

City of Chandler's Major Accomplishments - 2017

PREPARING FOR OUR FUTURE

-) Ordinance amendments completed addressing accessory structures, signs, and litter.
-) Right-of-way for Sawmill North to Susie Street was dedicated by the developer.
-) Issued building permits for 21 new residential homes in the 2017 calendar year. The value of the residential permits was \$4,587,803 with a sq. footage of 53,880.
-) Issued three building permits for new commercial buildings for a value of \$1,075,000 and sq. footage of 12,129. These included the Neches apartments on 4th Street, Spartan Utilities Office Building on Hwy 31 West and American Tower cell tower on Cherry Street.
-) Total of four new residential lots created for future residential development and three new commercial lots were created for future commercial development.
-) Processed four zoning changes, five subdivision plats and two replats.
-) The Library received a land gift to facilitate a planned future expansion of the Library.
-) Historic Society set plans in motion to move the old train depot to McCain Park in 2018.
-) The Chandler Chamber of Commerce moved their office to the Museum and Visitors Center.
-) The Chandler Cemetery Association completed a \$120,000 expansion project at Chandler Memorial Cemetery.

ENHANCING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

-) The Chandler Library celebrated 20 years at the current location. The library provided children's story-time activities to 800+ children and circulated 16,000 items to the community.
-) The Chandler Museum and Visitor Center recorded 1200 visitors this year from as far away as Guatemala and Canada. The new Fall Fest was a popular event for visitors as well as the first Art Show and the garden event with Chandler Elementary Head Start. The museum sponsored city-wide events commemorating the 100th anniversary of World War I. Worked with BISD to reroute child pick up and drop off traffic at Chandler Elementary.
-) Water Smart Demonstration Garden completed on Hwy 31 West at Main Street, cost of which was 100% funded through the Texas Department of Agriculture. In addition a native plant flowerbed was added to McCain Park.
-) Installed two wayfinding signs on Hwy 31.
-) Irrigation added to the new soccer fields at Winchester Park
-) Chandler Sports Association and the EDC purchased a new drag machine referred to as a Super Rake.
-) Six picnic shelters and nine tables rehabilitated at River Park and McCain Park.
-) Baseball Field #5 was reworked to provide a safer playing surface.
-) Kid Fish Day and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Winter Rainbow Trout program at Winchester Pond.
-) "Summer Movies in the Park" program held at the Grand Pavilion in Winchester Park.
-) Annual Pow Wow, 4th of July, Circus and Christmas in the Park held at Winchester Park.
-) Chandler Sports Association (CSA) completed its second year of operations.

-) Shade covers were added to the Field #5 bleachers and to the playground at Winchester Park. Funded by 50% State grant.
-) Fit City Chandler, part of CSA, reestablished its yoga classes for adults at the Community Center.
-) Library again accredited by the Texas Library System.
-) Received over \$40,000 in Library grants, gifts and land donations for improvements and programming.

PROVIDING FOR OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

-) Tax Increment Finance District Board approved the TIF funding of Sawmill Road North to Susie.
-) Chandler's first bond rating process resulting in a rating of "A+ Stable" by S&P Global.
-) Eleven Independent Baseball & Softball Tournaments and District Baseball Tournaments held bringing 82 out-of-town teams to Chandler.
-) Economic Development Corporation created a new grant program for improvements to existing Chandler businesses (Business Improvement Grant)
-) Christus Mother Francis closed on adjoining land for future new clinic.
-) Economic Development Corporation commissioned new brochure promoting Chandler as a "Daytrip" destination.
-) Texas Water Development Board approved a low interest loan for improvements to Water Well #4.
-) EDC spent \$25,000 to support the development of a new commercial development and \$25,000 to support the expansion of one existing business.
-) Two-acre hotel site controlled by the Chandler Economic Development Corporation was transferred to the Hotel Developer.
-) Ultimate Fitness and Tan remodeled the old Family Dollar store on west Hwy 31.
-) Lake Palestine Gateway RV Park opened for business on the Neches River.
-) Chandler River Oaks Centre was zoned and platted for a mix of retail, office and residential uses.
-) Generation Salon, Stillwater Farm Dairy Store, Ultimate Fitness and Tan, East Texas Screen Printing, and the United Methodist Family Life Center, opened in 2017.
-) 2017 annual sales tax increased 9.5% from 2016.
-) 54 room Best Western Plus Hotel received building permit in December and expects construction to start in January 2018.
-) Acquired a "Retail Market Summary" for Chandler through the East Texas Council of Governments.
-) Chandler received a merit award for its Outstanding Achievement in Community Economic Development for its work on the Hotel and the TIF funding of Sawmill Road.

ENSURING OUR SUSTAINABILITY

-) Completed implementation of the electronically read water meters for more accuracy and accountability.
-) The acquired Certificate of Obligation Bonds to build Sawmill South Street and a portion of Old Tyler Road.
-) Public Address system installed at Winchester Park.
-) Failing retaining wall behind City Hall was replaced with concrete block wall and drainage improvements.
-) Sewer Lift station constructed at new RV Park that will also serve a future restroom at River Park.
-) TXDOT resurfaced Hwy 31.

-) Phase II of storm drain improvements on Walnut and Charmwood Streets completed.
-) Settlement received on failed 2014 water well. New site acquired and new water well bid for construction in 2018.
-) Street base failure repairs completed on Martin and Edgar St.
-) Cell tower at Cherry and Fourth Street was replaced with safer tower.
-) Old water tower at Cherry and Fourth Street was demolished.
-) Three substandard residential structures were removed.
-) Acquired two new Police Patrol Units to retire older ones (police truck transferred to Animal Control).
-) Increased water rates to help cover the costs of planned improvements to water well #4 and a portion of the salary of the new Finance Director position.
-) Entered into new contract with our sanitation vendor Sanitation Solutions.
-) Chandler's recycle program expanded to include a 24/7 convenience collection station at the rear of Winchester Park off of Martin Street. In addition, plastic bottle recycle collection bins were placed around Winchester Park.
-) Overlaid a section of 4th Street.
-) Intersection of Parker and Hwy. 31 was widened.
-) Installed new street signs throughout the city.
-) Water Conservation Plan adopted.

ENSURING QUALITY CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNANCE

-) Police Department began reporting into the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) through the Texas Department of Public Safety.
-) Changed email system from Google to Microsoft Outlook.
-) New Finance Director position created and filled with Stephen Barnes.
-) City Secretary retired and new City Secretary, Ronda Cockerham was hired.
-) Police Chief retired and new Police Chief, Kalon Rollins was hired.
-) Implemented new citizen response system, Chandler Connect, for residents be able to use their smart phone or computer to report city work requests or code complaints.
-) The City web site www.chandlertx.com has had a 30% increase in traffic from 2016.
-) Interlocal agreement was entered into with Henderson County for animal services and road improvements.
-) Developed standard timesheets for use by all hourly city staff and changed the pay schedule to be more efficient.