

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Forest Hill purchases building for new City Hall

[Forest Hill, TX- September 21, 2009] City leaders in Forest Hill recently approved the purchase of more than 10,200 square feet of a building located on California Parkway near Wichita Street for a new City Hall and Council chambers with state-of-the-art technology.

The building located at 3617 California Parkway, just to the east of the Chase Bank, will create a professional facility suitable for meetings with developers, business leaders and citizens. It will also house all administrative city services under one roof including permitting, planning, zoning, inspections, Municipal Court, Utility Billing, Code Compliance and city and fire administration. "It's a highly visible location and will be a one-stop-shop for our community," stated City Manager David Miller. It will also allow citizens to pay their water bills at a drive-up customer service window. "Everyone is looking to make the best use of their time, and we want to help them when it comes to quickly paying their water bill. It'll be simple, easy and fast," he added.

The purchase of the building, done at below fair market value, is an important piece in the economic growth of the city. It would meet the current needs of the city and provide for future growth. Included in the purchase are potential pad sites located on California Parkway near the building. Additionally, long term plans could include additional property purchases that would make the entire corner a fully functional municipal complex by locating the police and fire departments on adjacent pad sites. "This is a fabulous investment for the City of Forest Hill. It will serve the need of the city for 20 years or more," Miller said.

The facility is being paid for using 2007 bond proceeds, not general fund monies. "We look at being there for a long, long time," he added.

About the City of Forest Hill

The City of Forest Hill was established in 1946. It is home to more than 13,000 residents and over 300 businesses. It is located in southeast Tarrant County. In 2009, the City was named the 5th fastest growing city in Tarrant County by the *Fort Worth Business Press*.

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