City of Fort Stockton

Comprehensive Summary

Spring 2023

Outline

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Introduction & Summary

Mission of the City of Fort Stockton

The mission of the City of Fort Stockton Municipal Government is to promote and value public confidence and trust through the accordance and responsible use of community resources to ensure public safety, improve public service, promote local recreational and entertainment activities and generate economic development.

Summary

Through a series of meetings held with citizens of the City of Fort Stockton in 2022, several objectives were identified, including creating and retaining a workforce, attracting visitors to grow the tourism industry, growing and promoting community assets, and planning and developing infrastructure. These objectives are heavily considered as city leadership outlines new management strategies.

Training and recruitment programs for the workforce are in place through collaborative efforts with Midland College's WRTTC and the Texas Workforce Commission. There will be an increase in the need for technology-based jobs as the Fort Stockton economy becomes more diversified, along with the training and education required in the commercial transportation and healthcare industries, which are both growing steadily in the area.

Efforts to grow the tourism industry are starting with a signage program to direct visitors to Fort Stockton to historical sites while integrating new shopping areas and attractions. With increased traffic in these areas, the city will work with the Convention and Tourism Board and the Fort Stockton Economic Development Corporation to retain visitors for longer stays within the city.

The city has worked on updating, expanding, and maintaining city parks and other community assets in the past eight years. City management truly believes that quality of life for all citizens is of the utmost importance and continues efforts to create places and events for citizens to participate in or attend with family and friends.

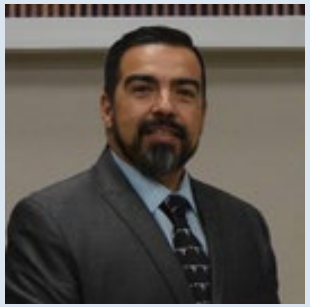
City management has identified many areas for improvement in the current city infrastructure. Over the past ten years, the city has achieved many milestones to improve infrastructure and rectify identified issues, including the replacement of miles of outdated water lines, updating the city drinking water RO plant, replacing all cast iron gas lines within the city, updating the city wastewater treatment plant, implementing a consistent annual street paving plan, opening a new city landfill, updating and expanding the recycling center, and developing a fire hydrant replacement and preventative maintenance program.

Examples of these efforts will be outlined and explained in this summary. For a copy of the full assessment report, please see Appendix A.

City Council & Management

Fort Stockton City Council

Kenneth “Ken” Ripley
City Council Place 1



Ruben Falcon
City Council Place 2

Ruben J. Bernal
City Council Place 3

James Warnock
Mayor Pro Tem

Darren Hodges
City Council Place 5

Paul Casias
Mayor

Meet our team

Frank Rodriguez III
City Manager

Armando Trevino
Assistant City Manager

Maria Rodriguez
Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer

Marina Cantu
City Secretary

City Hall Operations

Public Utility Payments

Above and beyond best describes this department of Fort Stockton City Hall. Within the past two years, the Public Utilities Department has converted all water meters to an AMI system so they can be read effectively and efficiently to streamline this process. This department handles all aspects of public utilities, starting with the quotes for the installation of new services and the setup of new utility accounts for all monthly billing and operations once a new account is set up. This department is also the front line of city hall, answering all calls and assisting customers in the lobby, from the simple monthly payment to logging some of the most complicated complaints. Offering five convenient payment methods, this department strives to make the growth of Fort Stockton as streamlined as possible for new residential and commercial clients.

121 W. Second
Fort Stockton TX, 79735
(432) 336-8525 Ext. 106

Viri Salgado
Utility Administrator

Convenient Payment Options

1.	Auto Draft Payments	432-336-8525
2.	Online Payments	cityoffortstockton.com
3.	Pay by Phone	833-277-0393
4.	City Hall Drive-Thru	121 W. Second
5.	Payment Kiosk	1710 N. Front

City Secretary

121 W. 2nd
Fort Stockton TX, 79735
432-336-8525 Ext 115

Marina Cantu
City Secretary

In efforts to enhance the City of Fort Stockton, the City Secretary's Office has achieved one of the city's largest milestones ever by organizing an election to consider a Home Rule Charter that was voted on and passed in the November 8, 2022, Special Election.

Through passing this charter, the city will have more control over the future development of zones and ordinances that affect its growth. The City Secretary's office oversees all planning and zoning for the city and is currently undertaking a project to digitize the city zoning map to ease the process for future development.

As an oversight to the Keep Historic Fort Stockton Beautiful Board (KHFSB), the City Secretary's Office organizes the city-wide trash off as well as other beautification projects, like the Rio Street walking path and the adopt an island program. Through these efforts, the KHFSB Board enhances each visitor's experience in the city while creating a quality of life for local citizens.

- Records Management Officer
- Public Information Officer
- Public Notices
- City Elections
- Planning & Zoning
- City Council Agendas, Packets & Minutes
- TABC Permit Request
- Litigation Notifications
- Request for Bids, Proposals & Qualifications
- City Ordinances
- City Resolutions & Proclomations
- Census Tracking
- Annexations
- Board & Commissions Recruitment & Training
- Carnival Permits
- Wrecker / Tow Truck Permits

Code & Building Official

121 W. 2nd
Fort Stockton TX, 79735
432-336-8525 Ext 115

The Fort Stockton Code Department is an integral part of assisting the development of the city through permitting and continued monitoring of the conditions of current residential and commercial properties. Working with developers on existing building remodels and new construction, the Building Department is the eyes of the city for all developments.

Beyond the day-to-day operations, the Code Department works diligently to assist with the clean-up and revitalization of East Dickinson and other older areas of town while working to maintain a standard throughout the remainder of the city, leading trash cleanup efforts, and directing the Sub-Standard Building Committee that is made up of citizens and city employees. This department also works with the city secretary's office on rezoning and annexations of property to the city. Food safety and restaurant standards are critical parts of the department's role, with regular inspections of school cafeterias and restaurants.

The department is also tasked with the Emergency Preparedness Plan for the city to assist with any bad weather, consisting of warnings for natural disasters and being prepared to open shelters for travelers during winter storms.

The continued safety of citizens and tourists while facilitating the growth of the City of Fort Stockton is the goal of the Code and Building Department.

Sign Up

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- Tornados
- Fires
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- Criminal Activity
- Any other emergencies in your area

6 Ways to Sign up:

1. Scan QR Code:
2. Go to: https://co.pecos.tx.us/
3. Go to: https://cityoffortstockton.com/
4. Go to: http://hyper-reach.com/txpecossighnup.html
5. Call English or Spanish: 432-278-1066
6. Text "alerts" to 432-278-1066

Create an account and sign up all of your family members to receive this alert on their phones and then download the Hyper-Reach anywhere app on you smartphone.

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A Hyper-Reach message will have a caller ID of Pecos Co Alberts 432-231-0850.

Public Works Department

Fort Stockton Public Works Department

601 W. Railroad Ave.

Fort Stockton TX, 79735

432-336-3092 Ext 303

The Public Works Department oversees all the city's infrastructure, parks, and field operations. In efforts to encourage tourism and development in the city, the public works department is dedicated to developing and maintaining an advanced infrastructure to meet the needs of growth and development. Over the past 5 years, the public works department has improved the street paving plan and process, improved parking on city streets, updated all gas lines to standard, expanded and replaced older infrastructure, developed a fire hydrant monitoring system, assisted in controlling truck traffic, rehabilitated city parks, developed a new land fill, and facilitated city beautification efforts from trash clean-up to street decorations.

As the center of the city's field operations, the public works department works daily to maintain a high standard of quality to keep our city clean and inviting to tourists while also planning and developing an infrastructure plan to facilitate the growth of the city. As one of the largest departments in the city, the Public Works Department continues to develop its employees for internal promotion while also recruiting new employees to accommodate the growth of the city.

Luis Guerra
Director of Public Works

Efrain Acosta
Assistant Director of Public Works

Reverse Osmosis Plant & Water System

Interesting RO Plant Facts

- 1,180,000,000 gallons in 2022
- 5,500,00 in reserve water
- Daily Water Samples and Quality Test

RO Plant

The City of Fort Stockton RO plant has two locations with the objective of improving potable water quality for city residents and tourists. The plant uses a reverse osmosis filtration process and other processes within the plant to ionize or dissolve salt, magnesium ions, calcium, carbonate ions, and other impurities to generate highly purified drinking water. A computerized monitoring system constantly monitors the plants operation, along with TECQ class C licensed operators. The primary plant is located on the hill west of the city, with the secondary plant located at the city yard. Using both plants, multiple water wells, generator backups, and constant monitoring, the citizens and tourists of Fort Stockton are provided with consistent- quality water throughout the city.

Water System

The city's RO plant is now supplied by a new 9.5-mile of 30-inch water main from the Belding well field. This line was installed in 2017 to ensure the citizens, tourists, and growth of Fort Stockton would have consistent water. The city's infrastructure has undergone several updates of old lines, extensions of current lines, and a preventative maintenance plan on hydrants to prepare the city for new development throughout the city limits and ETJ of the city. Through the installation of new AMI meter reading technology, the city is able to record accurate meter readings as well as detect leaks and other anomalies in the system to better serve all customers.

Solid Waste & Recycling Center

The City of Fort Stockton projects to open a new 60-acre landfill by the end of 2023 to better serve the growth of Fort Stockton and surrounding areas. Operation of the current landfill has been streamlined with a new Caterpillar compactor, as well as ensuring the daily sanitation service is achieved with the annual replacement of at least one sanitation truck.

Commercial and residential sanitation services are completed with roll-off dumpsters, side-load dumpsters, cardboard-only dumpsters, and 96-gallon rolling dumpsters. By providing all these types of containers, the Sanitation Department can accommodate new developments, commercial or residential, with a variety of service options.

Fort Stockton Recycling Center
604 N Valentine
Fort Stockton TX, 79735

The Fort Stockton Recycle Center is operated by the Fort Stockton Solid Waste Department. They accept:

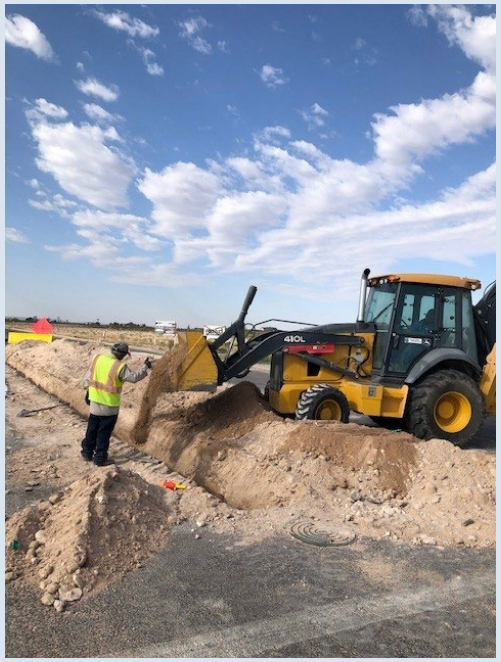
1. Shredded Paper
2. Newspaper
3. Magazines
4. Plastic
5. Aluminum Cans
6. Cardboard
7. Paper Sacks
8. Paper

Wastewater & Gas Department

Wastewater

The City of Fort Stockton works continuously on preventative maintenance to ensure the operation of wastewater treatment is not disrupted for the citizens. Replacements of aeration equipment, paddle wheels, wastewater clarifiers and pond control panels are scheduled to ensure that they are completed within the city budget.

The city has replaced old wastewater lines prior to repaving city streets and has plans to complete several other replacement projects within the next 24 months. The current plan has room for expansion and can handle the forecasted expansion of the city's infrastructure.



Gas Department

In compliance with the Texas Railroad Commission, the City of Fort Stockton completed the replacement of all cast iron gas lines in 2022, as well as the replacement of almost a mile of pipe over the Valero Crossing to update the line within Railroad Commission standards.

The city's gas supply is sufficient to accommodate any new growth, and the well-balanced system provides an affordable fuel source for the operation of new businesses or housing developments.

City Streets Department

City streets are the network that connects citizens and tourists to the historical and commercial areas of Fort Stockton. The City of Fort Stockton Street Department has a new paving plan in place, and in 2022, they will have paved over 12 miles of city streets while maintaining hundreds more with pothole repairs and seal coating to prolong the life of the current paving.

A new oil distributor, asphalt zipper, backhoes, and a well-maintained spreader are staged for the next paving season, which will continue the efforts to improve the current city streets and expand into new areas.

The city streets department is also working to assist the flow of traffic with improvements to on-street parking near schools and churches as well as the downtown business district. Working with the city police department, the Streets Department has installed speed bumps to control the speed of traffic in areas that have seen an increase in pedestrian traffic to ensure the safety of all.

City Parks

Parks in the City

Lannom Park
701 N. Texas

Jaycees Park
1600 W. 2nd

Teresa Mason Park
1301 N. Park

In an effort to improve the quality of life for citizens, the City of Fort Stockton maintains and is constantly updating outdoor facilities to promote wellness and activities for kids.

Silliman Park Renovation

Silliman Park, located at the intersection of Railroad Avenue and Highway 385 South, was renovated in 2019. Updates to the irrigation system and park pavilions were completed with the addition of dog park equipment with separate areas for small and large dogs, as well as a new play area designed for kids ages 3-5. The park also has a T-ball practice area and an open grass area for all activities.

Gene Cummings Park Renovation

The city continues to work with Fort Stockton EDC on a community development project to enhance Gene Cummings Park. Completed portions of the park include the installation of two new play areas, a splash pad, a basketball pavilion, sand volleyball courts, cement walking paths, and renovations to the park bathrooms. Future plans include a water reuse system that will utilize the spray park runoff for irrigation in efforts to conserve water and eliminate wastewater in the city system.

Fort Stockton Housing Authority

Fort Stockton Housing Authority

121 W. 2nd
Fort Stockton TX, 79735
432-336-8525 Ext 114

FSHA receives its funding from the Housing Choice Voucher program and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The agency is not a federal department or agency. An agency is a governmental or public body created and authorized by state law to develop and operate housing and housing programs for low-income families. FSHA must ensure compliance with federal laws, regulations, and notices and must establish policies and procedures to ensure compliance.

The Section 8 tenant-based Housing Choice Voucher assistance program is funded by the federal government and administered by the City of Fort Stockton for the sole jurisdiction of Fort Stockton. FSHA has five board members. Board members are appointed in accordance with state housing laws. The board of directors establishes policies under which FSHA conducts business. The board is responsible for preserving and expanding the agency's resources and ensuring the agency's continued viability.

The primary staff member of the agency is the executive director. The executive director is directly responsible for carrying out the policies established by the board. In addition to the operation of the Housing Choice Voucher Program, FSHA addresses policies for the Homeownership Program.

MISSION:

The PHA's mission is to provide safe, decent, and sanitary housing conditions for every low-income family and to manage resources efficiently. The PHA is to promote personal, economic, and social upward mobility to provide families the opportunity to make the transition from subsidized to non-subsidized.

PROJECTS COMPLETED:

The Fort Stockton Housing Authority Board adopted its new administrative plan in February 2022. The previous administrative plan had not been updated since 2011.

During COVID, FSHA was granted CARES ACT funds. FSHA provided tenants with cleaning supplies with the funds. FSHA carried out two events to give out supplies. FSHA continues to give out supplies to new tenants and current tenants when families renew.

PROJECTS PLANNED:

Increase the program's utilization. Partnership with other organizations when the opportunity arises to bring educational resources to families.

MILESTONES REACHED:

FSHA received a 100% grade on SEMAP certification. SEMAP certification is HUD's tool to grade the performance of each Public Housing Authority (PHA). FSHA is currently labeled a "high performer".

FSHA partnered with Excess Telecom and the FCC to provide the underserved population with a tablet with free one-year connectivity.

FSHA accepted an invitation from the Social Security Administration to serve as a third-party office to assist the vulnerable population in filing for SSA benefits.

LONG-TERM GOALS:

- Eco-friendly office, go paperless.
- Recruit new landlords and retain existing ones.
- Add staff to the department.
- Maximize utilization.

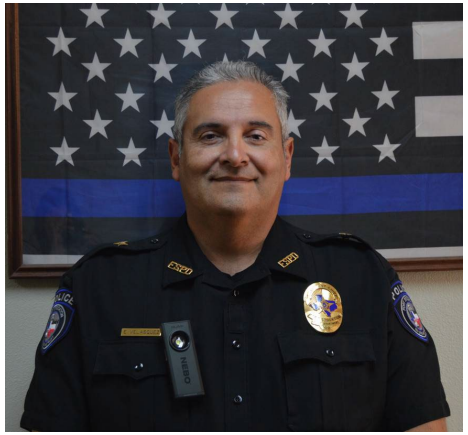
Fort Stockton Police Department

Fort Stockton Police Department

1701 N. Front

Fort Stockton TX, 79735

432-336-4600



Chief
Ernesto Velasquez

MISSION STATEMENT:
The mission statement of the Fort Stockton Police Department is to provide a high-quality standard of service to the community with integrity and professionalism. Our duties will be performed in a manner to ensure the safety of all citizens, to safeguard the rights and individual liberties, and to safeguard the human dignity of all those with whom we come into contact.
We will deter crime through a proactive, community-oriented approach, identifying problems that provide opportunities for criminal action. We will respond quickly to problems in a cohesive effort with citizens to solve their problems.
Our efforts will work with other organizations in the community to enlighten citizens toward public safety and enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
Finally, our mission requires that we give attention to activities that affect citizens' sense of safety and quality of life. To this end, we will maintain order and help facilitate the safe movement of people and traffic through the city. Personnel and resources will be dedicated and committed to a community-oriented problem-solving approach to policing with integrity and professionalism.

Municipal Court

Fort Stockton Municipal Court

116 W 2nd Street

Fort Stockton TX, 79735

432-336-8525 Ext 113

Judge Maribel Perkins

Clerk Marisa Martinez

The City of Fort Stockton Municipal Court held a few classroom demonstrations at our local elementary schools. Judge Maribel Perkins and her Court Clerk Marisa Martinez visited Apache Elementary and Alamo Elementary, grades Pre-K–3, throughout the week of Municipal Court Week. We were assisted by our school resource officers, EMS, the sheriff's office, TXDOT, and our local Walmart. The children were educated on booster seat requirements, school bus safety, seat belt safety, crosswalk/parking lot safety, and distracted drivers. Every student that participated was able to place their name in a drawing where one student from every grade had a chance to win a booster. All this was made possible through the generous donation of our Fort Stockton Walmart, which donated five booster seats. The seatbelt demonstrator was courtesy of our district TXDOT office out of Midland/Odessa.

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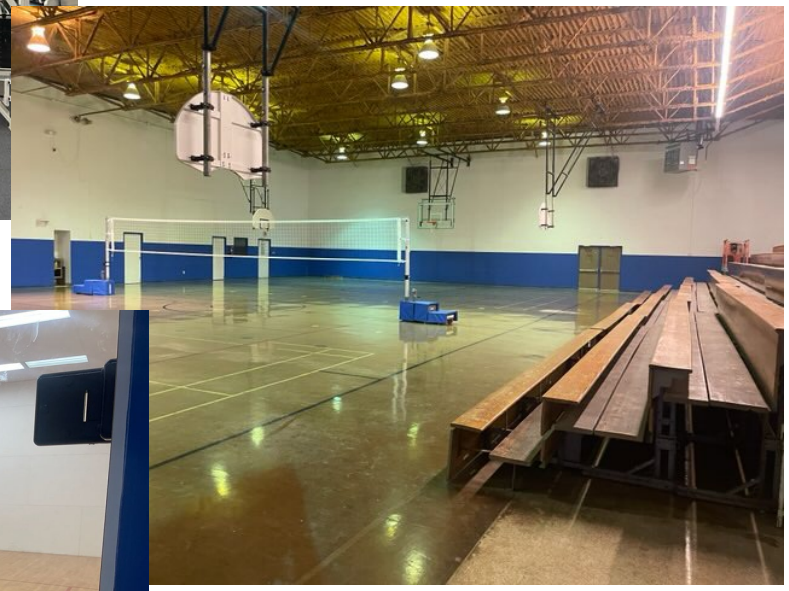
We also held a free car seat inspection clinic at the Chamber of Commerce parking lot to help promote proper installation and education on proper seat requirements based on the height and weight of the child.
We also participated in the Toys for Tots program this year, offering defendants a discount on their citation fine with every new toy brought in. We were able to collect quite a few and were excited to have participated in this event.

We intend to continue working alongside TXDOT, our schools, and the community to promote child seat safety as well as driving safety awareness.

Recreational Department

Fort Stockton Recreation Department

121 W Sherer
Fort Stockton TX, 79735



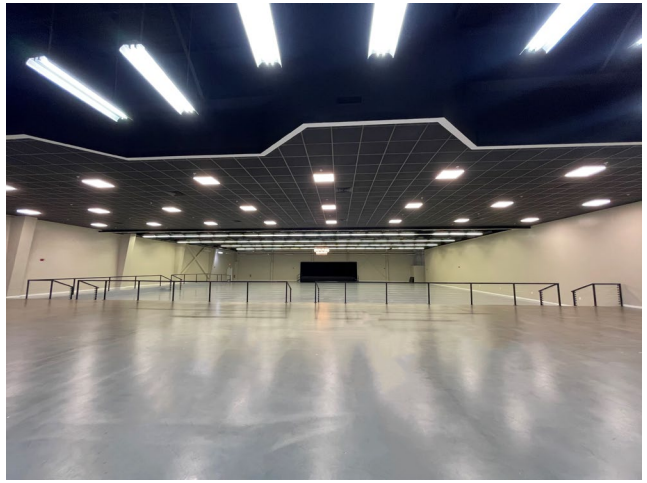
The Recreation Department primarily focuses on youth sports for our citizens and regional communities within the county. With over 500 kids participating in the program throughout the year. The fall season consists of volleyball, soccer, and football, followed by basketball in the winter and basketball in the spring. Youth sports are a large tourism draw for Fort Stockton. The annual Pop Warner Tournament, which has been an ongoing event for the past 17 years, brings in multiple teams from around the area to participate in a two-day football tournament. The Little League District 37 baseball tournament hosts chartered Little League teams, with the district tournament being the first stop on the road to the well-known Little League World Series. The Fort Stockton baseball program has been apart of Little League International since 2003 and recently chartered the Fort Stockton softball program with Little League International Softball in 2022. Chartering with Little League International gives the participants many opportunities not only to compete against other towns and states but also to learn life lessons that build strong individuals.

As participation in the programs continues to grow, the economic benefits of equipment needed, dining out after game nights, and regional communities making trips to Fort Stockton for weekly games have already had an impact on local restaurants and merchants.

Despite its basis as an improvement to the quality of life for citizens, this department is a major contributor to the tourism industry and economic growth of Fort Stockton. Through an inter-governmental board, this department continues to improve Fort Stockton facilities and events that attract more participants.

Fort Stockton Convention Center

This new Convention Center represents the innovative future of meetings and events in Fort Stockton. Whether you are looking to book our venue for a company training, trade show, expo, sporting event, banquet, wedding, or quinceanera. Our flexible space easily accommodates groups from 10 to 750. We strive to provide you with a memorable experience every time.”



Rental Rates

	Room	Weekday	Weekend	Daily	Deposit	Total
	Meeting Room (2,240 sf)	$500	$600		$500 Weekday / $600 Weekend	
	Main Hall (13,632 sf)			$1,000	$1,000	
	Kitchen (299 sf)	$250			$250	
	Patio	$150			$150	
	Entire Facility			$2,500	$1,000	
	Holiday			$200		
	Parking Lot			$200		
	Total Room Rental					

Convention & Visitors Bureau

The City of Fort Stockton, through the Fort Stockton Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), promotes and manages tourism in Fort Stockton. Funding comes from locally imposed hotel and motel taxes. The CVB is responsible for marketing Fort Stockton as a tourist destination via all forms of media, including electronic and print advertising, billboards, and brochure publication. The CVB manages and operates city-owned properties, including the Historic Fort, the Grey Mule Saloon, and the Fort Stockton Visitor Center and Grounds. To better manage the city's tourism assets, the CVB contracts with the Fort Stockton Chamber of Commerce and the Fort Stockton Historical Society to operate the Visitor Center and its historic sites. Cooperative efforts between the CVB, Pecos County, the Fort Stockton Historical Society, the Fort Stockton Chamber of Commerce, local hotel and motel management, and local businesses allow for a cohesive and pleasant experience for all the community's visitors. The CVB also funds special events and conventions such as the Water Carnival, Historic Fort Days, athletic events, and educational conventions. And hosts free, open to the public events such as the 4th of July Celebration, the Cinco de Mayo Celebration, and the Fall Festival. Multiple sites are available in Fort Stockton for meetings and conventions, including the newly remodeled Fort Stockton Convention Center, and the CVB assists with all aspects to ensure a successful event.

Fort Stockton Economic Development Corporation

FORT STOCKTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1000 Railroad Avenue
Fort Stockton TX, 79735
Phone 432-336-2264
Fax 432-336-6114

Fort Stockton EDC operates both a Type A and Type B Development Corporation. Through the collection of one-half percent sales tax, the corporations fund commercial projects consisting of infrastructure, business development, business attraction and retention, as well as community development projects in city parks and community buildings. Fort Stockton EDC also does workforce training in collaboration with Midland College's WRTTC. The goal of Fort Stockton EDC is to create a stable and diversified economy that Fort Stockton businesses can flourish in.

Highway 285 North Expansion

In an effort to further diversify the economy within the City of Fort Stockton, the EDC worked with city officials to attract the development of a new data center, creating several new long-term jobs. Following the completion and annexation of the Lancium project, Fort Stockton EDC is completing a wastewater line that will extend along two highway 285 frontage properties. These properties are in a highly visible and easily accessible area of new development within Fort Stockton. Other commercial lots and buildings are available within the city and are awaiting new tenants and development. Inquiries can be submitted by calling or emailing the EDC office today.

Lots highlighted below are available for development and are ideal for a wide range of products, from multi-family to commercial buildings and yards.

Lancium installed a state-of-the-art immersion data center less than a half mile north of Fort Stockton and completed the annexation process in 2023.

Downtown Fort Stockton

Fort Stockton EDC has promoted the development of downtown Fort Stockton with assistance programs to open several new businesses ranging from retail to live entertainment and nightlife. The historic district around Main Street offers a unique blend of historical buildings and community parks, all within walking distance of the main business area.

Continued efforts to promote the current businesses in the area, along with the attraction of new businesses that complement the area, are an ongoing project of the EDC.

RETAIL

COMMUNITY THEATER

NIGHTLIFE

East Dickinson Revitalization

Mi Casita Mexican Food Restaurant completed the Fort Stockton EDC Storefront Improvement Program with an update of the exterior of the property while adding outdoor dining as part of the East Dickinson Revitalization project.

Fort Stockton EDC is located in the historic rail depot that also serves as the center of the Fort Stockton Visitors Center. This property is the first property east of Main Street on Dickinson.

The new Cowboy Liquor Store is located on East Dickinson on a property that Fort Stockton EDC acquired and demolished the structure to clear the way for new development.

East Dickinson is also known as the area east of Main Street on Business IH-10. As an older part of town, Fort Stockton EDC has worked with local business owners to rehabilitate buildings and construct new buildings, including a new 38-unit multi-family apartment complex and some additional properties cleared for new development. Older styles motels located on the east side have been renovated and are a great asset to workforce housing as well as any tourist that prefers the drive-up style motor inns of the past.

END of REPORT