

**Plano City Council  
Plano ISD Trustees/Plano Chamber of Commerce  
Collin County Community College Trustees  
Collin County Commissioners/Plano State Legislative Delegation**

**August 29, 2005**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor Pat Evans  
Ken Lambert, Mayor Pro Tem  
Scott Johnson, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
Shep Stahel  
Loretta Ellerbe  
Sally Magnuson  
Harry LaRosiliere  
Jean Callison

Collin County Judge Ron Harris called the joint meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. immediately following dinner on Monday, August 29, 2005 at the Collin County Community College, Conference Center, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway. All Council Members were present with the exception of Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and Council Members Magnuson and Ellerbe.

Collin County Community College (College) President Dr. Cary Israel provided an update on the College, advising that enrollment for the "Weekend College," the first created in the United States, is up thirty percent. He spoke to positive outcomes during the legislative session, double digit appropriations growth, increased appraisal values and stated that the recommendation to the board will be to lower the College's tax rate. Mr. Israel spoke to the many economically disadvantaged students and efforts at the federal level to address the problem along with a recommendation to freeze tuition rates for in-county residents. He spoke to the need to address the high cost of text books and recognition received for the alternative teacher certification program.

**Update on 121 Construction/Toll Road Concept**

Collin County Commissioner Jack Hatchell spoke regarding a committee of area cities and the county that drafted and passed a resolution supporting the tolling of SH 121 and stated that if there is excess revenue, it will stay in Collin County. He spoke to city/county donation of right-of-way and funds and the critical next step being to negotiate with TxDOT for use of the right-of-way. Commissioner Hatchell spoke to TxDOT receiving private sector interest and stated that tolling the roadway shortens the project to a five-year timeframe rather than the estimated 15-20 years it would take for a freeway. He spoke regarding gas taxes that go towards public safety and schools and the state's use of these monies to balance the budget and fund other operations.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert spoke to the level of federal funding received and Judge Harris spoke to the diversion of gas tax funds and efforts to address the issue. He stated that over the next five years the county's population will increase by 200,000.

### **Cox Building Renovation Update**

Plano Independent School District Superintendent Dr. Doug Otto introduced Richard Matkin to address the group regarding the renovation update. Associate Superintendent for Business Services Matkin spoke to the Cox Building's construction in 1924, stated that the renovation schedule has held to its timeline and plans are to complete the project in December 2005 with a move-in date of January 2006. He further reviewed the tenants that will occupy the building and the floor plan.

Executive Director, Government and Community Relations Karla Oliver provided information regarding a community committee that will be collecting artifacts for inclusion in a historical classroom with attention to be given to structural details including lighting fixtures and woodwork. City of Plano Executive Director Frank Turner spoke to the high level of interest in the Courtyard Theater complex and the completion of the Cox Building being complementary.

### **Organization of an issues based PAC (Political Action Committee)**

Chamber of Commerce Executive Board of Directors Chair Chris Jones introduced Steve Matthews to speak regarding organization of a PAC. Chamber of Commerce Executive Board of Directors Vice Chair of Public Policy Matthews spoke to the Chamber's plans to take an advocacy role and create an issues based PAC. He spoke to consideration of issues defined as important to the business community in Plano. Judge Harris spoke to receiving input from the business community.

Plano Chamber of Commerce President Brad Shanklin spoke to an upcoming presentation for area chambers/cities to hear both sides of the issues regarding the Wright Amendment and its impact on Collin County.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert spoke to comprehensive development agreements being worked on by TxDOT, companies that are looking to invest in roadway construction and the costs that will result. He spoke to not sending citizen monies elsewhere. Judge Harris spoke to being unified in discussions with TxDOT, stated concern regarding foreign interests taking over roadways and spoke to moving forward with creation of an area toll authority to strengthen the county's position. He spoke to the impact of the roadway on current and new residents.

There being no further discussion, Judge Harris adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

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Pat Evans, MAYOR

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Di Zucco, Assistant City Secretary