



January 5, 2015

What a wonderful holiday season! This year there were more activities and the most beautiful light displays all around town. The downtown district was exceptional. Thank you to all of the merchants and owners that decorated the storefronts. The City Christmas Tree was a success and captured the attention of a wide range of sightseers, including the Texas Bucket List. You can view this spot at <http://thetexasbucketlist.com> or the Collin Street Bakery webpage at <https://www.collinstreet.com/>. The ice skating and roller skating downtown drew thousands of participants. Three firework displays were enjoyed by many adults and children. Hundreds of family photos were taken in front of the tree, including at least one marriage proposal. The Tour of Lights around town was a great sensation. Thank you to all of the homeowners and businesses along the route that decorated and to Bob Belcher for the professional narration. You provided a treat for many out-of-town visitors this year. Plans are already underway for improvements next year. It was a huge success and hopefully it will be an annual event.

Speaking about downtown, the Stroube building, the Chase Bank and the Dyers buildings all have new owners. The Across the Street Diner and the Bistro are doing great and have been an attraction for many out-of-town guests. There is a new building under construction at the corner of Main Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue which will be the home of Envision Eye Center. Work has started on the Beaton Market space. Ultimately, the plan is to provide another public restroom for downtown events. Several new loft dwellings downtown are complete and occupied.

The parking lot at the Movie Bowl Grill was packed Friday after Christmas and all the restaurants were busy. There is a new Dairy Queen planned for the Corsicana Crossing area. Work has started on the water park. On 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue there is a new Sonic, Pizza Hut and Burger King is proposed to start in the first quarter of 2015. The new baseball complex located on North 45<sup>th</sup> Street is progressing very well. There will be six new baseball fields, a basketball court, playground, volleyball court and walking trail. The goal is to have the fields ready for play in April of 2015. The new electronic billboard, located on Interstate Highway 45, that was placed in operation in July of 2014 has generated a huge amount of traffic and interest in the City. The advertising scheme is evaluated weekly and is changed regularly. If you haven't tried the new City of Corsicana app, please do so. Go to the Apple Store and download it for free. Please provide me feedback on ways to improve the service.

Sincerely,

Chuck McClanahan  
Mayor