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City of Gunter News Release

## **Gunter's Planning Efforts Recognized by The Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association**

Gunter, Texas (December 06, 2021) –

The City of Gunter was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Planning Excellence from The Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association. Cities are recognized for displaying a commitment to Professional planning practices.

Evaluation criteria includes the level of training of Planning Commissioners and professional staff, professional qualifications of the planning staff, breadth and content of master plan components and completion of other planning related projects. The goals of the program include:

- Increasing community awareness of the importance of planning,
- Recognizing planning departments which meet certain professional requirements,
- Recognizing planning efforts that have achieved community support,
- Encouraging the funding of professional training for Planning Commissioners and staff, and
- Aiding economic development and community image.

“Gunter receiving recognition from the State Planning Association is a major accomplishment for a city the size of Gunter. It highlights the efforts that the City Council has taken to ensure that quality and orderly development is coming to Gunter” said Community and Economic Development Director Ben Rodriguez.

City Manager, Rick Chaffin explained that “Planning is not a luxury, it is a necessity. Planning ensures that we create the community that our citizens desire for the future. Great cities do not magically appear, they are the result of intentional design and planning.”

Staff will present the certificate to the City Council at the City Council meeting on December 16, 2021.



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## 2021 Richard R. Lillie, FAICP Planning Excellence Recognition Program Recipients

Corpus Christi – Pop. 325,780	Flower Mound – Pop. 76,555
Plano – Pop. 287,064	Cedar Park – Pop. 74,462
Irving – Pop. 239,783	Pflugerville – Pop. 61,737
Garland – Pop. 238,418	Little Elm – Pop. 45,967
Frisco – Pop. 177,020	Burleson – Pop. 45,862
Mesquite – Pop. 143,456	Schertz – Pop. 41,199
Pearland – Pop. 122,078	Texarkana – Pop. 36,688
Sugar Land – Pop. 118,709	Waxahachie – Pop. 35,376
Richardson – Pop. 116,432	Southlake – Pop. 31,292
College Station- Pop 113,686	Colleyville – Pop. 26,462
Lewisville – Pop. 106,386	Benbrook – Pop. 23,215
Tyler – Pop. 104,789	Corinth – Pop. 21,491
Allen – Pop. 104,627	Murphy – Pop. 20,612
League City – Pop. 103,310	Celina – Pop. 16,739
San Angelo – Pop. 100,031	Buda – Pop. 15,565
Bryan – Pop. 84,096	Bastrop – Pop. 8,776
Longview – Pop. 81,653	<b>Gunter – Pop. 2,060</b>