



News Release

www.McKinneyTexas.org

City of McKinney News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McKinney wins statewide recognition for dam rehabilitation

McKINNEY, Texas (July 19, 2017) – The City of McKinney is proud to announce they have been awarded one of the 2017 Public Works Projects of the Year by the Texas Chapter of the American Public Works Association for the recent completion of the rehabilitation of the Highland Lakes dam.

The structure, originally constructed in 1958, exceeded the 50 year design life span and required upgrades due to age, sedimentation, and population increases downstream, creating an increased hazard class for the structure. The city partnered with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board to rehabilitate the dam. Rehabilitation of the dam used a modern design that requires less maintenance, reduces costs, and minimizes storm water runoff while also improving the visual aesthetics of the structure. The primary purpose of these types of facilities is to minimize the risk of flooding downstream and to help reduce sedimentation downstream.



“Public safety is a priority for us,” says Michael Hebert, Assistant Director of Engineering for the City of McKinney. “To the greatest extent possible, we want to minimize the impacts of floodwaters and environmental issues through the rehabilitation of our flood control structures.”

The property owner of the land where Highland Lakes dam is located developed a wetlands area at the upstream end of the lake to enhance water quality and increase recreation and aesthetics. The owner plans to develop a park and recreation area around the lake for the public to enjoy. The city will remain responsible for the maintenance and function of the dam.

###

About McKinney

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest growing cities in America, McKinney has a current population of more than 168,000. The city was #1 on the list of Best Places to Live in America in 2014, published by *Money Magazine*. Established in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers award-winning schools, a vibrant historic downtown, diverse housing options, a robust economy and a uniquely beautiful natural setting, with rolling hills and lush trees. Visit the city's website at www.mckinneytexas.org.

Media Contact:

CoCo Good
Communications and Marketing Director
cgood@mckinneytexas.org
972-547-7508 (office)
214-585-3610 (cell)

Denise Lessard
Communications and Media Manager
dlessard@mckinneytexas.org
972-547-7556 (office)
214-686-1521 (cell)