MEMO

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Mark Gaugh, City Manager

Date: August 15, 2016

Re: Manager's Report

Street Projects- Metro Asphalt has begun work on the overlay and asphalt spot repair sections (E. Fourth, Talon, N. West St., Willow Brook and Patch on Harris).West St. should be completed by the Council meeting date.

The Lathrop project is continuing, and the completion of the concrete pours of curbs and sidewalks should be completed soon, if not already.

The sidewalk overpass project is progressing. By this writing, the contractor is beginning to work on the retaining walls that are necessary on part of the sidewalk route.

Dilapidated Structures Demolitions – Work is continuing on the demolitions of the six houses on our list. We are still in the process of getting two commercial structures removed. The old Furniture Depot is still being emptied, then, the demolition can take place, hopefully soon. The Court dates was extended for the foundation removal at Prospect and Walnut. This removal is being challenged by the property owner.

Economic Development – Staff is updating all available commercial properties as we do, periodically. This includes asking price, acreages, current availability, enhancements, etc. We have had some encouraging activity on the development side. The Chung's expansion will consist of a major parking expansion, enlarged fueling stations and additional retail space. Major improvements were made to the parking area at the travel center at Nelle's. We continue to have potential developers look at our area for opportunities. Interest has been in food service, retail, hydroponics, hospitality businesses and a recreation-type business. We have also had speculators, who are just interested in the area in general, with no specific plan.

On Thursday, August 11, we met with someone considering expansion of a telemarketing-type operation to Cameron. One of the biggest concerns is the availability of labor in the Cameron area at the current market rate of $9-$10 per hour range. Approximately 25 employees will be needed. The owner was supplied with our Labor Study, and he will be meeting with the Chamber of Commerce, as well.

Community Betterment – Jack Briggs has refined the project list, per the Community Betterment organization's recommendation, and the process is proceeding.