



GP UPDATE

Discover the
**Top 10
Reasons**
Grand Prairie
had a
marquee year
in 2007!

LOOK AHEAD TO 2008

Everything in Grand Prairie 2007-2008 is uptown!

Top Ten in 2007

1. Completed renovation of **Uptown Theater** exterior, and began interior design of the \$3.5 million project to transform the former movie house into a fine arts center in 2009.
2. Built a **new home every 8 hours**, issuing permits for 1,066 homes, and \$133 million in commercial/industrial space.
3. **Paid off the debt** to build Lone Star Park 18 years early, which allowed citizens to pass a 1/4 cent sales tax for a **new Police Headquarters**, a 1/8 cent sales tax for a **new Senior Center** and a 1/8 cent sales tax for a **new minor league baseball stadium**.
4. **Installed red-light cameras** at dangerous intersections and railroad crossings to reduce accidents.
5. Opened **Central Bark**, Grand Prairie's first Dog Park.
6. Opened **Trinity Boulevard** from Belt Line Road to SH 360.
7. With TxDOT, completed the \$9.5 million **Good Link Trail** from Waggoner to Mike Lewis parks, which includes 75 acres in park land expansion, 4.8 miles of paved trails, bridges and elevated boardwalks, four new picnic pavilions and more than 1,300 native trees.
8. Extended **Fish Creek Trail** three miles to connect with Arlington's four-mile trail.
9. Welcomed **Lake Prairie Town Center**, a power center at Camp Wisdom and SH 360 featuring Super Target, Home Depot and 24 Hour Fitness.
10. Landed **Prime Retail Outlet Mall**, to build at Great Southwest and I-20 and open by holiday 2009.

2008 A Look Ahead Top Ten plus one to grow on!

1. Introduce a **weekly news show** on Channel 16 GPTV.

2. Prepare to open the restored historic **Uptown Theater** as an arts center.

3. Open a **farmer's market** in downtown Grand Prairie at NW 2nd St. and Main St.

4. Complete the 3.2 mile **Lone Star Trinity Trail** by Lone Star Park.

5. Design **Lynn Creek Parkway**, a new road from Lake Ridge Parkway to SH 360.

6. Design the widening of **Lake Ridge Parkway** from four to six lanes from the lake to Great Southwest Parkway; and design the extension of Lake Ridge from Polo to I-20.

7. Design **Great Southwest Parkway** widening from Sara Jane Dr. to Bardin Road, including new turn lanes at I-20.

8. Begin construction of **Warrior Trail** across SH 161.

9. See the Grand Prairie **AirHogs** play their first game in May 2008.

10. Break ground on the new **Prime Retail Outlet Mall** at Great Southwest and I-20.

11. Complete design on the **new Police Headquarters** and the **new Senior Center**, approved by taxpayers in 2007.



Employees gathered to greet U.S. troops returning from war.



Shoppers love the new power center at SH 360 and Camp Wisdom Rd.



The Main Library pirates pillage the Halloween Costume Contest treasure.

Accomplishments in 2007

- ▼ Worked with businesses to build more than 3.5 million new square feet and create 3,263 new jobs.
- ▼ Put GPTV Channel 16 on www.gptx.org.
- ▼ Introduced the popular new *Life is Grand* citizen newsletter and recreation guide.
- ▼ Broke ground on the 3.3 mile Lone Star Trinity Trail in the Entertainment District.
- ▼ Constructed large new playground and installed new white sand beaches at Lynn Creek Park; replaced Fish Creek Park playground at Allegro Street; installed new restroom at Mountain Creek Lake Park.
- ▼ Began serving Eddlemon's BBQ at Prairie Lakes Golf Course.
- ▼ Parks and Recreation was named a National Recreation and Park Association Gold Medal Finalist.

- ▼ Opened a meeting room at Loyd Park to complement the park's successful camping cabins.
- ▼ Celebrated first year of operations at Bowles Life Center with almost 3,000 center memberships.
- ▼ Launched the Grand Rangers, a new volunteer corps for the Parks Department.
- ▼ Added Holiday Magic, a 10-minute light show choreographed to music, to Prairie Lights. Prairie Lights attracted more than 112,000 visitors in 2007, a 30% increase above 2006.
- ▼ City employees raised \$3,200 for Grand Prairie charities in a Holiday Basket Raffle.
- ▼ Built four Habitat for Humanity homes.
- ▼ Launched a Police MySpace site to advance police recruitment efforts.

- ▼ Received the prestigious CALEA Accreditation for the Grand Prairie Police Department.
- ▼ Purchased a new firetruck for fire station #9, remodeled fire station #1.
- ▼ Kicked off new city employee wellness program, WOW! Working on Wellness, to reduce insurance costs and promote healthy lifestyles. Employees lost more than 1,000 pounds in 2007.
- ▼ Installed first sun and wind powered street light in Texas.
- ▼ Grand Prairie's AirHogs American Association of Baseball League team was awarded the 2009 American Association All-Star Game.
- ▼ Began plans to open a Parkland Clinic.
- ▼ Video Traffic Management Wall at Development Center completed.
- ▼ Built a new Public Works Training Center.



Prime Outlet Mall set to open holiday 2009.



Grand Prairie hit a home run scoring AirHogs Minor League Baseball Stadium, to open May 2008.



The Building Inspection Bandits hit their way to back-to-back championships in the Employee Softball league.



2007-2008 City Council

Mayor Charles England

Council Members

Lee D. Herring • District 1 ▼ Jim Swafford • District 2
 Bill Thorn • District 3 ▼ Richard Fregoe • District 4
 Tony Shotwell • District 5 ▼ Ron Jensen • District 6
 Rick Sala • At Large ▼ Ruthe Jackson • At Large

- ▼ Celebrated the installation of a **memorial** to fallen Grand Prairie Police Sergeant Greg Hunter at the site of his death in the Wal-Mart parking lot.
- ▼ Installed **traffic signals** at Robinson/Warrior, Robinson/Arkansas, Bardin/Payne, SH 360/Webb-Lynn and SH 360/New York.
- ▼ Added a **new bus to Grand Connection** transit system; increased miles driven (264,078) and trips (37,025) to the highest ever; on-time performance increased to 98.9%; passenger wait time decreased to less than 5 minutes.
- ▼ Completed **design of I-30 frontage roads** and turned over to TxDOT to bid construction.
- ▼ TxDOT continued construction of **SH 161 frontage roads** from I-20 to SH 183.
- ▼ Completed **\$500,000 in sidewalk repairs** and additions.
- ▼ Responded to **15,214 animal control service calls**, adopted 1,458 pets and returned 818 animals to their owners.
- ▼ Invested \$6 million from the 1/4 cent sales tax for street improvements to repair 13 streets and six alleys, including the major repair of Carrier Parkway from Jefferson to Dickey Road.
- ▼ Completed **2 million gallon elevated water storage tank** to enhance fire protection in the peninsula sector.
- ▼ Converted softball fields into **multi-purpose fields at Mike Lewis Park** for softball, football, flag football and rugby.
- ▼ Completed \$2 million expansion of the **Small-Hill Pumping Station**.
- ▼ Put in a major **water transmission line** on Lake Ridge.
- ▼ Finished a \$6 million, **8.5 MGD sewage pumping station** on the peninsula.
- ▼ Rehabilitated the **109th Street elevated water tank**.
- ▼ Conducted **19,239 code enforcement investigations**; made 46,174 code inspections; issued 4,915 garage sale permits; investigated 212 illegal dump sites, prosecuted 2 illegal dumping offenders, and enforced 26 site cleanups.
- ▼ Installed self-fueling hoses at **Airport**, which doubled monthly fuel sales; built a state-of-the-art electronic sign at the Airport entrance; began design of a new terminal; and completed 48 new T-Hangars.
- ▼ Experienced **record breaking numbers in aquatics programs**: 1,000 more participants in Learn to Swim program; 10,000 more swimmers at outdoor pools; 3,000 more visitors at Kirby Creek indoor pool.
- ▼ Served 20,866 lunches in the 59-day **Summer Lunch** program.



Play at the Splash Factory is all wet.

City Manager's Office

Deputy City Manager Tom Cox

Assistant to the City Manager
 Christal Kliever

City Manager Tom Hart

Deputy City Manager Anna Doll

(Left to right)





Frank Rowland, Housing, among city volunteers building Habitat for Humanity houses.



Parks and Recreation gives a sleigh full of toys for Santa Cop.



Employees cool off on a hot day at the Employee Melt Down.

- ▼ Sold 263 spaces, installed 161 markers and conducted 141 burials at **Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens**.

Coming Up in 2008...

- ▼ Begin rehabilitation of the **historic Loyd Home** in Loyd Park to be a rental cabin.
- ▼ Open **Wide World of Parks**, unique playground feature at AirHogs Stadium.
- ▼ Begin construction of the **Ruthe Jackson Center Gardens**.
- ▼ Host the **United States Specialty Sports Association** Boys 13 AAA World Tournament July 20-27, bringing 80-100 teams to Grand Prairie.
- ▼ Start free first Saturday of the month tours with Arts Council docents of the city's historic **Copeland Home**, 125 SW Dallas St.

- ▼ Continue construction of **Belt Line overpass** across Main and Jefferson.
- ▼ Continue building SH 161 frontage roads to open in 2008, with main lanes open in 2010.
- ▼ Begin construction on **I-30 frontage roads**.
- ▼ Invest **\$4.5 million for new sidewalks and street repairs** as part of the city's ongoing 1/4 cent sales tax for street improvements.
- ▼ Engineer a new **Air Traffic Control Tower** and design a new **Airport terminal**.
- ▼ Engineer **major water lines** to connect the city north to south.
- ▼ Design a **Park and Ride** at I-30.
- ▼ Begin construction on **Fire Station #7's** new location at Lynn Creek Park.
- ▼ Begin design of **Fire Station #10** on Estes Peninsula.



The city celebrates the restored exterior of the Uptown Theater in 2007. The theater will open as an arts center in early 2009 when interior restoration is complete.

- ▼ Install **six new traffic signals**: Lakeridge/England, Lakeridge/N. Grand Peninsula, Bardin/Endicott, GSW/Post and Paddock, Camp Wisdom/Robinson and Mayfield/Waterwood.



www.gptx.org



The 75-acre Good Link Trail between Waggoner and Mike Lewis Parks adds 5 miles of trails to the city's outstanding parks system.



The city's new Central Bark dog park is really going to the dogs.



Prairie Lights sparkled for 112,000 visitors in 2007, up 30% over 2006.

City of Grand Prairie, Texas ★ 2007 by the Numbers

DEMOGRAPHICS

Land Area	81.4 sq. mi.
Population	161,571
Average Age	32
Avg. Price of New Home	\$250,000
Avg. Household Income	\$58,395

DEVELOPMENT

New Single Family Building Permits Issued	1,066
Value of Average Single Family Permit	\$218,901
New Commercial/Industrial Sq. Ft. (projects underway and proposed)	3,449,103
Value of Commercial/ Industrial Permits (projects underway and proposed)	\$133,348,219
Number of New/Retained Jobs	3,263

TOP TEN TAXPAYERS

Bell Helicopter-Textron
Texas Utilities
Prologis Macquarie Tex LP
Catellus Commercial Group LLC
AT&T/Southwestern Bell/Cingular
Hanson Pipe & Products
Vought Corporation
Lockheed Martin
Calwest Texas Properties
Wal-Mart

PROPERTY TAX RATES

(Per \$100 Assessed Property Value)

City of Grand Prairie	\$0.669998
Grand Prairie ISD	\$1.4650
Arlington ISD	\$1.2780
Cedar Hill ISD	\$1.4000
Mansfield ISD	\$1.4500
Dallas County	\$0.567214
Tarrant County	\$0.636277



Jog across the city line now that a new three-mile section of Grand Prairie's Fish Creek Trail links with Arlington.

RETAIL SALES TAX RATES

City	1.00%
AirHogs Ballpark	.125%
Active Adult Center	.125%
Parks Improvements	.25%
Street Improvements	.25%
Crime Control District	.25%
State	6.25%
Total Sales Tax	8.25%

GRAND PRAIRIE'S TOP EMPLOYERS

GPISD	2,895
Lockheed Martin	
Missiles and Fire Control	2,600
Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie	1,400
Poly-America, Inc.	1,350
Bell Helicopter-Textron	1,086
Siemens	
Energy & Automation, Inc.	600
Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc.	515
Hanson Pipe & Products, Inc.	512
Republic Beverage Company	500
Wal-Mart	480
Pollock Paper Distributors	455
American Eurocopter	455
SAIA Motor Freight Line, Inc.	450
Arnold Transportation Services	450

OPERATING BUDGET (2007-2008)

General Fund	\$97,100,623
Water/Wastewater	\$43,860,997
Other	\$48,928,394
TOTAL	\$189,890,014

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

Police/Fire Civil Service	420
General Employees	859
Total Full Time	1,279
Total Seasonal/Part-Time	152

LIBRARIES

Main Library	
Total Collection	142,650
Warmack Branch	
Total Collection	40,825
Bowles Branch	
Total Collection	8,515

PARKS AND RECREATION

Acres of Park Land	4,989.25
Number of Parksites	57
Rounds of Golf Played	72,204
Ruthe Jackson Center Events	1,081
Loyd Park Campers	89,025
Lynn Creek Park Attendance	109,497
Cemetery Spaces Sold	263

UTILITIES

Water Production (Avg. Gallons/Day)	25.1 million
Fire Hydrants	6,204
Miles of Water Main	800.05 mi.
Collection Line	752 mi.
Customer Accounts	42,686

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING

Tons of garbage disposed	187,349
Tons of commercial recycling	33,438
Tons of residential recycling at the landfill	7,597

TRANSPORTATION

Municipal Airport Takeoffs and Landings	86,781
Grand Connection Bus Passengers	40,026



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Creating Raving Fans by Delivering World Class Service

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