



## MEMORANDUM

To: Tom Mattis, City Manager  
From: Amy Miller, Community Development Director  
Date: April 10, 2019  
RE: Community Development Department Report March 2019

Historic Review Board reviewed sign applications for the Healthy Spot 103 West First street and Rainey Real Estate 101 North Main Street. Both met the sign guidelines in the Historic District sign ordinance and were approved. Website redesign underway for all departments – new content, new photos, and an overall new look will debut in September 2019. The Design committee completed a Public Art Plan reflecting community input over the past 18 months. Working in April to review the plan with Main Street, Historic Review Board and Elgin Arts Association. The Historic preservation strategic plan committee completed the local resources assessment and drafted a survey to use with the plan. The Main Street Board finalized Local Lore, Elgin's History Adventure, in partnership with the Elgin Historical Association which is scheduled for April 13. MSB continues planning the Elgin Art Studio Tour and Ice-cream Stroll in partnership with the Elgin Arts Association, the Elgin Chamber of Commerce, Studio 621, Earthen Metals, The Clever Tiger and The Open Room. Continued work and organizing of entertainment and marketing for Sip Shop and Stroll with downtown businesses and the Elgin Chamber of Commerce. Attended the Main Street Now! Conference where Elgin was recognized as a Nationally Accredited Main Street City. Developing grant applications for the CDBG program and the Transportation Alternatives program.

### Projects

- Planning for Imagine the Possibilities Tours May 9 and May 16 to showcase property in the downtown historic district to investors, relators, and business owners.
- Completed and edited the spring edition of Downtown 78621 with Chamber.
- Community Cleanup Day rescheduled due to weather and planned one for April.
- Worked with volunteers to develop a new set of banners for Lee Dildy Boulevard.
- Held FM 1100 impacted property owner meetings.
- Completed lease agreement with CARTs on downtown transit stop and prepared for city council.
- Finalized plans for Local Lore Elgin's History Adventure.
- Marketing and promotion for Music series, Local Lore, Sip Shop & Stroll and Elgin Art Studio Tour.
- Working on Shared Use parking agreements.
- Review of the City website and plans for makeover in early 2019.
- Planned business training classes on social media for April and May.
- Walk and Bike to School March good participation
- Completed a CDBG Utility grant with the Utilities Department
- Completed a Transportation Alternatives and Safe routes to school grant.
- Met with potential buyers and realtors for properties downtown.

- Met with property owners about renovation plans and possible tenants.
- Met with business owners seeking lease space.
- Targeted effort to create new content for, reorganize, and update the Community Development sections of the website with new photos.
- City of Elgin E-News
- Social Media: Facebook - visitelgintx, Instagram – visitelgintx

### **Boards & Committees, Seminars**

CAMPO TAC , Advisory Committee

Capital Area Rural Transit Planning Organization CARTPO

Main Street Board

Historic Review Board

Promotion Tourism Committee

Design Committee

Business Retention Recruitment Committee

District Advisory Committee EISD

School Health Advisory Committee

Clean Air Coalition Advisory Committee meeting

Regional Arterials Steering committee for CAMPO

### **Upcoming Events**

Sip Shop & Stroll April 11

Community Clean-up Day

Fridays in April -Music in the Park

April 13<sup>th</sup>- Local Lore, Elgin's History Adventure

April 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Pearls of Youth Art Show

April 18 – 20 Hip Hop Shop, Easter Egg hunt for teens to adults downtown

April 20<sup>th</sup>- Community Easter Egg Hunt

May 9 Sip Shop & Stroll with the Imagine the Possibilities Tour

May 13 Main Street Program – What is Main Street? 5:30pm Library

May 16 Imagine the Possibilities Tour and Luncheon rsvp required

May 18 -19 Elgin Art Studio Tour

May 19 Ice-cream Stroll with the Elgin Art Studio Tour

### **Elgin Main Street Program**

**VISION STATEMENT:** We envision a revitalized and active historic downtown destination with warm hearted friendly people and vital businesses, where ethnic and cultural diversity are celebrated.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** We will enhance downtown vibrancy through historic preservation and mixed use and pedestrian friendly development, by strategically implementing the National Main Street Four Point Approach of: Design, Organization, Promotion and Economic Restructuring

**CORE VALUES** (if you have done this): Through a strong belief that historic preservation of our irreplaceable cultural resources in the historic downtown district is vital to the revitalization and economic success of our community, we are committed to supporting responsible repurposing of historic structures and new construction that supports mixed use development through partnerships and a persistent effort to support community focused development and promotions.