



## **Media Release City of Temple**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City of Temple Opens New \$3.3 Million Facility on October 5th – Home to Municipal Court and Utility Business Office**

TEMPLE, TX – September 30, 2009 – The City of Temple will open the Jamie Hager Clements Complex on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The remodeled and expanded 17,800 square foot facility will be the new home of the City’s Municipal Court and Utility Business Office.

The 18 month process began on March 30, 2008 when the City Council authorized the \$660,000 purchase of the facility from First Baptist Church Temple. The facility located at 401 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is commonly referred to as the ‘Old Compass Bank Building.’ Council then authorized a construction contract in the amount of \$1,999,557 in November with demolition and construction beginning in December of the same year. “The project ran very smoothly with the help of partners like Architectural Edge and Vanguard Contractors,” says Director of Purchasing, Belinda Mattke. “The departments are very excited about the space enhancements, technology and furniture offered in this new \$3.3 Million facility. The overall working condition for the staff is going to be much more adequate to assist our customers.”

The Municipal Court, the judicial branch of the City’s government, is currently located across from the Santa Fe Depot at 300 W. Avenue B. All cases filed in the Municipal

Court are Class “C” misdemeanors which include Texas Motor Vehicle laws, Penal Code, Alcoholic Beverage Code and City Ordinances. “We are moving forward technologically in a way that allows us to be more responsive to citizens and visitors,” comments Municipal Judge Kathleen Person. “What’s exciting about that,” Person continues, “is it will allow us a better opportunity to address the public perception and access to the most basic court.”

The Utility Business Office is currently located in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Municipal Building. The Utility Business Office is responsible for the billing and collection of water, sewer, and sanitation accounts. “We are excited about what the design and layout of the building has to offer for our customers,” states Utility Business Office Manager Heather Mikulas. “We will now offer a payment drive-thru, a drive-up drop box, have more privacy for individualized customer service and improved customer flow.”

Per a Council resolution adopted on August 6, 2009, the facility is being named after Jamie Hager Clements. Mr. Clements was a long-time resident of Temple who passed away in February of this year. Mr. Clements guided the development of Scott & White hospital into the regional healthcare facility that it is today, and served two terms as Temple mayor from 1970 to 1974.

A dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at the facility on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, at 4 pm in the new Municipal Courtroom. The Municipal Court and Utility Business Office will be open at the new location, 401 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 8 am – 5 pm Monday thru Friday, beginning Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

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