City of Denton



City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Department of Development Services

DCM: Cassey Ogden

DATE: October 13, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on how to recognize the former Park Place station.

BACKGROUND

In May 2025, staff received a letter from a Ms. Joyce Kenas regarding the former Park Place station, once generally located on the north side of W University Drive, just west of Ector Street (see Exhibit 2). Ms. Kenas' grandfather, DeWitt Clinton Sockwell, was the owner of Park Place, and was an avid artifacts and rock collector, which can be seen in the design of the last remaining column of the station (see Exhibit 3). Ms. Kenas, on his behalf, requested that this last bit of history of the Sockwell family and Park Place, be preserved by the City of Denton.

Based on the information presented, staff is seeking feedback from the Commission on how to proceed with the information presented. Some ideas to recognize the former Park Place station and the Sockwell family are:

- Staff to conduct further research of the former Park Place station and Sockwell family, and post findings on historic preservation-based platforms, such as the Preserve Denton Instagram and the Revealing Lost Denton story map.
- Staff to work with the current property owner and Ms. Kenas to remove the last remaining portion of wall to donate to the Denton Public Library (DPL) for a future exhibit.
- Staff to work with the DPL to document the wall and research the former Park Place station and Sockwell family for an article on DPL's blog.

EXHIBITS

- 1. Agenda Information Sheet
- 2. Site Location Map
- 3. Supporting Documentation

Respectfully submitted: Hayley Zagurski, AICP Planning Director

Prepared by: Cameron Robertson, AICP Historic Preservation Officer