan for Denton to remove financial & other barriers (Armintor)
6	Buy hotel for temporary emergency housing & create a sanitary, safe, & legal campground w/amenities (Armintor)
7	Contract w/legal advocacy groups for tenants, immigrants, & people with disabilities (Armintor)
8	Hire Public Health Coordinator for the City, to advise Council, work w/County on city health matters (Armintor)
9	Preference in bids to contractors paying $15 adj minimum & hiring mostly locally for city jobs (Armintor)
10	Require that companies receiving new tax incentives pay AT LEAST $15 minimum & hire locally (Armintor)
11	Develop a Strategy for Undergrounding Overhead Lines in Major Corridors (Davis)
12	Performance venues (Meltzer)
13	Composting (Meltzer)
14	Rental standards strategy (Meltzer)

**Items receiving support from 4 or more Council Members will be discussed for prioritization following the break*

Break

- 20 minute break for staff to compile the items that received consensus from Council (support from 4 or more members) into a chart.
- Staff will distribute the list of those items to Council Members for discussion following the break.

Draft Council Priorities

- Implement Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Develop Loop 288 Building to Serve Individuals Experiencing Homelessness
- Undergo a Comprehensive Plan Update
- Develop a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Strategy
- Develop an Affordable Housing Strategy
- Respond to COVID-19
- Complete Mobility Plan
- Improve Capital Project Planning and Communication
- Develop plan including architectural design, RFP strategy, and funding options for City Hall West

Additional Items Receiving Direction For Work Plan for FY20/21 and FY21/22

Topic	Vehicle	Department
Road Maintenance Funding Strategies	Budget Presentation	Finance
Understand Loop 288 property and potential future phases	Work Session	Community Services
Target the No New Tax Rate (Operations and Maintenance)	Budget Planning	Finance
Provide technology training for residents (seniors/youth)	Informal Staff Report	Parks and Library
Education and Review of Domestic Violence response and resources	Informal Staff Report	Police
Additional electric vehicles on City streets	Work Session	Development Services, Police, Legal
One-minute pitch for boards and commissions	Resolution	City Manager's Office
Provide an update on the implementation of the Tree Ordinance	Work Session	Development Services
Fair Housing webinar/training for City Council	Work Session	City Manager's Office, Legal
Sports complex public/private partnership	Informal Staff Report	Parks and Economic Development
Electric line undergrounding strategy	Informal Staff Report	DME, Finance, Development Services
Study and strategy regarding performance venues	Work Session	Economic Development, Parks
Research on rental housing standards	Informal Staff Report	Community Services, Development Services

Council Direction

- Council affirmation that the items listed In Progress (slide 6) are Priorities
- Are there additional items requiring a Change or Enhancement (slide 7) or a New initiative (slide 8) that Council would like to have as a Priority?
- Resolution is scheduled to be considered on February 23:
  - Affirm current items In Progress
  - Includes expanded or new initiatives to be included in FY21-22 work plan and budget preparation

Other Items

- Should requests from Council Committees or Board and Commissions that require significant staff time be brought to City Council in the same or similar process to the Pending Council Requests adopted in Fall 2019?
  - The elected official giving a one-minute presentation about their request
  - Any request that will take over 2 hours of staff time, or is a policy or request for a work session discussion
  - The remaining elected officials have one minute each to respond and indicate support.
  - Staff responds to requests where a consensus of Council is established.
- Role of Council Committees
- Other items