

Resolution No. 98-2018

**Resolution accepting Downtown Development Steering Committee
Recommendations and Directing Staff to Begin Implementation**

WHEREAS, one of the strategic goals of the City Council is to redevelop the city's downtown area; and,

WHEREAS, to achieve this goal, the City Council established a Downtown Development Steering Committee to study the issues, prioritize the strategies and tasks, and implement programs to improve the downtown area; and,

WHEREAS, the Downtown Development Steering Committee is an advisory committee and will review the various issues related to downtown redevelopment and make recommendations thereon to the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Downtown Development Steering Committee has reviewed and provides recommendations to the City Council to improve the downtown area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS, THAT:

1. Recommendations of the Downtown Development Steering Committee as presented to the City Council, be accepted.
2. Recommendations as provided by the Downtown Development Steering Committee includes

A. Regulatory Subcommittee, Downtown Zoning Diagnostic Report

- Realign base zoning districts in the greater downtown area.
- Update the Central Business District regulations to match vision for downtown.
- Develop an overlay district for the downtown area.
- Adopt the International Property Maintenance Code in greater downtown area.
- Direct code enforcement efforts in downtown.
- Revise regulations for the existing River Development District.
- Resolve parking issues in the downtown area.
- Incorporate a schedule of the development process in the Project Development Guide.

B. Streetscapes Subcommittee

- Focused street improvement on 8th Street from Indiana Ave. to Scott Ave.

C. Finance Subcommittee

- Present the “Downtown Development Funding Possibilities” information in an easily accessible format on line related to the City’s and Downtown Wichita Falls Development’s websites.
- Either enhancement of the existing Downtown Improvements Grant to assist with potential costs to the property owners for compliance or the creation of a new program. Eligible activities would include tree removal, replacement as appropriate, and sidewalk repairs. Consideration should be given to either double the amount allocated (\$50,000 is currently budgeted annually for Downtown Improvements Grant Program) or to fund a separate program in the same amount.
- The Downtown Tax Increment Financing District (TIF #4) should be activated so that the Board might establish their priorities for funding activities under the TIF #4 plan.
- Consideration be given to the creation of a Business Improvement District (BID).

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 18th day of September, 2018.

Steve L. Sintetzer
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Marie Babthwaite
City Clerk