



CITY OF BANDERA

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THINGS THAT MAKE ME GO “HMMMMM...”

So, unless you've been out of town, I'm sure you noticed the sidewalk to nowhere that TxDOT is constructing along Hwy 16 from 14th Street to Old San Antonio Hwy. I know we asked for ADA compliant sidewalks but REALLY? It seems that J had a meeting with Kiley Seaton, and the TxDOT district guy, and all sorts of things were discussed. Let's talk about sidewalks first. ADA compliant sidewalks were one topic of conversation so when we were told sidewalk construction was going to begin starting at 14th Street it was a bit of a puzzle. As it turns out TXDOT decided that the high school students needed somewhere to walk to and from school. High School kids don't walk to school!! And there was 20 feet of pavement to walk on if a pedestrian wanted to walk from 14th street to the light. I thought the sidewalk they built out 173 to the cemetery was the silliest thing I had ever seen but now I need to rethink my criteria.

Another question was just where TxDOT right of ways are along Main Street. The simple answer is that the right of way on the south end of town (toward Hondo. I guess that's south) is 83' 6" (eighty-three feet six inches) wide. So, if you measure from the center line 41' 9" (forty-one feet nine inches) that should give you an idea of where the right of way ends. In discussion about ADA compliant sidewalks in the 300 block of Main Mr. Seaton said it's not out of the question and in the future, they will consider tackling that problem. I spoke with Larry Wood recently and he had an idea that seemed simple. Try to refinish the sidewalks to eliminate the steps and the difficult places to get up and down. This would not make them truly ADA compliant, but it would make them navigable. I don't know what the answer is. Just something else that makes me go, "HMMMMMM".

You might also have noticed that the Best Western is back under way. J and I had a meeting with Gene Ligouri, the developer and Shay, his assistant last week. Gene has been with this project since its conception in 2013. Partners have changed, contractors have changed but he assured that he is back in control of the construction. In addition to giving us a completion date of February 2020, I just found out they are putting in 2 electric car charging stations which will accommodate 4 cars. I just happened to look at Bandera County Chat over the weekend and I was surprised by the sarcastic, nay-saying comments. It wouldn't be as much fun to contact me or City Hall to find out what's going on but at least the facts would be out there. NEWS FLASH!! JUST GOT AN EMAIL FROM SHAY: As we discussed in our meeting, they have set up an inspection by Bureau Veritas to inspect the existing framing to be sure that it hasn't been adversely affected by exposure to the weather. I'll let you know what BV says.

And last thing I want to tell you this month is that J and I also had a meeting with LNV, the engineers on the Mulberry storage tank replacement project and on the TWDB loan for city-wide drinking water improvements. Construction should begin in August on the storage tanks and the plan as it now stands is to put an elevated storage tank at that site as well. So onward and upward!! And by the way, the elevated storage tank we have downtown will be taken out of commission but there is no plan to take it down.

That's it for now. I'll keep you posted.

PS: Just came back from Dairy Queen and TxDOT is now tearing up the easements to make sidewalks to Main St. Be careful what you ask for.