

**Vision 2020 Infrastructure Meeting Notes
August 17, 2010**

The Infrastructure Committee of Vision 2020 met on August 17, 2010, at 8:00 a.m. at the Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce. Present were Susie Cardwell, David Collmorgen, Julie Evans, James Flournoy, Richard Joseph, Bruce Milstead, Ellen Temple and Barbara Thompson, with Bob Brown presiding.

Bob Brown opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. with a welcome to all. Progress on the Infrastructure initiatives was reviewed by each group as follows.

City of Huntington (*Bruce Milstead*)

- New business is moving to town with a new doctor and two new veterinarians.
- They have a new asphalt zipper to enable them to fix potholes and street repairs.
- The contract has been let on the Safe Routes to School and will start work late in September.
- The City continues to clean up the town, including condemned homes, with much success.

Green Infrastructure (*Ellen Temple*)

- The Highway 59 reforestation with East Texas native landscaping has been completed and looks great.
- On June 5th the new Neches River Paddling Trail was dedicated. The plan is to continue this trail along the Neches River.
- The biking trail (DETRAC) continues to grow.
- Diboll has a family trail beginning at the high school.
- The City of Lufkin is moving forward on the extension of Hurricane Creek (Azalea) Trail to Angelina College.

Economic Development (*James Flournoy*)

- Lufkin was awarded the TxDot Enhancement Grant for trails/sidewalks in three areas.
- The Landscape Ordinance is now in place.
- The Conservation Fund has purchased the Big Thicket areas as planned and the Neches River wildlife area has been purchased for a refuge. This is the last of the hardwood bottom land in the country.
- The Industrial Park is scheduled to bid out the utility work.
- The Old Moffett Road works starts next year.
- On the North Loop, the infrastructure will be improved and developed.
- The RV Park was approved by City Council and will go in by the Southern Stables Bed and Breakfast.

- The City of Lufkin passed bond work for several streets, for water to go from Abitibi to Diboll and other locations in Lufkin, and improvement to the waste water plant.

Parks & Recreation (*Richard James*)

- The Parks Board Masterplan is now updated and needs to be approved.

City of Lufkin (*Barabara Thompson*)

- The Façade Grant was approved for downtown business owners. \$50,000 was set aside to match 50/50 up to \$10,000 to owners to restore their store front facades.
- There is possibly another restaurant coming to downtown.
- Mark Hicks acquired the old Roma's to renovate and rent out for parties.
- Lufkin Bristro will be September 18th down and tickets are \$30.
- The annual Trick or Treat for kids downtown is being planned for the Friday before Halloween. Saturday will be an adult costume party.
- A Christmas Party is being planned for Tuesday after Thanksgiving.
- Approval was given for move forward on the Pines Theater renovation. It will be for general use and is suitable for small concerts and small events.

Transportation (*David Collmorgen*):

- Work will begin at the Industrial Park in two years.
- In 2012 work will begin on the North Loop. No residences will be impacted.
- In 2013 work will begin on 2021 (Redland at 59). This road has 19 homes that will be impacted.
- Dirt work is being done on the Highway 94 project. This is a \$12 million project.
- Next year the resurfacing will be done on the northwest Loop to the cloverleaf at the Zoo.

Next Meeting:

Please mark October 19th on your calendar for our next meeting.