



City of Fredericksburg
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024 ~ 9:00 a.m.
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER
1601 E. MAIN STREET
FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS 78624

Mayor Jeryl Hoover
Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Watson
Councilmember Emily Kirchner
Councilmember Tony Klein
Councilmember Randy Briley

Members Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Clinton Bailey, City Manager
Mick McKamie, City Attorney
Garret Bonn, Assistant City Manager
Lynn Bizzell, Fire Chief
Brian Vorauer, Police Chief
Andrea Schmidt, Director of Parks and Recreation
Kris Kneese, Director of Public Works and Utilities
Anna Hudson, Director of Development Services
Sean Doerre, Public Information Officer
Aaron Anderegg, Interim Director of Information Technology
Leslie Embrey, Assistant to the City Secretary
Shelley Goodwin, City Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hoover called the March 5, 2024, Regular Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and announced that a quorum had been met.

2. INVOCATION

Mayor Hoover introduced Bill Wilder, Fredericksburg High School Football Coach, who led the invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hoover led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS/PROCLAMATIONS/EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

A. Proclamation proclaiming March 2024 as Procurement Month

Mayor Hoover read and presented the Proclamation to Janelle Chapman, Procurement Officer.

Garret Bonn, Assistant City Manager, introduced Sean Doerre, Public Information Officer.

Anna Hudson, Development Services Director, announced Shelby Collier's promotion to Senior Planner.

5. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Briley reported on the following:

- Will be attending the Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet, which will be held on March 7, 2024
- Attended February 27, 2024, CVB Master Plan Meeting with the adoption of that Plan on March 26, 2024
- Attended February 27, 2024, Fredericksburg Citizen University

Councilmember Klein stated the Cross Mountain Cross is up. He thanked the Nimitz Lion Club for leadership in this project.

Mayor Pro Tem Watson

- On February 21, 2024, attended the City Manager Coffee, where Create Healthy, the Police Department, and the Fire Department presented.
- On February 23, 2024, attended the Soccer Fields Groundbreaking Ceremony.
- On February 29, 2024, attended the Chamber Leadership Breakfast, where the Solar Eclipse was discussed.

Mayor Hoover reminded everyone of the 175th Anniversary Celebration for Fort Martin Scott. He announced the following events:

Friday, March 8 at 4:00 p.m. Celebration begins

5:00 p.m. Hermanssohce Gemischer Chor and the Arion Mannerchor

5:30 p.m. announced the timeline of the event

Saturday, March 9

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. a day full of events

6. CONSENT

A. Consider approval of City Council Minutes for the February 20, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting

Motion: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Kirchner and a second by Mayor Watson to approve 6. A. of the Consent Agenda, with corrections. The City Council voted five (5) for and none (0) against. The motion passed unanimously.

7. OTHER ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATES

A. Discussion regarding future programming and management of Fort Martin Scott Andrea Schmidt, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced Dr. Chris Elliott.

Dr. Chris Elliott, Texas Historical Commission, presented a 5-year Development Plan (attached). He reviewed the project, Safety Plan, programs, and infrastructure. He noted that FTEs are appropriated during legislative sessions and must be justified. He reviewed the plan for management in the interim. The top priorities will be the History of the Fort, the military, and German heritage. He also spoke of the relationship with the Texas Rangers and the community.

The City Council discussed the following:

- FTE's
- Admission to Fort Martin Scott
- A local initiative to raise money for reconstruction
- Relationships with Universities and archaeological dig
- Partner with Parks and Wildlife on camps
- Relationship with Texas Historical Commission and local relationship
- 14 acres is to be dedicated as a historical site
- City convey property to Texas Historical Commission and additional lease property for livestock
- Birdwell Act requirement at all Texas Historic Commission sites annually \$40,000 from HOT

Eric Hammersen, City resident, spoke about the Local Government Code regarding the restoration, revenue, and funding from the HOT Preservation category. He questioned how the Texas Historical Commission can use HOT Funds and whether the other Forts use HOT Funds.

The City Council thanked the Texas Historical Commission for coming and presenting its plans for the Fort.

The City Council agreed by consensus to bring back the appropriate documents to begin the process for the 5-year Development Plan.

B. Discussion regarding the 2024 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Funding Process and Timeline

Shelley Goodwin, City Secretary, provided the attached PowerPoint regarding plans for the 2024 HOT process.

The City Council provided the following directions:

- Change the timeframe to July 1, 2035-December 30, 2024
- Increase investment priorities for the arts and historic preservation projects
- Convention and Visitor Bureau provides attendance analytics for events held the prior year
- Reduce the categories to 4:
- Historical restoration and preservation
- Advertising the City
- Promotion of the arts
- Sporting events in a county under one million in population

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

A. Discussion of the Future Agenda Spreadsheet

Clinton Bailey, City Manager, reviewed the Future Agenda Items. He reviewed the following items that will be added to the March 19, 2024 Agenda:

- ETJ Release
- Policy HOT Process
- Fort Martin Scott

Kris Kneese, Director of Public Works and Utilities, reviewed the Boot Ranch agenda item.

Clinton Bailey, City Manager, reviewed the Special Meeting scheduled for March 18, 2024, starting at 10:00 a.m. and held at Chase Bank Conference Room.

- Council Community Priorities
- General Fund Revenue and Savings
- Budget Process

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Consider and discuss the value and possible disposition of city-owned real properties located throughout the City (Section 551.072)

B. Consider and discuss the State of Texas, et al. Association Against Fredericksburg Annexations vs. City of Fredericksburg, Texas, pending in 216th District Court (551.071)

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Kirchner and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Watson to go out of Regular Session into Executive Session at 10:35 a.m. The City Council voted five (5) for it, and none (0) opposed it. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Watson, seconded by Councilmember Klein, to go out of the Executive Session and into the Regular Meeting at 10:48 a.m. The City Council voted five (5) for it, and none (0) opposed it. The motion carried unanimously.

11. BUSINESS ITEM

The City Council took no action after the Executive Session.

12. ADJOURN

With no other business, Mayor Hoover adjourned the Tuesday, March 5, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Jeryl Hoover
Mayor

Shelley Goodwin, TRMC/CMC
City Secretary

FORT MARTIN SCOTT

5 Year Development Plan



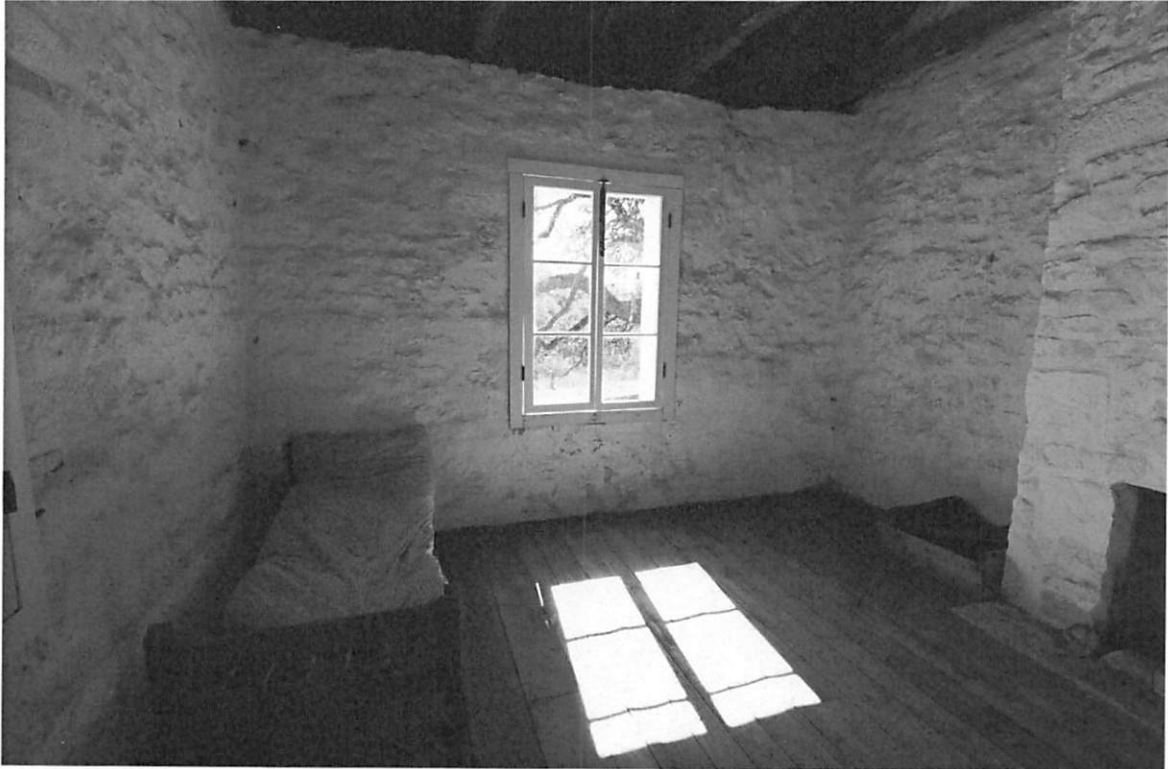
Prepared For :

The City of Fredericksburg

Prepared By:

Dr. Chris Elliott
Cody Mobley
Shannon Smith

ABOUT THE PROJECT



Fort Martin Scott (FMS), located in Fredericksburg, Texas, is the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) 39th historic site that offers an educational opportunity for visitors to learn of Texas' rich and often unique military history. This plan is to act as a roadmap for staff and stakeholders to move FMS forward immediately following the transfer while more long-term plans can be developed in accordance with THC's policies and procedures. The benefits of utilizing a 5-year plan are to ensure progress is maintained and immediate expectations are met. This plan provides a realistic approach to addressing programming and infrastructure needs without creating unnecessary budget impacts and FTE counts (Full-Time Employees).

LIMITATIONS AND SOLUTIONS:

FTE's are appropriated during the legislative sessions. Unlike most organizations, state agencies cannot simply create positions based on need. They have to be justified and requested through legislative appropriation request (LAR). Unfortunately, due to the transfer falling in the middle of the legislative biennium, no FTE will be permanently assigned to FMS until after the 2025 legislative session and those positions be officially allocated.

However, this provides a unique opportunity for FMS. In the interim, the site will be co-managed by two senior historic site managers and the Director of Historic Site Operations. The combined 50 years of experience in managing and operating historic sites will allow the site to move forward in developing programs and improving infrastructure immediately upon transfer. The hiring of new employees typically inhibits this progress as they would need to be trained on the site's history and the agency's policies and procedures. Additionally, the location of FMS provides added support for maintenance, programming, and operations. Being centrally located, support staff from other sites will be rotated in based on need during this time. Staff such as educators, admin, maintenance, and archeologists will be utilized from other sites to ensure FMS stays open and active.

PROGRAMS

1-12 MONTHS

Note: This is in addition to the site being open consistently to daily visitors. Grounds are open daily, and the site is staffed Thursday- Saturday. Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day.

- **Path of Totality** (April 8, 2024)- THC staff will invite the public to experience the eclipse. There will be a program on celestial navigation preceding the event. Every visitor will receive a free pair of eclipse glasses with admission. First come, first serve basis and will be limited by parking.
- **Oral Histories** (Ongoing)- Staff will reach out to local stakeholders to identify families and individuals whose stories can provide a better understanding of the local history. Once recorded this information will be archived and available for research.
- **Foodways Programs** (Monthly)- Farming and ranching were and still are essential to the success of the local area. Foodway programs are largely successful and are a low-cost way of driving visitation. Educators will demonstrate frontier life by utilizing a post garden and smokehouse. Potential Partners: Local businesses such as Dutchman's
- **Audio Immersion** (hourly)- Narrated bugle calls will sound off throughout the day. This is a low-cost, high-impact interpretive tool that adds a unique educational experience as the narrator will explain why each bugle call was used and the history of those calls. This will be projected on an audio system throughout the day.
- **Rotating Exhibit** (Semiannual)- A rotating exhibit will be installed in the visitor center to support programming and local history.
- **Program-Based Retail** (ongoing)- A program-based retail store will be installed in the visitor center. This store will be responsible for taking admission and providing guests with site and program memorabilia.

PROGRAMS

1-12 MONTHS

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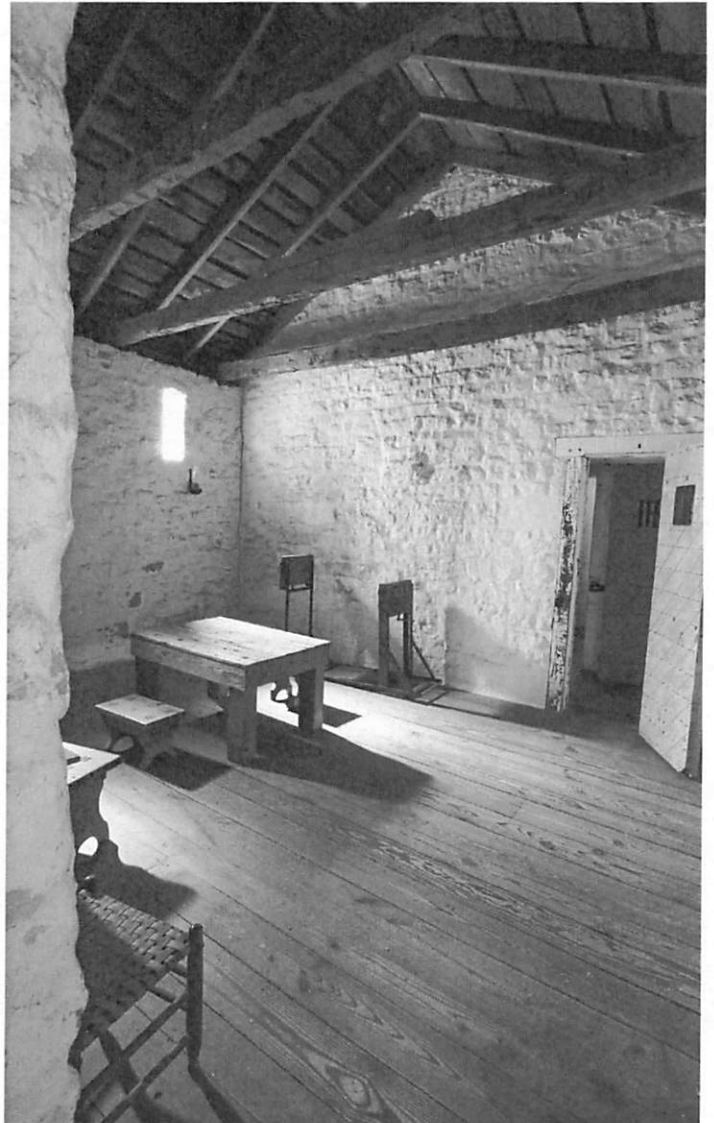
- **Indigenous Talks and Programming** (TBD)- The Director of Historic Site Operations will be working with the THC's tribal liaison to begin discussions with the Comanche and Apache nations to assist in programming to better tell the stories of the tribes in the hill country.
- **Vernacular Architecture** (monthly)- FMS, being the first federal military post in Texas, provides a unique educational opportunity to learn how the local landscape influenced construction techniques that were duplicated throughout Texas.
- **Texas Author and Artist Series** (Quarterly)- These programs will showcase authors and artists and their works. These lecture/discussion series will be a larger program that will be more adult-based and will offer food and drink. Potential Partners: Former Texas Ranger Foundation.
- **Popup Programming** (Weekly)- These programs are a low-cost opportunistic program. I.E., Scavenger hunts, apparel, military, indigenous, frontier, etc.
- **Field Trips** (ongoing)- Engaging the local area schools is essential in our mission. We will be reaching out to all local area schools to provide TEKS-based programming for field trips.
- **Texas Ranger Program** (Semi-Annual)- This program will showcase the area's rich Texas Ranger History, past and present. Potential partners: Former Texas Ranger Foundation.
- **Community Events** (TBD) – Partner with any local community events relevant to the local history.

PROGRAMS

12-24 MONTHS

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- **Texas Military History Fair** (annually)- This is not to be a living history event; it is to showcase the military history of Texas, both past, present, and future. Potential partners: USAF, USMC, USN, local ROTC, Texas Department of Public Safety, all Frontier Forts, etc. This will be a very large event with vendors, activities, entertainment, food, and drink.



PROGRAMS

24-72 MONTHS

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- **Archeological Field School** (TBD)- These could be weekend events or larger events depending on public interest, and will be based off of site archeological survey noted in infrastructure timeline. These programs will educated our visitors on the basics in archaeological methods and techniques, both in the field, and in the processing lab. Potential Partners: Local area K-12 schools, and local universities.
- **Longhorns** (TBD/Ongoing)- Texas Longhorn cattle are significant to Fredericksburg and Fort Martin Scott because this is central to the area of Texas that boasted the highest concentration of Texas Longhorn cattle (Texas cattle, wild cattle) prior to the Civil War. It was from this area that most of the cattle were sourced to go up the Great Western and Chisholm Trails to markets further north. It was these massive cattle drives that returned large sums of cash to Texas in the immediate post-war era, providing funds for expanding ranches and construction of communities. This influx of funds cemented the presence of a strong cattle ranching industry in Texas that continues today. Fort Martin Scott and Fredericksburg are located on one of the many feeder trails that funneled cattle up the Chisholm Trail. We are to assign several head to FMS for tangible programming opportunities. Some of these steers will be halter broke in order to participate in the local area parades and outreach programs. Infrastructure requirements will be noted in the below infrastructure timeline.



The Official
State of Texas
Longhorn Herd

PROGRAMS

24-72 MONTHS

Note: This is in addition to the site being open consistently to daily visitors. Grounds are open daily, and the site is staffed Thursday- Saturday. Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day.

- **Camels** (TBD/ Ongoing)- From 1856 to 1866, Texas was home to the U.S. Army's camel experiment, a short-lived project that used camels to ferry supplies across the deserts of the Southwest. Deemed a success by most standards, the government nevertheless canceled the program, a victim of volatile Civil War-era politics. The Director of Historic Site Operations is in current conversations with Doug Baum, the owner of the Texas Camel Corps. Baum has owned camels since 1997, when he worked at the Nashville Zoo as a camel caretaker. When he moved back to Texas, he brought two camels along to start Texas Camel Corps. He has acquired seven more since then. Texas Camel Corps participates in dozens of events throughout the year, including reenactments at Fort McKavett, Fort Davis, and Fort Clark near Brackettville, and sees about 10,000 school kids a year. It is our hope to make FMS the home of the US Camel Experiment. This program is not tangibly interpreted by any organization other than Doug Baum and the Texas Historical Commission. Infrastructure requirements will be noted in the below infrastructure timeline.

The Camel
Experiment: Meet
Doug Baum

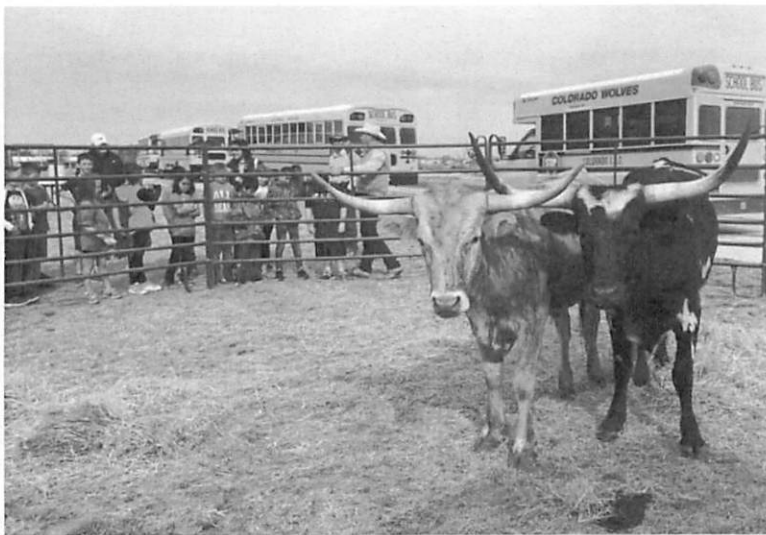
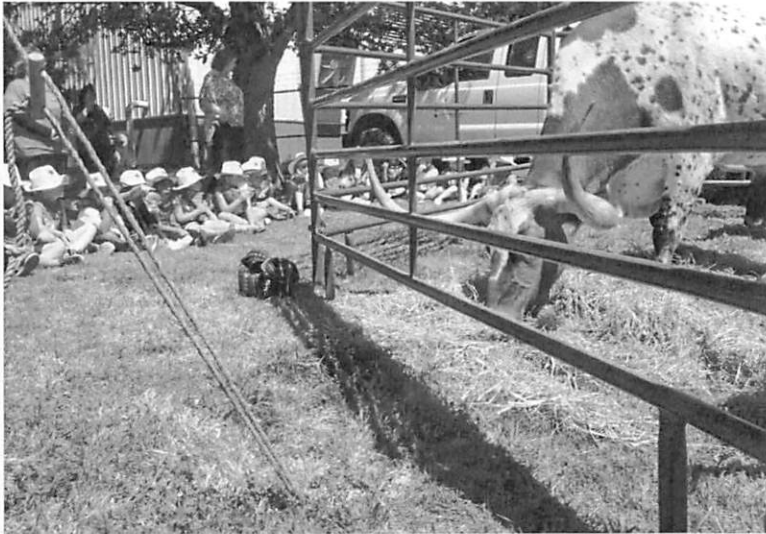


The US Army's
Texas Camel
Experiment

SEASONAL CAMPS

1-12 MONTHS

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- **Longhorns**

(TBD /Ongoing) Please join us to take part in the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd. Hear legend, lore, interesting facts, and real stories about Texas Longhorn cattle from the Trail Drive era! Kids of all ages will learn about the stewardship of the herd and how cattle are still an economic driver in the Texas Hill Country today. Participants will also interact with this important part of history as they will learn how to care for them and their history.

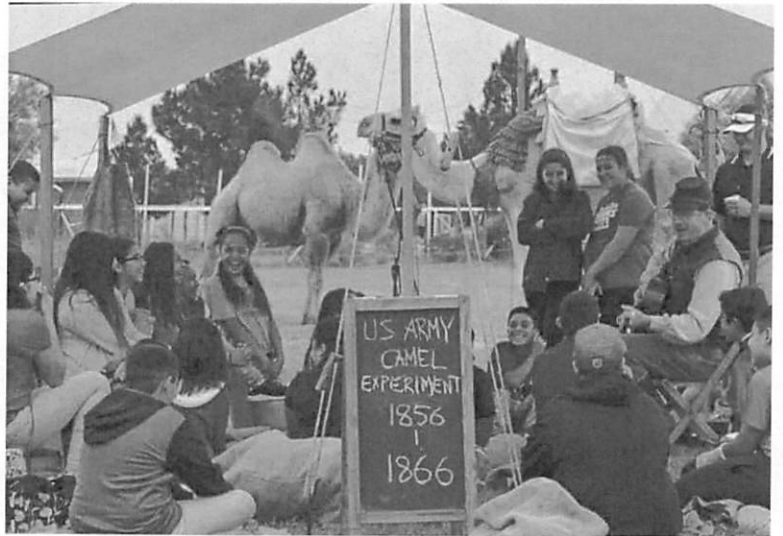
SEASONAL CAMPS

1-12 MONTHS

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- **Camels? Wait... What?!**

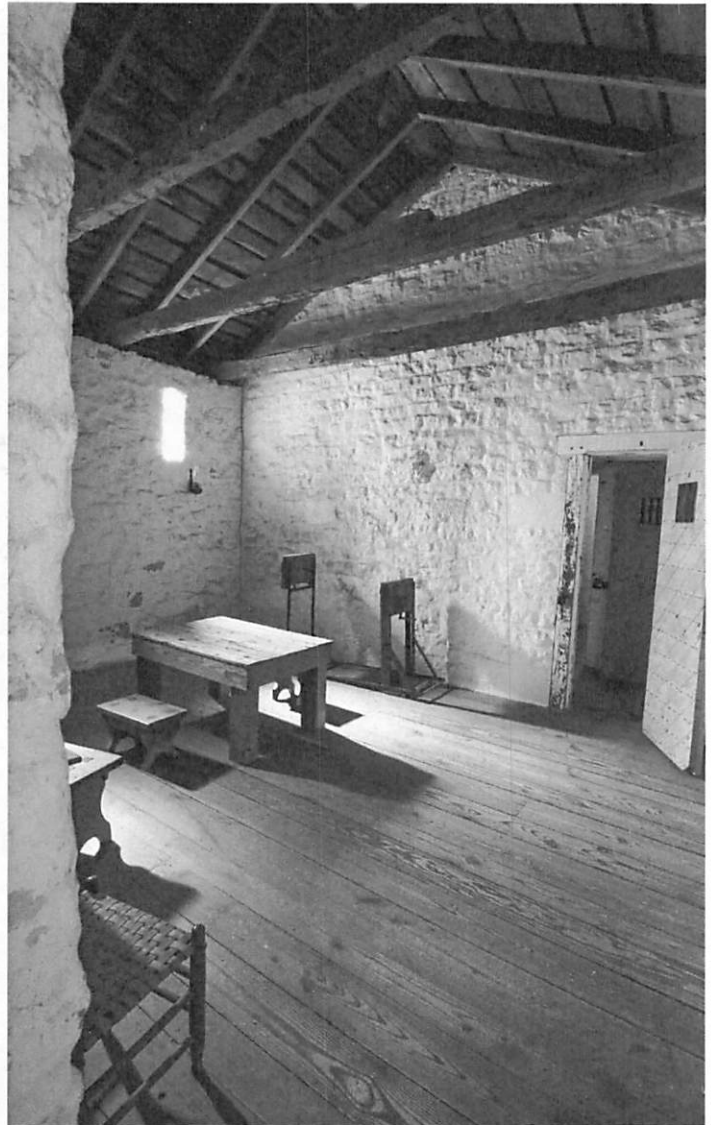
(TBD /Ongoing) This often-overshadowed part of Texas' history is no more! Join us as we educate students on the US Camel Experiment. Students will learn why the camels were utilized in the westward expansion to establish iconic trails for trade and exploration on famous trails like Route 66. Yes, Route 66 was a camel trail! Participants will learn how the Texas Hill Country was at the epicenter of this experiment that reached from Indianola to California. Students will interact and care for the camels, and yes, some lucky few may even get a ride!



INFRASTRUCTURE

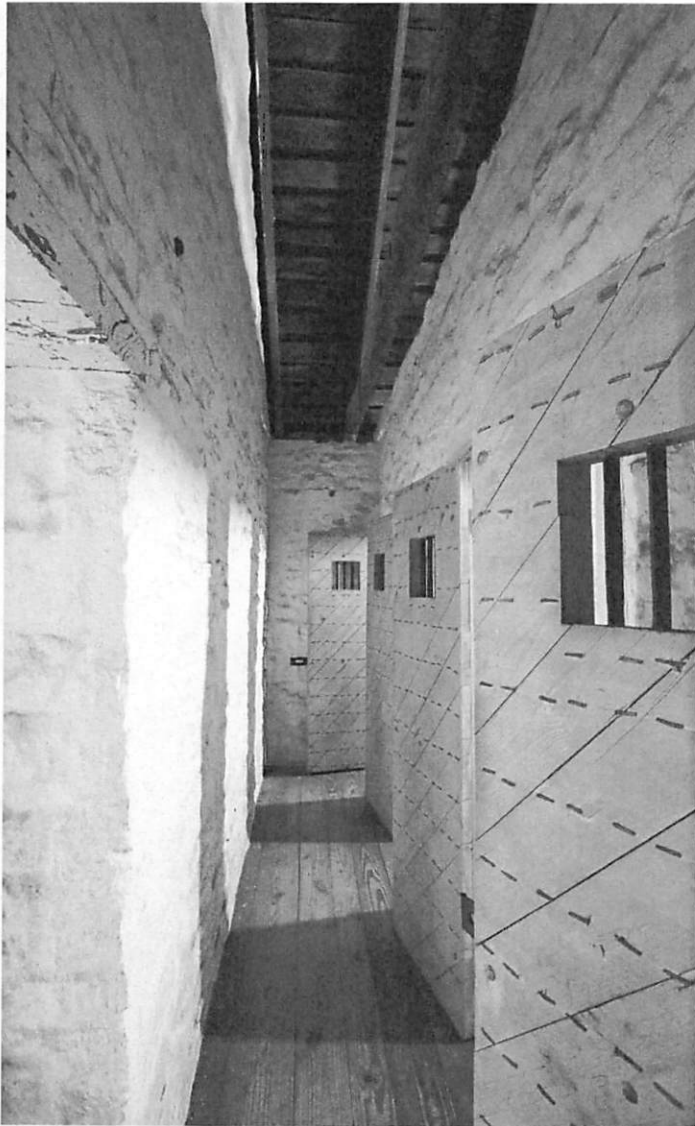
1-24 MONTHS

- Study visitor flow and adjust to ensure the best visitor experience
- Increase visitor access to the site and address any ADA needs
- Fences
 - Re-fencing sections for the camels and longhorns for safe programming opportunities
- Water access for livestock
- Hay/feed storage
 - Aboveground storage so as not to disturb archeology or require architectural approval
- Loafing Sheds for livestock and equipment storage
- Stabilization and repair of current structures
- Branded sign package
- Retail and rotating exhibit construction
- Interpretive panels
- Highway Presence- Entrance (LAR)



RETAIL

1-12 MONTHS



Books

- The Camel Experiment
- Fort Martin Scott
- Indigenous Tribes
 - Comanche
 - Lipan Apache
- Military
- Texas Rangers
- Local History
 - Fredricksburg
 - German Influence
 - Captured children
- Seth Eatman's Sketchbook
- Kid's Books

Kid's Toys

- Plush Camel/ Longhorn
- Site-appropriate take-home activities

Site Branded Items

- Tee-shirt
- Hat/ Cap
- Patches

CONCLUSION



The Texas Historical Commission is committed to preserving the rich history of Fort Martin Scott and its significant role in the development of Fredricksburg. Our aim is to ensure that this historical narrative continues to resonate within the very location where it unfolded.

This 5-year strategic plan serves as a guide for both our dedicated staff and invested stakeholders, enabling us to propel Fort Martin Scott forward immediately following its transfer. While we work on crafting more elaborate long-term strategies in alignment with THC's policies and procedures, this plan acts as a pragmatic roadmap.

By adopting a five-year plan, we ensure consistent progress while promptly meeting initial expectations. This approach offers a balanced framework for addressing crucial programming and infrastructure requirements without unduly burdening budgets or impacting full-time employee counts. It underscores our commitment to sustainable development and responsible stewardship of this invaluable historical site.



City of Fredericksburg Hotel Occupancy Tax Recipient Funding

March 5, 2024

Hotel Occupancy Tax

2

The City Council will have approximately \$500,000 in funding available for 2024.

Staff is recommending changing the timeframe to July 1, 2024 – December 30, 2024.

Hotel Occupancy Tax

3

Timeline for 2024 process

March 5, 2024	Update City Council on possible program changes and update website.
April 3, 2024	Put ad in the Fredericksburg Standard announcing the deadlines.
April 11, 2024	HOT Orientation regarding process and qualification meeting.
April 30, 2024	Deadline for submitting prior year recipients' 2023 Annual Financial Report for HOT.
May 1, 2024	Application deadline.
May 10, 2024	Deadline to deliver electronic packet to the City Attorney and CVB for review.
May 17, 2024	Deadline to deliver electronic packet to the City Council.

Hotel Occupancy Tax

4

May 30, 2024 Special Meeting	The City Council review and discuss the HOT funding with the applicants.
June 4, 2024 Regular Meeting	The City Council award HOT funding.
June 5, 2024	Start getting contracts signed. After the contract is signed then Finance will provide the funding.

Hotel Occupancy Tax

5

- Texas Municipal League states - A city simply needs to remind itself to always follow the “two-part test.” The key element of a two-part test is – surprise – that it has two parts! Cities frequently remember to meet one element of the test, but often forget the second part.
- First Part – Heads in Beds
- Second Part – Ten Categories

Hotel Occupancy Tax

6

- (1) convention and visitor centers;
- (2) convention registration;
- (3) advertising the City;
- (4) promotion of the arts;
- (5) historical restoration and preservation;
- (6) sporting events in a county under one million in population;

Hotel Occupancy Tax

7

(7) enhancing or upgrading existing sports facilities or sports fields (only in certain cities);

(8) tourist transportation systems; and

(9) signage directing the public to sights and attractions that are visited frequently by hotel guests in the city.

(10) Coliseums or multiuse facilities

Thus, even if events put heads in beds, it cannot receive hotel tax money unless it also fits into one of the nine categories.

Hotel Occupancy Tax

8

Staff is needing directions on the following:

1. Change the timeline to work towards collecting funds before distribution?

2. Create a Policy approved by City Council

- ☐ Reduction of the Categories
- ☐ Final Report for previous funding must be filed to receive more funding
- ☐ Not accepting application after deadline

Hotel Occupancy Tax

9

3. Separate Application for Historical Restoration and Preservation?
4. Do you want to make any Changes to the HOT Application?
5. Do you want to make any Changes to the required reporting?
6. Additional information required from HOT applicants?