MainStreet and City Kick Off Levitt AMP Concert Planning

On Monday, February 23, City Administration met with MainStreet Truth or Consequences at Ralph Edwards Park to review layout plans for this fall's upcoming Levitt AMP Music Concert Series. The group discussed several key components of the event, including ADA accessibility, parking flow, shuttle routes, food truck and vendor placement, and sound considerations. Even the angle of the sun throughout the day was evaluated to help determine the most comfortable and practical orientation for the audience and stage. With a stage location now selected, planners have just a few months to refine the details before the music begins. Stay tuned—more updates will be shared by MainStreet!

Fire Hydrant Placement Reviewed by Chief Tooley

Engineers from Wilson & Company recently met with Fire Chief Paul Tooley to present the Critical Waterlines and WSPI-2 project plan as it relates to proposed fire hydrant placements throughout the improvement area. The Critical Waterlines project focuses on replacing aging waterlines in the "metal streets" neighborhood, and WSPI-2 focuses on Veater Street and East Riverside. As part of the redesign, several hydrants are being relocated to ensure consistent coverage, eliminate gaps, and address areas currently near "dead-end" lines.

Many of the existing waterlines in this area are only 4 inches in diameter, which greatly limits flow and reduces the gallons per minute (GPM) available to hydrants. Because effective fire suppression depends on both volume and pressure, a 4-inch line often cannot deliver the 1,000–1,500 GPM typically preferred in urban settings. Upgrading to 6-inch lines substantially increases capacity, since water volume rises sharply with even small increases in pipe diameter, giving firefighters far more usable water during an emergency.

Chief Tooley emphasized that installing new lines and hydrants throughout the neighborhood "makes all the difference in the world" during fire response, and he requested an additional hydrant at Platinum and South Broadway. Most hydrants in the project area are in poor condition and will be fully replaced; although the team considered reconditioning them, their state and the associated costs make replacement the more practical choice. As an example of progress already underway, a 10-inch line was recently installed along 9th Street in front of the Truth or Consequences Fire Station through the Shovel-Ready project, providing a reliable high-flow source when seconds matter most.

Foch Street to Remain a Two-Way Street

Foch Street will continue to operate as a two-way street. While some concerns have been raised about the curb extension that juts into the roadway, administration has confirmed that the design maintains 21 feet from curb to curb, well within required standards for safe two-way traffic. The curb feature is intentional, as it helps slow vehicles during turns and supports safer maneuvering near the diagonal parking spaces. This design balances traffic flow with pedestrian safety and parking needs in the area.