



July 11, 2023

Mayor, Council Members, and Van Alstyne Citizens  
The City of Van Alstyne  
152 North Main Drive  
Van Alstyne, Texas 75495

This evening I would like to thank the many staff members that work so hard serving our community. We are blessed to have a group of men and women dedicated to improving Van Alstyne. Our Parks Department organizes and directs special events that are presented professionally. They arrive early to stage the event and welcome our citizens; they remain at the venue to ensure all attending have a good time. After the event is completed, staff members stay late to be sure the event venue is clean and ready for the following day. Our Library is among the very best operated libraries in Texas. It has become normal to have 200 – 300 children attend a library event. Judy Kimzey and her team offer creative and fun activities that resonate well with those attending. They have been successful in building a growing and vibrant library offering. The heavy lifting comes in the form of our Public Works Department. During any storm, Public Works staff are out in the thick of the storm working to keep our city utilities working. I have personally witnessed staff work around the clock to keep water flowing during a prolonged freeze. During the recent electrical storm, the Public Works team (all hands-on-deck) were out working to keep or restore our city services as the rain came down. We are fortunate to have many more hard-working people employed by the city. Police, Fire, Administration, and Development Services all take pride in delivering quality services to our community.

Infrastructure / Municipal Updates:

**Nunnalee Ave:** As has been previously reported, this is a major roadway project that will pave Nunnalee Ave in concrete and replace aging water and wastewater infrastructure. Erosion control is in place, waiting on ONCOR and Cable-One to move overhead lines to allow for the relocation of one pole. City utilities have been located; sanitary sewer manholes have been delivered to the worksite. Traffic management signage is in place and sanitary sewer installation should now be underway.

**Preston Ave:** This is Preston Ave, north of Van Alstyne Parkway. The project upgrades the roadway to concrete and replaces aging water and wastewater where needed. Franchise utility locates are now complete. Sanitary sewer manholes and pipe are approved for manufacture and delivery. Traffic management signage is ready for installation with sanitary installation scheduled to now be underway.

**Collin McKinney Pkwy:** This project will pave Collin McKinney Pkwy (formerly known as Cartwright Rd) from FM 121 south to the Mantua entrance. Storm drainage installation is now complete, road subgrade preparation is ongoing. Lime stabilization started July 5th and pavement installation is expected to be underway and very possibly complete by the end of July.

**Backup Generators:** The City has purchased and installed new on-demand generators at three of the city's pump stations. These generators will automatically turn on and provide the needed



power to operate if electrical power is lost. This provides benefit to the city with the ability to continue to provide water during a storm where electrical power is interrupted. The generator at Well Site No. 1 will also provide power to the Van Alstyne Police and Fire Dispatch Center if power fails. Previously, the city had one portable generator which can now be utilized to provide power at the wastewater treatment plant.

**Eula Umpress and Robert Hynds Park:** This project builds a twenty-four-acre park between Dallas Ave and Kelly Ln. The park will provide a fishing pond, walking trail, playground and large pergola. Primarily a green space park, it is a much-needed green space separation between housing developments. The project is now at 100% design with a pre-bid meeting held July 7<sup>th</sup>. Bids are due later this month. Construction is anticipated to commence in the fall with completion in the late spring of 2024.

**Bill Smith's Café:** This project will bring Mom-&-Pop making homestyle eats to the Van Alstyne's historic downtown district. Located on Jefferson between Preston and Main, engineering and design work is nearing completion. We anticipate receiving a set of both electrical and structural engineering plans for review by city staff in the next few days. Exterior seating plans have been designed and were scheduled for review by the Architectural Review Panel July 6th. Anticipate construction to commence late July.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lane H. Jones', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lane H. Jones – C.M.O.  
City Manager  
City of Van Alstyne, Texas