CITY CONNECT

Municipal Airport Planning Takes Flight

City administration recently met with Delta Airport Consultants, Inc., the City's airport engineering firm, for an "Airport Strategic Planning" presentation outlining potential updates and long-term projections for the municipal airport. A major focus was the need for a new business plan—the last one was completed in 2015—which includes revisiting the previous SWOT analysis, a planning tool that reviews Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats to guide future decisions. This process supports the airport's goal of serving as a welcoming gateway for travelers while positioning the facility for increased tourism and economic development. Discussions also touched on possible reconfigurations and additions to better serve the public. Stay tuned, there are exciting changes on the horizon as this project prepares for takeoff.

Cantrell Dam Construction Administration Services Approved

At the February 25th Commission meeting, Commissioners approved the engineering, construction administration, and oversight services for the Cantrell Dam Breach and Flood Control Improvements Project. According to the letter submitted to the City, Wilson & Company will provide comprehensive support throughout the 16-month construction period, followed by an additional month for final completion. Their responsibilities include project start-up, bidding administration, full-time field observation, project management, construction engineering support, and final project closeout. The firm emphasized that its approach is designed to protect the City's interests, ensure compliance with state and federal funding requirements, and maintain high-quality standards throughout the project.

Strengthening Accuracy in This Year's Budget Process

City staff are wrapping up their preliminary budget work this week, marking the first year they are entering proposed figures directly into Tyler, the City's financial software. This new approach reduces the risk of errors that can occur when manually transferring spreadsheet data and allows staff to attach detailed memos to each submission for clearer documentation. To prepare for the transition, staff participated in a February training led by the software provider, ensuring everyone was confident in the process and able to address questions in advance.

Foch Street Updates for Week of March 9th

Crews began pouring new sidewalks on both sides of Foch near the Broadway end of the project on Tuesday, 3/10. Concrete footings for light poles were also completed, and several poles were relocated as part of the work. We've seen a continued decrease in unauthorized pedestrian activity in the construction zone. YAY. Thank you to the business owners who helped remind customers to use the marked walk paths to keep everyone safe.