

## March 2018 Column

“What’s new with the city?” - I get that question multiple times a day from folks as I go around town. Quite often, I really don’t know what to say. It’s not because there is nothing new – It’s because there is so much new nearly every day, and it’s hard to pick a single item or event. I usually just say “A lot!”

Just to illustrate the point, I’ve listed below many of our Utility and Public Works projects from 2017 that are underway, or have been recently completed.

### General Fund Projects:

Downtown Sidewalk Projects – Underway  
Manual Castillo Park Sidewalk Project – Completed  
Guadalupe – Court to Nolte Sidewalk Project – Completed  
Nolte – Guadalupe to Camp Sidewalk Project – Underway  
Seguin Events Complex Improvements – Completed  
Vaughan/San Antonio/Park West MPO Sidewalk Project – Underway  
Bowl Pavilion Roof Replacement – Completed  
Fire Station #3 Exterior Replacement – Underway  
Walnut Springs Trail Phase II – Engineering Underway  
CAD System/Records Management System Project – Underway

### Utility Projects:

River/Mountain/San Marcos water and sewer improvements – Completed  
Heideke Street water, sewer, and electric improvements – Underway  
Citywide LED Street Light Replacement Program – Completed  
Walnut Branch Sewer Replacement and Upgrade – Completed  
South River water and sewer replacement – Completed  
123 Bypass Booster Pump Station Upgrade – Completed  
Sagebiel Road Sewer Upgrade – Completed  
Fairway Manor Lift Station Replacement – Completed  
TCEQ Water Rights Diversion Application – Under TCEQ review.  
North Austin Street Electric, Water, and Sewer relocation – Completed  
Electric Reconductor – Heideke – IH-10 to 123 BP – Completed  
Roosevelt Street Water and Sewer Replacement – Design underway  
Hidalgo Street Water and Sewer Replacement – Design underway  
King Street Water Main Replacement– Pine to Railroad Tracks –Design underway  
Ave. B – Water is replaced, Sewer is underway.  
Ave. C – Water and Sewer Replacement - Complete  
Cherry Street Water and Sewer Replacement –College to Ireland – Completed  
Gonzales Street Water Replacement and Sewer Pipebursting – King to Cherry – Completed  
Water Plant Filter Replacement/Upgrade - Underway  
Lucille Street Elevated Water Storage Tank Repainting – Engineering underway  
Jefferson Overhead line Rebuild – Guadalupe to Ermel – Engineering underway  
Stempel Road Utility Line Project - Underway

### Street Repair Projects:

North Austin Street – Underway (TxDOT)  
Heideke Street – Court to Kingsbury – Underway

Rio Nogales Street Extension to IH-10 – Underway  
Tor Drive Reconstruction and Expansion – Underway  
South River Street and Drainage – Completed  
Roosevelt Street – Austin to Woodlawn – Design underway  
Hidalgo Street – Kingsbury to New Braunfels – Design underway  
King Street Reconstruction – Pine to Railroad Tracks – Design underway  
Ave. B Zipper Project - Underway  
Ave. C Zipper Project - Complete  
Cherry Street Zipper Project– College to Ireland – Completed  
Gonzales Street Zipper Project – King to Cherry – Completed  
Hummingbird Street Zipper Project – 123 BP to Kingsbury – Completed  
Cedar Street Zipper Project – 123 BP to King – Completed in time for opening of new high school  
Stempel Road Reconstruction – 123B to 123BP – Underway  
Rudeloff Road Phase I Expansion – Hwy. 46 to Huber – Engineering underway

These are only some of the Public Works and Utilities projects. I didn't even mention the new Animal Control Facility, the new Utilities Operations Center, or all the new residential development plans underway, or all the new and continuing negotiations happening with our Economic Development crew.

Keep in mind, this is stuff that has either been completed or started over the past year or so. We've got at least this many projects, or more in the pipeline for this year. There are at least 26 "Zipper" street repair projects alone planned for this year.

The cherry on top is that we are doing all this while still being financially responsible. We have just received our annual financial audit report, and received rave reviews from our auditors. Our funds are increasing, and our reserves remain strong. Add all that to our steadily improving bond rating, and you have a city that's running pretty darn well.

Gosh I love this town!