



COMMUNITY CONTEXT



OVERVIEW

An understanding of the current conditions of the City of Temple is important in order to move towards a plan for the future. This analysis includes acknowledgments of previous planning efforts and how the demographic and physical makeup of the community impacts the City's planning for future growth. This chapter examines Temple's history, profile of its people and existing condition of the elements listed below.

- **Historical Context:** *How initial and recent growth has shaped the City of Temple.*
- **Character of the City:** *The character of Temple is defined by growth management trends, key areas of development, and the revitalization of strategic areas.*
- **Demographics:** *Contains a detailed analysis of the present demographics of Temple.*
- **Housing and Neighborhoods:** *Includes data regarding recent household costs and characteristics*
- **Economic Prosperity:** *Summarizes the future economic outlook for the City of Temple.*
- **Downtown Temple:** *A look at Downtown's historical patterns and ongoing improvement efforts.*
- **Growth and Development:** *Consists of information regarding floodplain and stormwater drainage, water and wastewater service areas, and community facilities and services.*
- **Mobility and Transportation:** *Includes information on the existing transportation network and existing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.*
- **Placemaking:** *Details special events and how they improve the quality of life of community members.*
- **Public Safety:** *Contains existing conditions and data regarding public safety and community services.*



POLICE

TEMPLE

TEMPLE
POLICE

TEMPLE

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Temple's history is intrinsically tied to the growth of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway. Named for the company's chief engineer Bernard Moore Temple, today Temple has grown into a self-sustaining community with a thriving economic base. Temple continues to recognize and celebrate its deep roots and ties to its history as a railroad town and continues to benefit from its foundation as an early transportation center in Texas.

Founding

Temple was founded in 1880 when the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway purchased 187 acres from Jonathan E. Moore to develop a railroad junction point for the hundreds of miles of tracks that were spreading throughout the state.

In January 1881, a post office was established and the town was officially named Temple, after the company's chief construction engineer, Bernard M. Temple. By June 1881, the land had been surveyed and divided into lots for sale. Passengers were brought in from five different cities for a land auction.

Early Growth

The railway company was instrumental in the early development of the City. The company built its shops in Temple, and the population and industry grew rapidly. The City of Temple, Texas was incorporated in 1882, and by 1884 had 3,000 residents. In 1890, Temple had a reported population of approximately 7,065 people.

Along with its growing and diverse population came a variety of industries. In 1891, the railway built the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Hospital to provide medical services to the railroad workers. The railway officials hired Dr. Arthur Scott as chief surgeon in 1892, who hired on Dr. Raleigh White in 1895. The two formed a partnership in 1897 and opened their first hospital together in 1904, recognizing a need to extend medical services beyond the railway workers to residents of Temple. This new venture eventually evolved into Scott and White Memorial, giving rise to one of the fastest growing healthcare systems in the 20th century: Baylor Scott and White Health.



The Temple Municipal Building is located at the southwest corner of West Adams Avenue and South Main Street.

Diversifying and Flourishing Industries

In 1930, Temple had a reported population of 15,345 people. The Great Depression slowed what had been a steady growth, but between 1940 and 1960, the population nearly doubled again from 15,344 to 30,419 people. While growth continued to be led by Temple's expanding medical industry, its proximity to the railway and highway networks contributed to the growth of agriculture, education, manufacturing, and transportation sectors of the area economy.

Industrial growth continued into the 1920s as American Desk Company (1921), a Coca-Cola bottling plant (1925), and Temple Junior College (1926) were formed. In the 1950s and 1960s Wilsonart and McLane Company were established in Temple, two of Temple's largest non-medical employers with an international reach.

By the 1970s, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (Texas A&M AgriLife) was established as a research substation in Temple, and the City became home to the offices of the United States Soil Conservation Service.

Recent Historical Growth

By 1980, the population had risen to 42,483 people and to 49,851 by 1990. The 1990s saw a slowing of growth and even loss of population, but by 2000 the population had surpassed the 1990 population and increased to 54,514 people. Centrally located in the state and listed among major Texas cities, Temple represents a geographic and economic center of Texas which is anticipating continued growth in the City and surrounding areas.

Section Sources: Texas State Historical Association



As a result of the 1920s growth of Scott and White Hospital, the Kyle Hotel was constructed.

CHARACTER OF THE CITY

Overview

The development patterns of a city are influenced not only by the environmental conditions, but also by the priorities of the community and the development policies that enable certain patterns of growth. An analysis of these conditions can give the City an insight into why certain development outcomes have occurred.

Growth Management Trends

Historically, development in Temple remained relatively compact and contiguous, centered on its economic drivers: the railroad and growing medical industry. In the 1950s, the City of Temple began to annex small areas along its outskirts, and made larger, strategic acquisitions to facilitate the growth of the rail and medical industries.

Prior to 1980, most of the City's incorporated area was east of I-35; however, beginning in the 1980s, the City began annexing westward. In 1982, the City of Temple created a Temple Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) west of I-35 with the intent of investing in new infrastructure to support economic expansion, including the airport. The 1980s also saw a significant shift in the general pattern of development across the City.

The City's 2008 Comprehensive Plan included an analysis of the history of the City's development pattern and found that during "the early 1950s through the mid-1980s, the pattern of development occurred generally in a contiguous manner. Since 1986, however, development has become fragmented and scattered throughout the periphery of the City and throughout the ETJ."

The 2008 Comprehensive Plan noted several contributing factors to the change in development patterns, such as a lack of regulations outside the City limits, availability of water supplied by rural water providers, and other City and county policies that the plan identified as enabling a sprawling development pattern.

Since recognizing this trend and the consequences of uncontrolled growth, the City has sought to strike a balance in how the City grows, shifting more attention back to downtown and capitalizing on reinvestment opportunities through the TRZ. In 1999, the TRZ was expanded to include downtown Temple, and again in 2010 to include the Temple Medical and Educational District (TMED).



The Historic District was formed to protect, improve, and continue the heritage and integrity of the property in the borders of the oldest residential part of Temple.

Key Areas of Development and Growth Pressures

Temple faces the challenge of balancing and responding to the needs of different, yet related, development pressures, particularly between “old” and “new” areas of development and between residential growth and commercial growth. As growth rates and development pressures increase, it is critical for the City to focus on proactively planning for growth so as to not risk finding itself in a position of responding to it.

Economic Centers

City leadership recognizes the need to protect the City’s economic assets to avoid the risk of incompatible development. The Temple Reinvestment Zone steers not only investment to these areas but also designates careful attention to developmental policies in and around these areas to promote their success.

Residential Development

Temple continues to experience residential growth pressure to the south and west where new subdivisions are emerging. Likewise, commercial growth serving these residents is increasing and expected to continue. The City must plan for appropriate infrastructure, safety services, and recreation opportunities, among other municipal services in anticipation of potential traffic, safety, and quality of life needs that inevitably accompany growth.

Revitalizing Downtown and Stabilizing Older Neighborhoods

Like many communities in the late 20th century, development in Temple moved away from the City center and into greenfields where land was plentiful, leaving downtown and older neighborhoods to decline. In recent years, the City has pursued strategies to revitalize downtown and to stabilize the surrounding historic neighborhoods, while also preventing deterioration in other vulnerable areas.

Community Character

Community character goes beyond typical classification of land uses and accounts for the physical characteristics of the built environment, such as scale, density, and arrangement of buildings, and landscaping. These features influence the perceived quality of development and community appearance.

Environmental Factors

Temple is located along the Balcones Fault on the northeastern tip of the Hill Country, and so lies on mixed geography of hills to the west and more gentle blackland prairie to the east. The areas to the west are characterized by low hills, creeks, and trees, and they are desirable for residential buyers. Floodplain, fault impacts, soils and tree cover continue to have an effect on the suitability of developable land in Temple.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

2018 TOTAL POPULATION



76,256

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Comm. Survey

2038 PROJECTED POPULATION



112,056

Source: Templeton Demographics

2017 MEDIAN AGE



32.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & American Comm. Survey

2017 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



\$52,416

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Comm. Survey

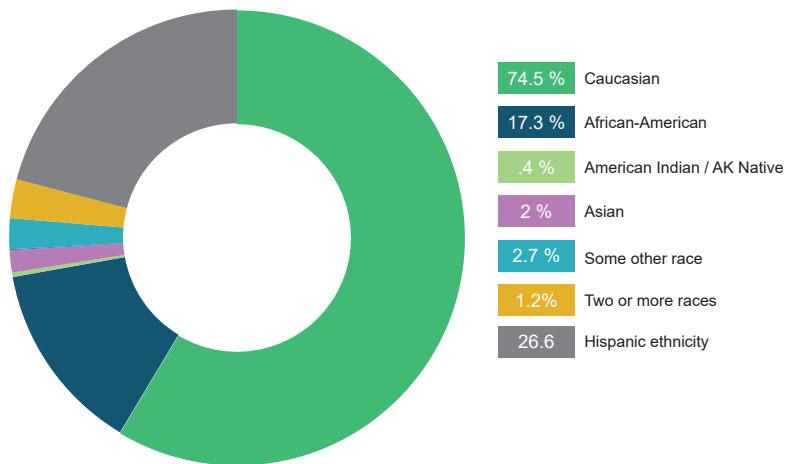
2017 POVERTY LEVEL



14.9%

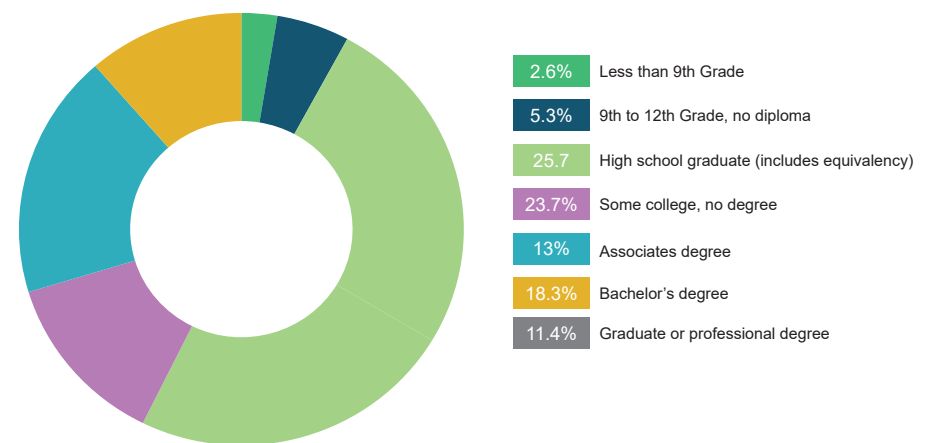
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Comm. Survey

2017 RACIAL / ETHNIC COMPOSITION



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

2017 EDUCATION



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population

The historic populations of Temple, Bell County, and Texas are illustrated in Figure 2.1, *Historic Population 1980-2018*. The population of Temple has grown at a slower pace than Bell County and Texas, but recent trends show that Temple is growing at a much faster rate than previous decades (15.4% since 2010).

Population Projection

The population projections for the Temple, Bell County, and Texas are illustrated in Figure 2.2, *Population Projections 2020-2040*. Temple is projected to grow at the same rate as Bell County through the year 2040. The growth rate of Texas is significantly lower during the same time frame.

The growth rate of Temple and Bell County, in comparison to the state, indicates growth in Central Texas is projected to be greater than Texas as a whole. This is due in part to the location of both Temple and Bell County within the “Texas Triangle” along the I-35 corridor. As mentioned in Section 2.2, *Regional Context*, the proximity of Temple to the four largest metropolitan areas in Texas will have an impact on Temple’s future growth and development.

FIGURE 2.1: HISTORIC POPULATION 1980-2018

Year	City of Temple	Bell County	Texas
1980	42,483	157,889	14,229,191
1990	46,109	191,088	16,986,510
2000	54,514	237,974	20,851,820
2010	66,102	310,235	25,145,561
2018	76,256	355,642	28,701,845
Percent Change 1980-2018	79%	125%	102%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.2: POPULATION PROJECTIONS 2020-2040

Year	City of Temple ¹	Bell County ²	Texas ²
2020	84,700	371,956	27,238,610
2030	102,028	430,647	28,994,210
2038 ¹ / 2040 ²	112,056	494,582	30,305,304
Percent Change 2020 - 2040	32.3%	33.0%	11.3%

Source: ¹Templeton Demographics and ²2016 Regional Water Plan, Texas Water Development Board.

Educational Attainment

The educational attainment for individuals 25 and older are listed in Figure 2.3, *Educational Attainment of Population in 2017*. Temple and Bell County both have a significantly higher high school graduation rate than the state of Texas. The number of people in Temple who attended college is lower than the county rate, but higher than Texas.

There is also a substantially higher rate of individuals with graduate or professional degrees in Temple than in Bell County or Texas. Temple and Bell County’s overall higher rate of educational attainment could be partially attributed to its location within Central Texas, which is home to a higher number of state and private universities compared with the western half of the state.

Race

The racial composition of Temple, Bell County, and the state of Texas is illustrated in Figure 2.4, *Racial / Ethnic Composition in 2017*. The population of Temple is predominately Caucasian and the second largest racial population is African-American. The racial composition of Temple is similar to the state of Texas, however, Bell County has a lower percentage of Caucasians, while there is greater representation of all other listed groups within the county.

An analysis of racial composition from 1990 - 2017 has shown that the Caucasian population has increased in the City of Temple, while the number of African-Americans has decreased. County data indicates an increase in African-American population during the same time period.

FIGURE 2.3: EDUCATION ATTAINMENT OF POPULATION IN 2017

Education Level	City of Temple	Bell County	Texas
Did not graduate from High School	8%	8%	16%
High School Graduate	92%	92%	84%
Some College/Bachelor’s Degree	55%	58%	48%
Graduate or Professional Degree	11%	9%	10%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.4: RACIAL / ETHNIC COMPOSITION IN 2017

Race	City of Temple	Bell County	Texas
Caucasian	74.5%	66.1%	79.2%
African-American	17.3%	24.0%	12.7%
American Indian / AK. Native	0.4%	1.1%	1.0%
Asian	2.0%	3.3%	5.0%
Some Other Race Alone	0.1%	0.9%	0.1%
Two or More Races	3.5%	4.6%	2.0%
Ethnicity			
Hispanic	26.6%	23.2%	37.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

Income and Poverty

Figure 2.5, *Median Household Income in 2017* illustrates the median household income for Temple, Bell County, and the state of Texas for 2017. The median household income for Temple is approximately equivalent to Bell County, which is less than Texas. This income level disparity between the state and local level could be likely attributed to higher than average household income levels of some of the largest urban areas in Texas (Dallas-Ft. Worth, Houston, San Antonio and Austin).

Compared to its peers, the Killeen-Temple-Belton MSA has a lower number of households with an income above \$100,000 (17 percent) and a higher number of households making between \$25,000 and \$49,999 (27 percent). Like income levels, the MSA has more housing at the lower end of the spectrum (below \$199,999) than the I-35 corridor, the state, and the US.¹

Figure 2.6, *Poverty in 2017* illustrates the number of residents living below the poverty line in Temple, Bell County, and the state of Texas for 2017. The income levels represented in Bell County are not at the levels represented in larger metropolitan areas and skews incomes levels of smaller cities. The poverty level represented in Bell county and the City of Temple is similar to the State of Texas at 15 percent.

FIGURE 2.5: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 2017

Jurisdiction	2017 Households	2017 Median Household Income
Temple	27,395	\$49,970
Bell County	122,333	\$52,479
Texas	9,623,874	\$59,206

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.6: POVERTY IN 2017

Jurisdiction	2017 Total Population	2017 Below Poverty Line	2017 % Below Poverty Line
Temple	73,395	10,912	14.9%
Bell County	336,805	47,084	14.0%
Texas	27,676,343	4,076,905	14.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

Housing characteristics are an important part of a community snapshot. Shifts in the make-up of households; as well as the type, age, and price of housing, can determine what type of housing will be needed in the future. This section contains housing information from the 2010 and 2017 American Community Survey Five-year Estimates.

In the 2018 Templeton study, the study documented 24 subdivisions with active new home building, and an additional 25 future planned developments on the horizon. Within the city limits there were approximately 1,430 single family lots available to build and an additional 6,725 planned future single family lots. The study projected that Temple would see approximately 700 – 750 new housing starts annually for the next 5 to 6 years.

Since 2010, multi family development has been uneven until recently, as several new projects have been approved and constructed. In 2017 and 2018, 667 multi family units have been built, with others in the pipeline as of 2020. Much of the interest has been located in South Temple along the S. 31st corridor, a high growth area near the Baylor Scott and White campus and TMED employment center.

Household Characteristics

Between 2010 and 2017, the amount of occupied housing units grew by 27 percent and the population in households grew by over 11 percent. There are fewer inhabitants in non-family households than in family households and the average household size rose from 2.67 in 2010 to 2.69 in 2017. The median household income in 2017 was \$49,970 which is lower than the state figure and Bell County. In addition, in terms of occupancy characteristics, around half of inhabited units are owned and half are rented. Since 2010, the increase of renter-occupied units outpaced the decrease of owner-occupied units. The vacancy rate is low and fell from 20.8 in 2010 to only 2.3 in 2017, suggesting that there is need for housing. See Figure 2.7, *Household Characteristics*.

Housing Stock Characteristics

As shown in Figure 2.9, *Housing Type and Unit Breakdown*, most housing units are single-family detached units, although the amount of single-family attached units is growing.

Cost of Housing

The median property value increased in 2010 to 2017 from \$107,100 to \$132,200. Median gross rent also rose over fifteen percent. Based on the cost of median property values, it is apparent that there is a demand for additional affordable housing as Temple keeps expanding. See Figure 2.11, *Cost of Housing*.

FIGURE 2.7: HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

	2010	2017	% Change
Total Occupied Housing Units	23,359	29,662	26.98%
Population in Households	63,151	70,228	11.21%
Average HH Size	2.67	2.69	0.75%
Family Households	54,389	58,517	7.59%
Population in Family Households	15,878	16,687	5.10%
Average Family HH Size	3.29	3.42	3.95%
Non-Family Households	9,313	11,711	25.75%
Median Household Income	\$47,240	\$49,970	5.78%

Sources: 2017 - 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates Tables B09019, DP04, S1101 and 2010 - 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Tables B09019, S110.

FIGURE 2.8: OCCUPANCY CHARACTERISTICS

Occupancy Characteristic	2010	2017	% Change
Total Housing Units	28,005	29,662	5.9%
Occupied Housing Units	23,359	26,127	11.8%
Vacant Housing Units	4,646	3,535	-23.9%
Vacancy Rate	20.8	2.3	-88.9%
Owner Occupied	14,132	14,111	-0.1%
Owner Occupancy Rate	60.5%	54.0%	-10.7%
Renter Occupied	9,227	12,016	30.2%
Renter Occupancy Rate	39.5%	46.0%	16.4%

Sources: 2013-2017 and 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates Table DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics.

FIGURE 2.9: HOUSING TYPE AND UNIT BREAKDOWN

	2010		2017		
Total:	28,005		29,662		
1, detached	18,100		19247		
1, attached	409		581		
2	1293		1398		
3 or 4	1392		1243		
5 to 9	2775		2247		
10 to 19	1722		1940		
20 to 49	625		670		

Sources: 2013-2017 and 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates Table B25024: Units in Structure.

FIGURE 2.10: AGE OF HOUSING STOCK

	Decade of Construction						
	Housing Units (Total)	1939 or Earlier	1940-1959	1960-1979	1980-1999	2000-2009	2010 or later
All Housing Types	26,127	1,262	3,479	6,955	6,820	5,241	2370
Percentage	-	5%	13%	27%	26%	20%	9%

Source: 2017: 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates, B25127: Tenure by Year Structure Built by Units in Structure.

FIGURE 2.11: COST OF HOUSING

Sources:			
2017 - 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates,			
2010 - 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics; DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics			

Source: 2013-2017 and 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates Tables DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics and B25064: Median Gross Rent.



Example of typical housing in the Temple Historic District

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Labor and Industry

The rapid growth projected for Temple and the quality of life favors Temple for high-quality development potential. With further business recruitment and City revenue growth and diversification, the economic growth outlook is strong. Economic development efforts are focused on enticing quality retail development, light industrial, small corporate headquarters, and quality of life elements. These endeavors will be necessary to support sufficient growth for sales tax and utility revenues to support the public's vision and needs as portrayed in this Plan.

Labor Market

Similar to the population, the MSA's civilian labor force grew by 5.4 percent since 2010. With an average unemployment rate of 4.2 percent in 2017, the MSA has reached full employment.

Since the 2007–2009 recession, the Killeen-Temple MSA has experienced erratic employment levels, reaching a low of 184,431 jobs in 2013 to a high of 194,865 in 2017. These fluctuations are likely explained by changes in troops stationed at Fort Hood. From 2008 to 2013, the MSA lost 8,352 jobs, but regained those lost jobs and more by 2017. Labor force participation in the MSA is much lower than the I-35 corridor, the state, and the US, signaling that people could return to the workforce under the right conditions.

Composition

The three largest industries by total number of jobs in the MSA are healthcare & social assistance, education, and retail trade. These are also the top three industries for the I-35 corridor, the state, and the US. The MSA has a lower percentage of manufacturing and professional services jobs than the state and the US. Federal government (civilian) and education are industries that have significant concentrations (above 1.25 Location Quotient, with 1.0 being average concentration).



Downtown street corner in Temple

Between 2012 and 2017, retail trade, healthcare & social assistance, and lodging, restaurants, & bars were the industries that added the largest number of jobs. Information, federal government (civilian), and transportation & warehousing were the only industries to lose jobs over this time period.

Occupational Clusters

The three largest occupational clusters by total number of jobs in the MSA are office & administrative support, sales & related, and food preparation & serving related. These are also the top three occupational clusters for the I-35 corridor, the state, and the US. Based on the state and the US, the MSA has fewer construction & extraction, production, and management jobs. The percentage of healthcare support and protective service jobs stand out as slightly above the state and the US. In terms of concentration of jobs (LQs), the MSA has a number of significant concentrations as seen in the healthcare practitioners & technical; protective service; education, training, & library; and healthcare support clusters.

Commuting

Employed workers who live in the Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood MSA exceed the number of jobs in the metro area, resulting in net outbound commuting. In 2015, 16,261 more workers commuted out of the MSA than commuted in for work. Due to population growth in the MSA and the I-35 corridor, all commuting groups (outbound, inbound, and live and work in the MSA) have increased for the MSA.

36 percent of MSA workers live in either Killeen or Temple. Similarly, 35.2 percent of MSA residents work in these two cities. Outside the MSA, Austin was the destination for the largest percentage of outbound commuters (6.4 percent). Healthcare is the only industry where more workers commute into the MSA than commute out for work. Key

industries for the MSA, such as manufacturing, wholesale trade, and transportation & warehousing, export more workers than they draw in.

Targeted Industries

- *Business support services*
- *Computer services*
- *Consulting services*
- *Corporate headquarters*
- *Engineering services*
- *Credit intermediation*
- *Software publishers*
- *Health and life sciences*
- *Medical apparatus*
- *Process & laboratory instruments*
- *Optical instr. & ophthalmic goods*
- *Surgical & dental instr. & supplies*
- *Medical laboratories*
- *Biological products*
- *Biopharmaceutical products*
- *Diagnostic substances*

Section Sources: Templeton Demographics, TIP Strategies

DOWNTOWN

Existing Conditions

Historic Buildings

Over the past several years, Temple has made progress building off its existing assets. In downtown there is a strong supply of historic buildings and infrastructure that has been left intact and still influences the development pattern of downtown. Buildings are generally two or three stories, with a few towers; however, many of the historic buildings have been altered over the years or left to deteriorate and will require restoration.

A number of landmark buildings are located throughout the downtown, including the Santa Fe Depot, Moody Depot, and MKT Depot. In 2005, the Temple Commercial Historic District was established as part of the National Register of Historic Places, which provides opportunities for preservation tax credits for 112 contributing historic structures.

There is a concentration of buildings along Main Street, South 2nd Street, and South 4th Street, south of Adams Street. This area is the most walkable and has the greatest variety of uses and activity

of downtown and can serve as a catalyst for revitalization efforts in downtown Temple.

Street Network and Connectivity

The historic street grid with short blocks has been left intact makes for good connectivity and walkability potential in downtown. However, many of the streets are focused on vehicles, with sidewalks lacking pedestrian enhancements, reducing the desirability of walking. An exception to this is the area around Main Street and 2nd Street, south of Adams Street, and the new South First Street reconstruction.

Land Uses and Activity Centers

Land is generally under-utilized, with a significant amount of land given to parking and storage lots. Land uses are predominantly commercial, business, and government oriented with a limited selection of restaurant and entertainment uses. Surrounding downtown are historic neighborhoods that could potentially use downtown if more restaurants or neighborhood-serving commercial areas were available. In addition, public transit and the library currently exist in downtown. The annual Bloomin' Temple Festival also takes place in downtown in the three-block festival grounds managed by the Parks Department.



Downtown Temple contains offices, shops, locations for events, and restaurants.

As referenced earlier, Temple's growth remained relatively close into the city center until the latter half of the 20th century when it started growing geographically. However, the cost of city expansion beyond the city center came at the cost of declining downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.

2014 Downtown Strategic Plan

In its efforts to revive the "heart of the city," the Downtown Temple Strategic Plan was developed in 2014. This document defined a study area and identified challenges and opportunities for investment and development in the downtown area and outlined a strategic plan for implementation. This plan established a vision for pedestrian connectivity, activated streetscapes, new residential in downtown, and a new civic center. Since this planning effort, public investment has significantly increased in downtown Temple.

FIGURE 2.12: 2014 DOWNTOWN PLANNING AREA



Recent Activity

The 2014 planning effort identified certain public improvements that could be catalyst projects that would, in turn, spur private investment and redevelopment. Temple's downtown has a good framework to create a hub of activity with a mix of new and old buildings, land uses, and rotating "peak hour" demand.

Recent activity includes the completed Santa Fe Plaza and adjacent office complex, development of the downtown linear park, South 1st Street street improvements, and several new downtown tenant finish-outs. The partnership between the City and developers of the Hawn Hotel site, Arcadia and Sears Building includes a public parking garage and hopefully becomes a major step forward for eastern downtown. Also on the coming-soon list is the construction of a new parking garage at South 1st and Avenue A that will provide public parking relief near employment buildings and public activity centers. North of Adams on Main Street, recently-issued facade grants are returning historic buildings to their historic origins for retail and restaurant tenants.

Downtown Temple is at the cusp of becoming a destination not just for civic and office functions but bringing in new residents and evening activities, in addition to planned cultural enhancements such as the new children's museum and outdoor gathering spaces.



Source: 2014 Downtown Strategic Plan



GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

Utility Systems/Growth and Capacity

The five main utility systems serving the residents of the City of Temple are owned and operated by the City. These systems include Source, Water Distribution Team, Wastewater Collection Group, Wastewater Treatment, and Environmental Programs. This allows Temple a great deal of local control with regard to influence on development and funding opportunities for key City projects.

Ownership of utility systems provides direct benefit to the local economy, particularly for job attraction and strategic economic development efforts. Utility ownership provides a distinct recruitment tool for economic development due to consistent cost, dependable service, and the capacity to provide infrastructure to retain and encourage business.

The Leon River supplies surface water for one of Temple's Water Treatment Plants, and runs it through a treatment process so that it is safe to drink. Daily, the City pumps 15 million gallons of water on average, which is equivalent to 23 olympic-size swimming pools.

The City of Temple Utility Business Office (water and wastewater) is locally owned and managed. Ownership of both utilities provides for enhanced local government efficiency by sharing of staff, equipment, and resources. Community governance allows matching local resources to local needs and a commitment to conservation, safety, and nature. In the future, the City should be proactive and take actions to maintain local control of the utilities and the decision whether or not to decide into competition for its consumer/residents.

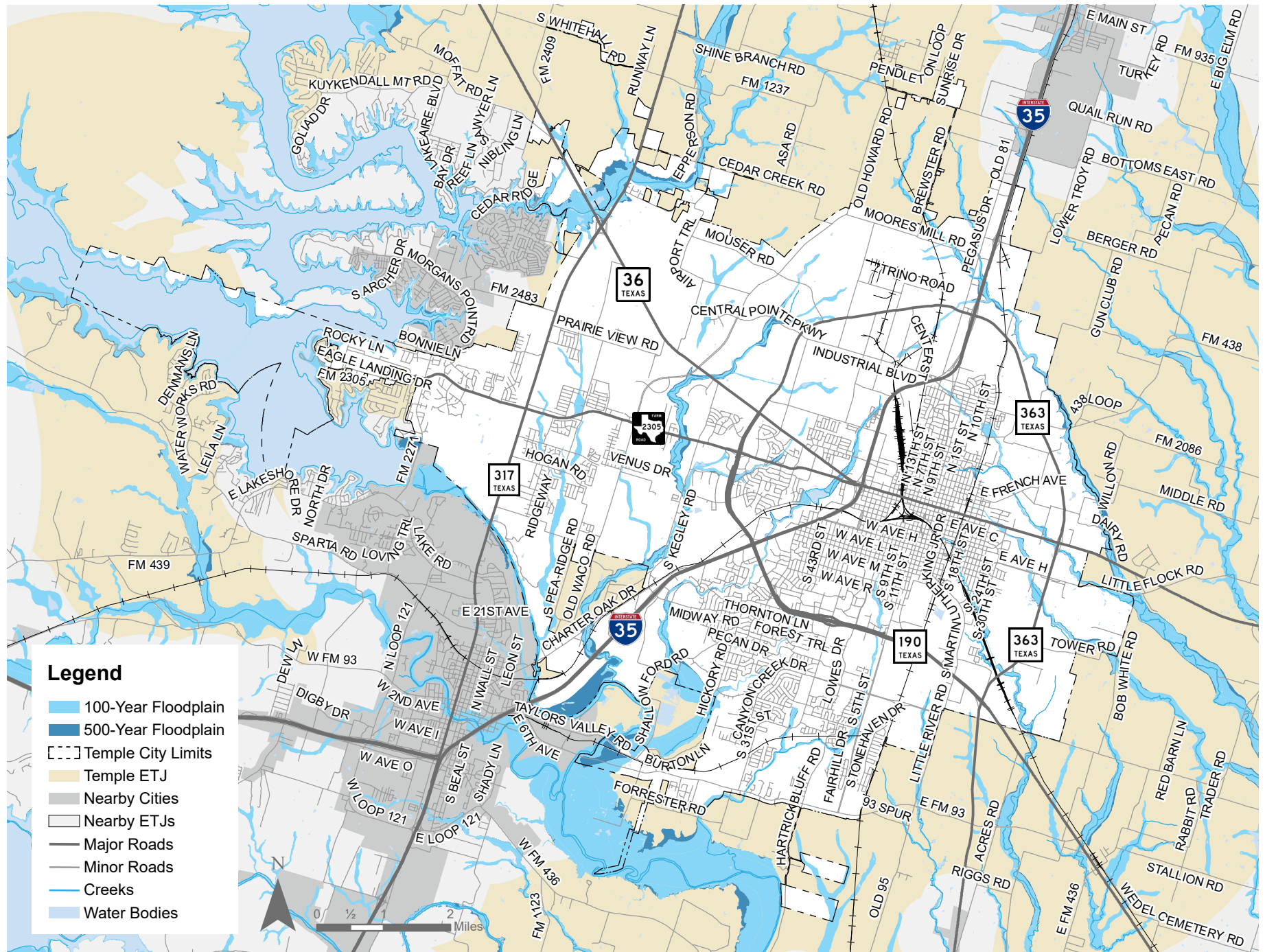
The management of stormwater drainage, providing enough clean drinking water, and safe delivery and treatment of wastewater is important for the health and well-being of any community. In the warm climate of Central Texas, this requirement can be felt much more deeply. In the past, the City has established policies and practices to ensure the provision of these important utilities and to drive community development. As growth continues to happen at a fast rate in Temple, it is imperative that the infrastructure system grows concurrent with the expansion of the City and stays properly maintained.

Floodplain and Drainage System

The flat topography of Central Texas can lead to rapid drainage and flash flooding in storms. Stormwater falling on the ground adjacent to Temple moves downhill until it drains into the creek and lakes in Temple. The Leon River runs along the southwest border of Temple. With further growth usually comes expanded impervious cover and the possibility for a rise in flooding. The Drainage Division of the Street Department was established in 1998 to tackle the drainage problems in the City of Temple. The Drainage Division performs the upkeep of stormwater drainage infrastructure, containing streams, concrete drainage flumes, and grassed detention ponds.

A few areas in downtown Temple are in the floodplain (see Map 2.1, *Floodplain and Drainage*). As a result, it is important to ensure that working drainage structures and/or channels are available to manage flood conditions when necessary. The entire City and ETJ of Temple are in the Trinity Aquifer contributing zone.

MAP 2.1: FLOODPLAIN AND DRAINAGE



Water Service

The supply of potable water for the City of Temple is surface water which comes from the Leon River south of Belton Lake and is found in the Brazos River Basin. The City of Temple has two water treatment plants. Along the Leon River, the City owns and operates a surface water treatment and membrane water treatment plant (WTP). One plant is a conventional treatment plant that has a maximum treatment capacity of 29.4 million gallons per day (MGD). The second treatment plant is a micro-filtration pall membrane treatment plant. The membrane plant has a maximum capacity of 11.6 MGD. Temple contracts with the Brazos River Authority (BRA) for 30,453 acre-feet of water each year, obtaining their supply from the Leon River, downstream from Belton Lake. Assuming current per-capita intake persists, there is a possible requirement to upgrade the plant. It is important that the City continues to serve as good stewards of its water supply.

Storage and pumping capacity will need to be increased incrementally as service population rises. To maintain operating costs, regular rate increases should occur as necessary. In addition, every five years, state law requires the re-calculation of impact fees to address growth and new connections.

RECLAIMED WATER

The City accomplishes significant water savings by supplying direct reuse to one of the City's highest water customers, Panda Power. Since 2014, the City has supplied almost five billion gallons of reclaimed wastewater to Panda Power to use in their power plant cooling towers. Additionally, the City uses reclaimed wastewater to supplement irrigation at Wilson Park and the City's tree farm on the east side of Temple. In the past five years, 20 percent of all of the water dispersed in the utility system was reclaimed and reused.

Wastewater Service

The capacity of the Temple-Belton wastewater treatment plant is 10 million gallons per day. The capacity of the Doshier Farms wastewater treatment plant is 7.5 million gallons per day.

Two wastewater treatment facilities serve Temple. The operation of the Temple-Belton Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in Belton, is funded by The City of Temple and the City of Belton. The other wastewater treatment plant, located on the east side of Temple, is the Doshier Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant, funded by the City of Temple. The City of Temple also provides funding to maintain all 31 City-owned lift stations. An agreement with the Brazos River Authority achieves this.

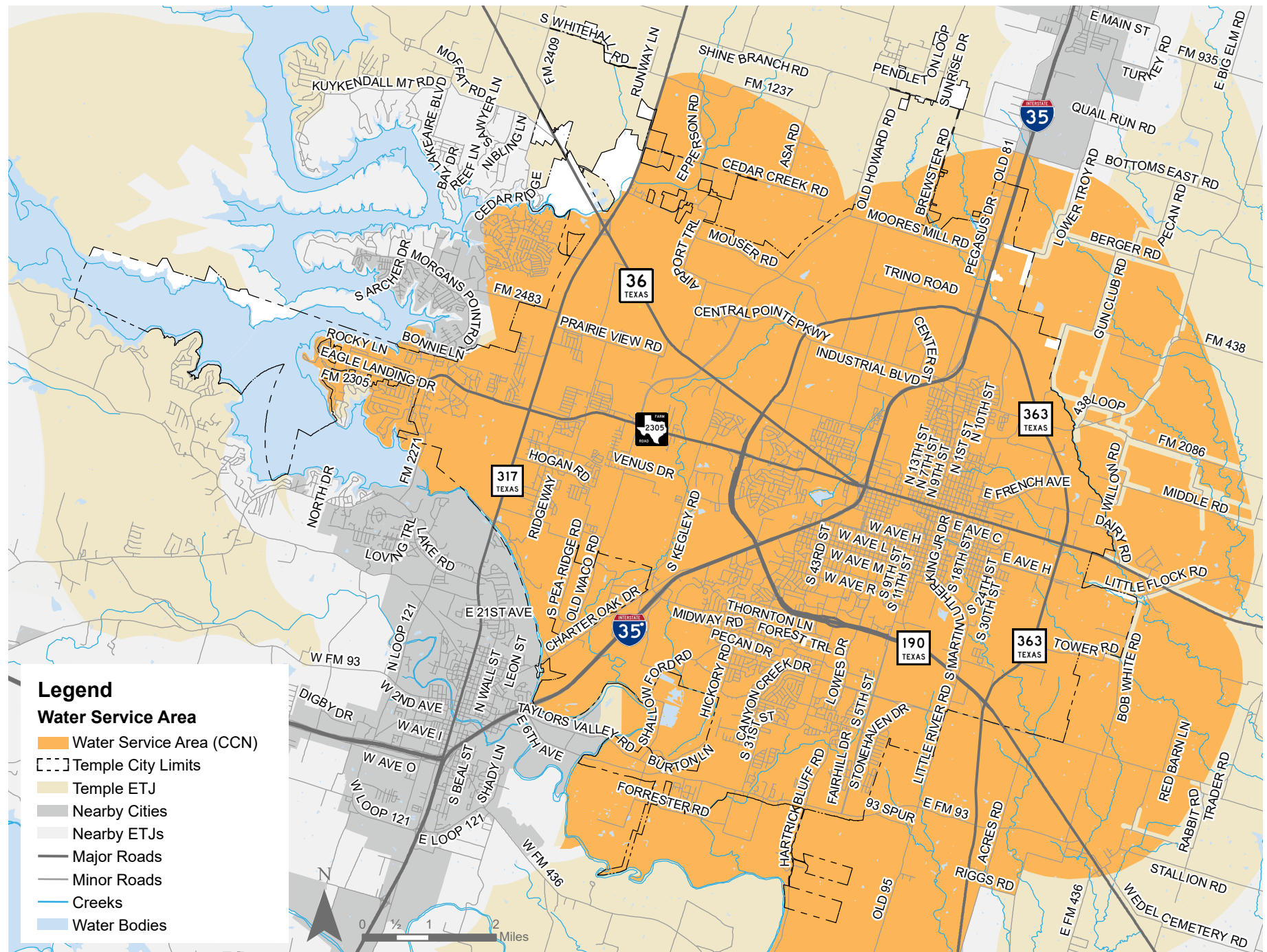
The majority of Temple is covered by the wastewater collection system with the exception of the west side of the City. Map 2.3, *Wastewater Service Area*, illustrates the wastewater service area and a one-quarter-mile potential expansion buffer.



Temple-Belton Wastewater Treatment Plant



MAP 2.2: WATER SERVICE AREA (CCN)



Legend

- Wastewater Service Area (CCN)
- Temple City Limits
- Temple ETJ
- Nearby Cities
- Nearby ETJs
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads
- Creeks
- Water Bodies

0 1/2 2 Miles

Overview of Existing Zoning System

Temple's zoning regulations determine the mix of land uses within the City limits, consisting of residential, commercial, and agricultural uses. Commercial zoning is located mainly on Interstate 35, Texas 363 Loop, other arterials and the City center. Residential zoning is spread all over the City as displayed on Map 2.4, *Existing Zoning Map*. Figure 2.13, *Existing Zoning*, lists all of the zoning districts and their existing acreage.

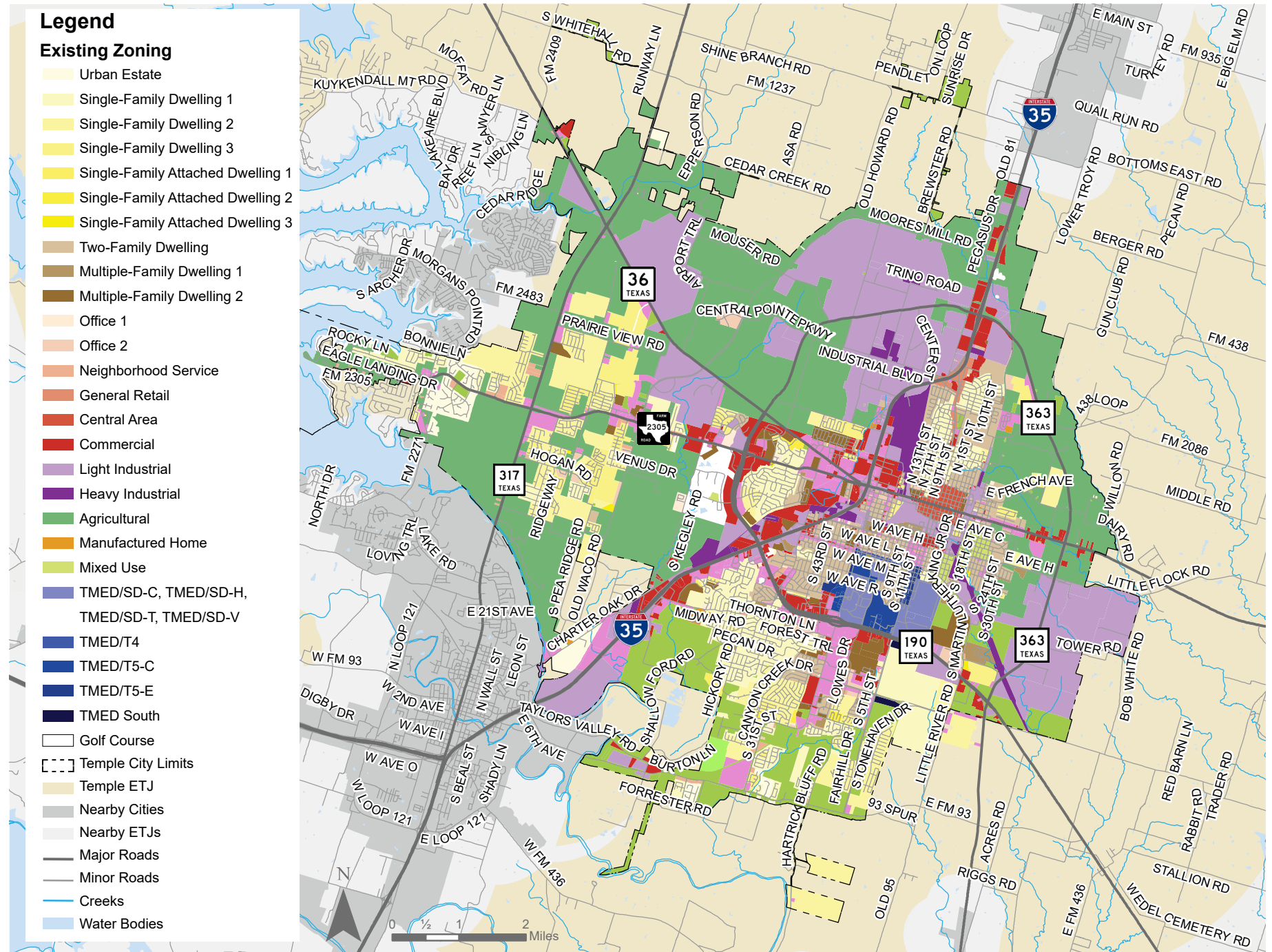
Within the City limits, agricultural lands make up the largest percentage of land, followed by Light Industrial, Single-Family Residential, and General Retail. Agricultural makes up about 41 percent of all land in the City, suggesting that there is a large quantity of property available to be further developed.

Within Temple there are 16,200 vacant acres of land (38%). Residential acres make up 20,500 acres (79% of development land). The build-out population potential of Temple at current development pattern is approximately 160,000-180,000.

FIGURE 2.13 EXISTING ZONING

Existing Land Use	Total Acreage	% of Total Land Use
Urban Estate	649	1.4%
Single-Family Dwelling 1	3,619	8.0%
Single-Family Dwelling 2	3,245	7.2%
Single-Family Dwelling 3	1,164	2.6%
Single-Family Attached Dwelling 1	43	0.1%
Single-Family Attached Dwelling 2	55	0.1%
Single-Family Attached Dwelling 3	33	0.1%
Two-Family Dwelling	2,140	4.7%
Multiple-Family Dwelling 1	224	0.5%
Multiple-Family Dwelling 2	751	1.7%
Multiple-Family Dwelling 3	6	0.0%
Office 1	111	0.2%
Office 2	324	0.7%
Neighborhood Service	173	0.4%
General Retail	2,475	5.5%
Central Area	190	0.4%
Commercial	1,902	4.2%
Light Industrial	8,216	18.1%
Heavy Industrial	837	1.8%
Agricultural	17,694	39.0%
Manufactured Home	49	0.1%
Mixed Use	211	0.5%
TMED/SD-C, TMED/SD-H, TMED/SD-T, TMED/SD-V	487	1.1%
TMED/T4	53	0.1%
TMED/T5-C	241	0.5%
TMED/T5-E	73	0.2%
TMED South	51	0.1%
Golf Course	355	0.8%
Total	45,370	100.0%

MAP 2.4: EXISTING ZONING MAP



MOBILITY & TRANSPORTATION

Existing Thoroughfare System

The condition of a city's transportation system can influence the quality of life for its citizens. Positive vehicular flow enables residents and visitors to easily travel from place to place resulting in a healthy functioning urban system. The present preferred method of transportation for the inhabitants of Temple is by motor vehicle, while walking and bicycling are other secondary options.

Temple is situated along the Interstate 35 corridor, a major expressway which runs generally north-south through the City. H. K. Dodgen Loop provides circular flow around the City, connecting key corridors. Some of the major arterial streets throughout the City include Airport Road, Adams Avenue, Avenue H, 31st Street, 3rd Street, and 1st Street. See Map 2.5, *Major Existing Thoroughfares*.

Local and Regional Initiatives

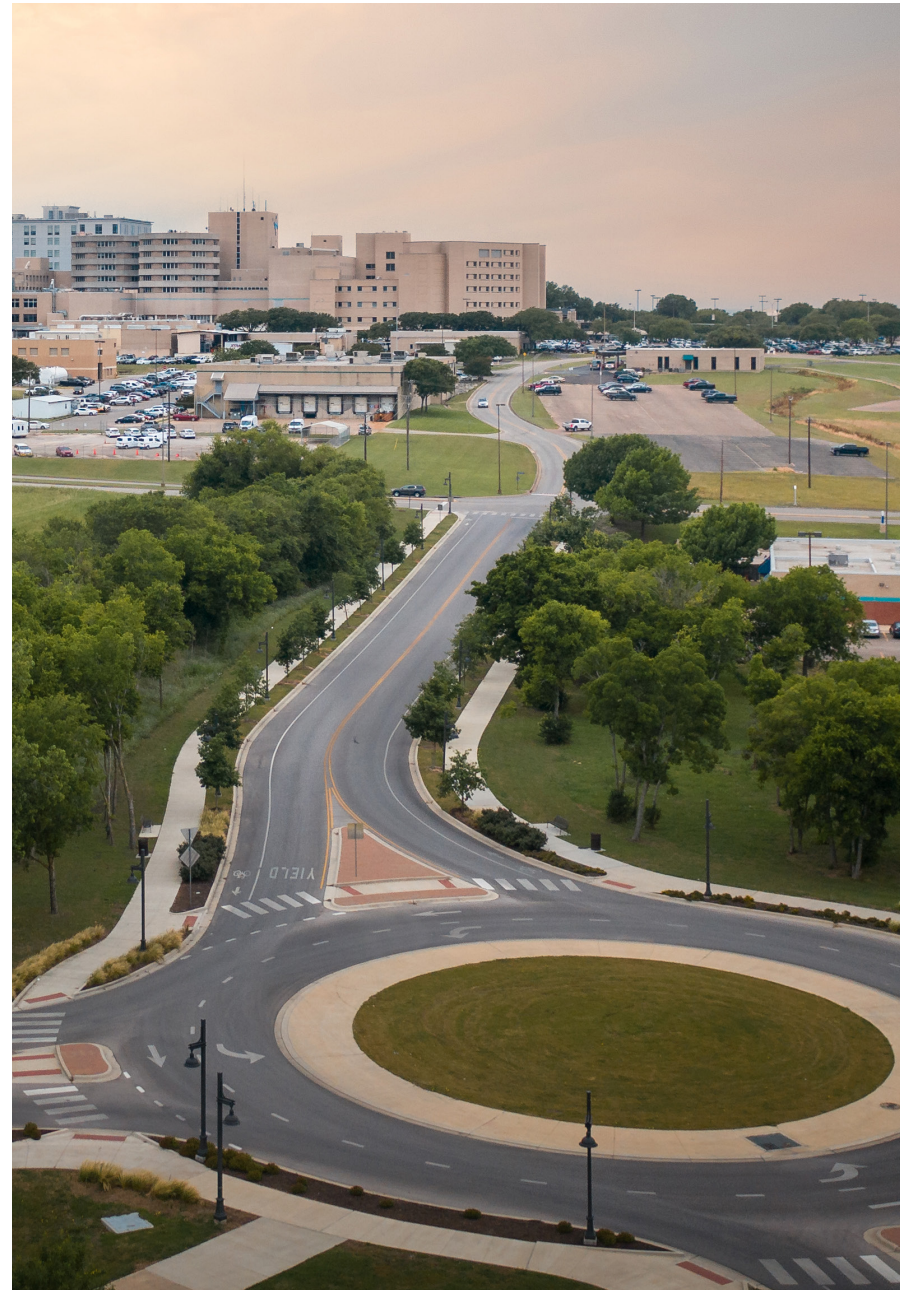
A regional transportation study was completed in 2013 to determine recommended solutions to solve the growing transportation needs in and outside of Temple and in the greater Bell County region. Top needs in the study include the following.

- 95% of survey respondents indicated that transportation needs were substandard.

Since traffic on Interstate 35 is often congested, residents are forced to use alternate routes. Other roads that are utilized include the following.

- NW H K Dodgen Loop;
- Highway 190;
- Airport Road; and
- Highway 317.

In the future, the City will continue to evaluate solutions to enhance connectivity throughout Temple.



Connectivity around Temple is important to provide residents and visitors easy access around the City.

Legend

- Expressway
- Major Arterial
- Temple City Limits
- Temple ETJ
- Nearby Cities
- Nearby ETJs
- Existing Streets
- County
- Creeks
- Water Bodies

0 1/2 1 2 Miles

Overview of Existing Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

The Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Planning Organization is responsible for establishing a continued, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process within the urbanized areas of Bell County, where Temple resides. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities play a vital role in creating a multi-modal transportation system. Bike lanes, sidewalks, and other facilities provide an easy and safe way for people to access public transportation systems. By providing a safe route to transit stops and public facilities more people are likely to use public transit, likely resulting in decreased traffic congestion and improved air quality.

Currently, most residents in Temple get around by car, but with added infrastructure catering to bicyclists and pedestrians there could be more of an interest in the community to reduce reliance on cars. At this time, it can be challenging or dangerous to bicycle in the City of Temple.

Depicted on Map 2.6, *Existing Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities*, are the existing sidewalks and trails in the City of Temple. There are approximately 140 miles of sidewalks and 26 miles of trails in the City.

There are 23 existing trails in Temple. The Pepper Creek Hike and Bike Trail is one of the longest trails that Temple has to offer. Connections between neighborhoods, parks, and major arteries are established with these trails, and provide recreation opportunities for community members.

FM 2305 Hike and Bike Trail is a highly used five-mile concrete hike and bike path that runs parallel to FM 2305. This trail also connects other parks and trails in area.

Pepper Creek Hike and Bike trail is a three and a half-mile concrete path, and is one of Temple's most beautiful trails. It is routed along the creek and travels along wooded areas. With a width of 12 feet, it is truly a hike and bike trail. Along the way you will find waterfalls, sculptures, and seating areas, as well as marked native plants to the area.

In May of 2015, the voters of Temple approved a \$27.6 million bond was passed, that included a wide variety of projects spanning across the entire City. Upgrades to select neighborhood parks, three new community parks, upgrades to athletic facilities and recreational centers, a deep water pool constructed at Lions Junction Family Water Park, as well as trail connections.



Trails provide important connections in the community for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Legend

- Existing Trail
- Existing Sidewalk
- Temple City Limits
- Temple ETJ
- Nearby Cities
- Nearby ETJs
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads
- County
- Creeks
- Water Bodies

PLACEMAKING

Community livability is heavily impacted by the encounters of residents and workers so the combination of daily encounters of people who reside and work in Temple have with the built-environment and with each other. This consists of the character and placemaking components which set the City apart, the cultural and historical heritage of Temple, important opportunities for meeting with friends and neighbors, and the general quality of life in the area.

Character and Placemaking

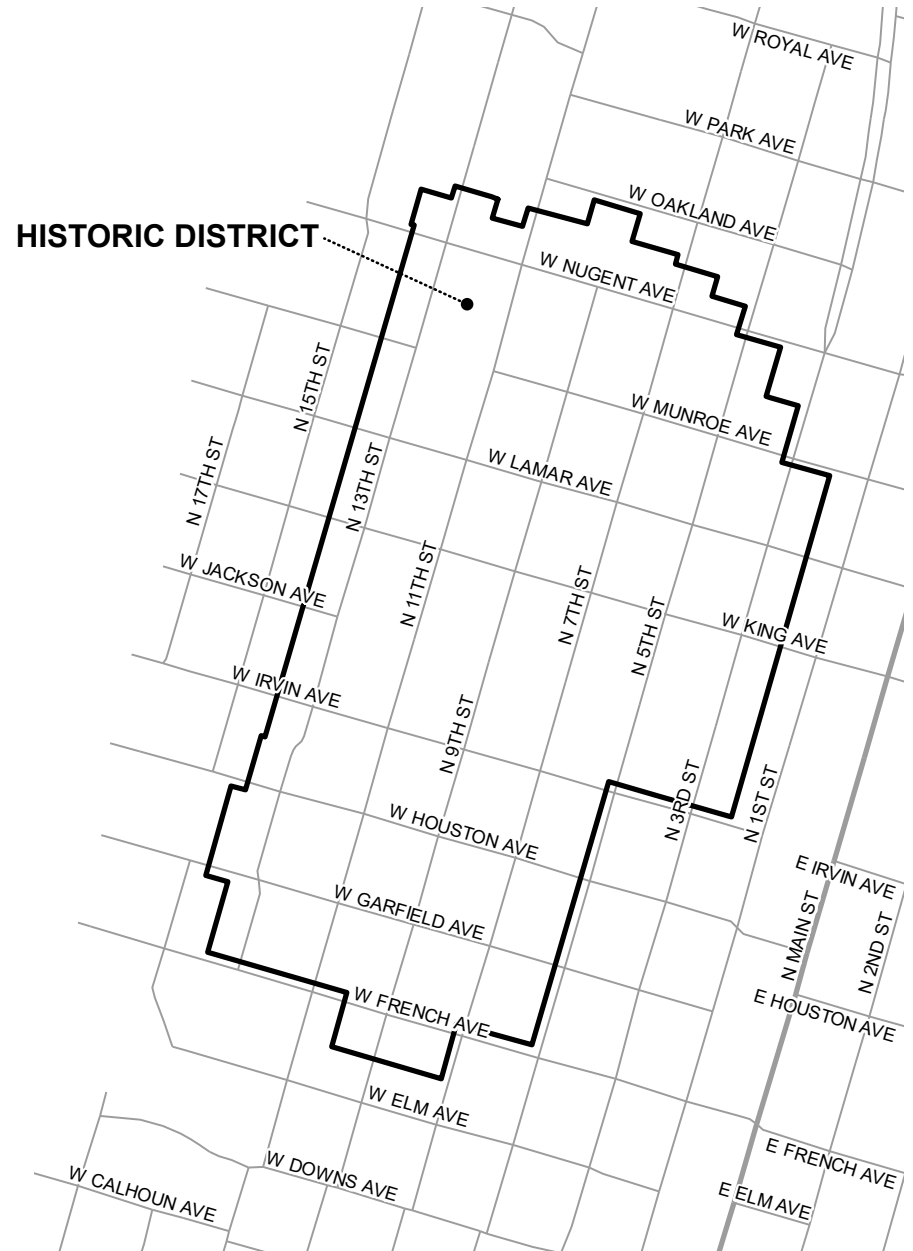
Character and placemaking components are critical to creating a positive impression of Temple. These components can be comprised of gateways into the City, beautification features, corridor enhancement areas, etc. The City has an Interstate 35 Corridor Overlay District which determines the constraints for development of properties adjacent to Interstate 35.

The Temple Historic District was established to protect, improve, and preserve the heritage and integrity of the property in the limits of the oldest residential part of Temple (see Map 2.7, *Temple Historic District*). The Historic Preservation League of Temple was established to preserve and enhance this unique neighborhood while also promoting community pride. The League consists of an elected board of directors, collects dues from members, and has a yearly membership meeting.

Special Events

The Historic District hosts a number of special events throughout the year that attract local and regional attendees. These events are organized collaboratively with City departments or other community organizations. These events offer a multigenerational experience for citizens, and create a lively community. Some events in the District include an Easter egg hunt, a July Fourth Parade, Oktoberfest, and a Christmas Hayride and Caroling Event.

MAP 2.7: TEMPLE HISTORIC DISTRICT



A few of the annual events that take place in Temple are:

- *Bloomin' Temple Festival* – a two day festival that takes place the last weekend in April in downtown Temple and has music, arts and crafts, food, a carnival, and activities for kids.
- *Summer Concert Series* – takes place each Friday during the summer in a park.
- *Haunted Hayride* – this hayride runs along the Reuben D. Talasek Bend of the River.
- *Bend of the River Christmas* – contains sledding, drinks, and crafts.
- *Father Daughter Dance* – takes place in February.
- *Christmas Parade* – in downtown Temple and happens on the first Monday in December.
- *Fourth of July All American Family Fun Fest and Fireworks Show* – this event has food, music, and fireworks.



Fourth of July All American Family Fun Fest and Fireworks Show

Quality of Life

When asked during the community engagement part of this planning process, it was evident that one of Temple's greatest strengths is quality of life. Community survey respondents were asked how happy they were with the City of Temple based on general quality of life. More than 85 percent indicated they were very satisfied or satisfied with the quality of life. Based on citizen responses, the things that most identified as adding to the quality of life in Temple are:

- *safe place to raise a family;*
- *close to work;*
- *proximity to Austin;*
- *affordable;*
- *good schools;*
- *sense of community; and*
- *cost of living.*

The public feedback also indicated specific threats that could adversely affect the quality of life in Temple. A few of these factors are unmanaged growth, traffic, and increased housing prices, amongst others.

Community Facilities and Services

Parks & Recreation

The City of Temple has 1,461 acres of parkland. A few of the amenities found in City parks include sports fields, playgrounds, trails, and a skating facility. The City completed an update to its parks master plan in December 2019. The parks system in Temple consists of various types of parks that are depicted below:

- **Regional Parks:** Regional parks can serve entire cities or multiple cities and accommodate festivals and other special events. Other activities can include fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing.
- **Community Parks:** Community parks primarily serve multiple neighborhoods and contain athletic fields and large playgrounds. They offer both active and passive recreation. Better vehicular accessibility than neighborhood parks. Community parks in Temple consist of Miller Park, South Temple Park, and Southwest Community Park.
- **Neighborhood Parks:** Neighborhood parks primarily serve individual neighborhoods and are typically within walking or biking distance. These parks contain playgrounds, walking paths, picnic areas, and ball fields. Neighborhood parks include Conner Park, Draughon Park, and Echo Village Park.
- **Greenspace and Natural Areas:** Greenspace and natural areas typically include passive recreation and conservation lands.
- **Special-use Facilities:** Special use facilities are constructed to accommodate specific recreational activities. Special-use facilities in Temple include Baker Baseball Field, Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' The River, Kenny Martin Park, Marvin Fenn Recreation Area, and MLK Festival Grounds.
- **Pocket Parks:** Pocket parks are designed for passive recreation and are typically within walking or biking distance.



Oak Creek Park



Lions Junction Water Park



Jefferson Park

Library

The three-story Temple Public Library is located at the intersection of West Adams Avenue and North Third Street in downtown. The first floor contains a teen space, reading lounge, children's department, and storytime room. The second floor includes adult fiction and nonfiction, genealogy room, local history room, quiet room/reading room, and internet stations. Recently, the library has addressed the increasing need for e-resources by adding numerous digital systems and context.

In addition to library resources, the facility also provides programs, exhibits, and events. Storytimes, after school programs, and monthly and seasonal events are additional activities that are offered for kids. Teen and adult activities are also offered including a day adult coloring program. The library offers family events including family story time.

Library staff presently consist of one director, one secretary, one reference supervisor, reference staff, youth services, circulation supervisor, and an outreach coordinator. The library also offers a bookmobile for residents who are unable to come to the library.



Temple Public Library

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Department

The Temple Police Department is located in the center of downtown at the intersection of East Avenue A and South Sixth Street and presently consist of 154 sworn officers and 39 non-sworn employees. Below are community support functions or programs in which the Police Department is involved:

- **National Night Out.** *There were 38 locations in the City of Temple. Forty-four officers participated along with 11 civilian teammates who had the chance to get to know 3,250 residents. The Temple Police Department partakes in National Night Out as a way to connect with residents to build safer, more caring communities. The event lets citizens connect with their neighbors and mingle with first responders in a comfortable atmosphere;*
- **Coffee with a Cop;**
- **DEA National Take Back Day;**
- **Chips n Salsa with the Chief;**
- **Blue Santa Golf Tournament;**
- **McLane Children's Safe Kids Day;**
- **Burgers with the Badge;**
- **Citizen's Police Academy;** and
- **J.C. Penny Back to School Safety Bash.**

Additionally, the Criminal Investigations Division consists of the following. This division focuses on reducing crime in the community.

- **Violent Crimes Unit.** *This unit focuses on crimes against persons;*
- **Special Crimes Unit.** *The Special Crimes Unit is responsible for crimes involving kids;*
- **Property Crime Unit.** *The Property Crime Unit examines property crime that involves robberies, burglaries, vandalism, financial crimes, and automobile theft; and*
- **Special Investigations Unit.** *This unit is charged with the control of prohibited possession, production, and dissemination of controlled substances.*



Temple Police Department - COPS Unit

Fire Department

The City of Temple has eight fire stations. Services offered by the department consist of fire, first responder type of EMS system with paramedics on all fire department engine companies, emergency management, vehicle extrication, hazmat and other specialized rescue services. Transportation of patients is provided by private service. Currently, there are 121 sworn personnel. Currently, the Temple Fire Department responds to over 12,500 calls for help each year. As Temple continues to expand, so will the need for firefighters.

The Fire Marshal's Office manages fire inspections and fire safety. The permitting process is handled out of the Fire Marshal's Office. The fire inspections services include emergency gate access and the Knox box order process.

The equipment available to the Fire Department includes the following:

- 1 command vehicle;
- 3 ladder trucks;
- 2 rescue/haz-mat vehicle;
- 5 paramedic engine companies; and
- 2 paramedic squad companies.

The Fire Department has an active role in the community by participating in numerous public events. These events are listed below:

- Fire Prevention Day;
- Kid Fish;
- Fire Safety Day;
- Rescue Elves Fund raiser;
- Retiree Breakfast;
- Hometown Heroes Game!;
- September 11th Memorial Service;
- Ham and Bean Bake to benefit United Way; and
- Cen-Tex 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb.



Temple Public Safety Training Center

School Systems

Temple has four independent public school districts including Temple Independent School District (TISD), Belton Independent School District (BISD), Academy Independent School District, and Troy Independent School District (Troy ISD).

The Temple Independent School District (TISD) has 8,700 students as of 2018 enrolled in TISD's eight elementary schools, three middle schools, one high school, two academies, and one alternative education center.

Belton Independent School District (BISD), covers the west and southwest areas of Temple. There are approximately 9,200 students enrolled in this school district as of 2019. Many of these students live on the west side of Temple's city limits and ETJ.

Academy Independent School District has 1,740 students enrolled for the 2019 to 2020 school year. The district consists of one elementary school, one middle school, one high school, one intermediate school, and Bell County Alternative School.

Troy Independent School District (Troy ISD) has 1,550 students enrolled. The district has two elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school.



Lakewood Elementary School