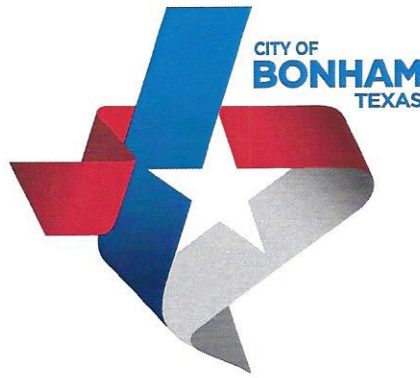


PRESS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release



August 15, 2017

## THE STAR OF NORTH TEXAS

### Bonham City Council adopts 'Visioning Bonham, 2017- 2025' Plan

Last night (8/14) the Bonham City Council unanimously (6-0) adopted the Visioning Bonham 2017-2025 {*VisBon-2025*} plan as a broad-based planning document to help prepare the city for the growth already underway and expected to snowball in the coming six to eight years. Council's action was the culmination of an initiative championed by City Manager Sean Pate and facilitated externally by a Texoma Council of Governments' (TCOG) staff working group lead by Dr. Randy McBroom its' Deputy Executive Director.

This year-long effort had its origins within the Bonham Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Commission's overall program of work particularly as it relates to planning for the near and mid-term future (5-8 years). Along aside the P&Z, the Bonham Economic Development Corporation (BEDCo) seconded their efforts and those of city staff by designating two or sometimes three BEDCO board member participants to the monthly vignettes and underwriting 30% of the initiative's cost.

Major elements of the *VisBon-2025* plan were vetted and refined in a series of well attended public forums and an open house in mid-February (2/13/17). The draft plan was then adjusted to incorporate the public's input. A Final Draft was then circulated for additional proofing and feedback from the *VisBon-2025* working group members as well as Bonham's Mayor & City Council.

*Metroplex* urbanization is marching ever closer to Bonham, and with the likely start of full construction by the NTMWD on their \$1Billion+ *Lower Bois' D' Arc Creek Reservoir Water Project* forecasted for mid-2018, coupled with the visibly increasing flow of trade and traffic east-west along the *US Hwy 82 Corrido*; growth is already knocking on Bonham's door. This is further illustrated by the latest (June) Fannin County Monthly Unemployment rate (3.6%) and the ever tightening housing market in and near Bonham.

As a vision plan *VisBon-2015* broadly lays-in the course and heading for Bonham's elected officials, board and commission members, and city staff to follow as they allocate limited resources, set priorities and evolve more detailed plans within their areas of responsibility. The plan also identifies additional opportunities for active citizen engagement across a wide range of as yet unmet city needs.

For those who may wish to volunteer in any of the "**Priorities and Strategic Initiatives**" found in the Executive Summary ~ *page-1* of the document or in greater detail on pages 31 & 32 ~ you are invited to contact the Bonham City Secretary – Heather Stockton: 903/583-7555, Ext 114 or e-mail: [hstockton@cityofbonham.org](mailto:hstockton@cityofbonham.org)

A copy of the full Visioning Bonham, 2017- 2025 will be available on the city's website: [www.cityofbonham.org](http://www.cityofbonham.org) and a copy will be available for reference at the Bonham Public Library.

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