

## Kickoff Open House Feedback

August 9, 2012

Stations 3, 4, and 5

Sticky notes were typed verbatim-- no comments have been edited.

Board	Comment
Favorite	Eclectic People Potential
Favorite	Sense of Community
Favorite	Free Community Events
Favorite	WALK- and BIKE- ability. <u>Neighborhoods</u> not a suburb
Favorite	Community involvement; Diversity of residents
Favorite	Arts & Jazz Fest!
Favorite	Auto show on the square (SEPT.)
Favorite	Variety of residents; cultural events; good distance away from Dallas & Ft Worth
Favorite	Senior Center is Great! Good place for ageing parents! And me too now...
Favorite	Town not sub"berd"; education
Favorite	Vibrant, Diverse Community
Favorite	The people!
Favorite	City with Vision and Planning and Implementing It
Favorite	Local Arts & Music
Favorite	Tree lined streets
Favorite	Progressive programs in conservative area; unique identity
Favorite	Brave Combo; Arts & Jazz Festival; Campus Theater
Favorite	Historic Homes/Buildings
Favorite	Tennis Courts, Improved Animal Shelter, LEED construction, more bike paths, performing arts, Denton Community Theater, diverse community
Favorite	Senior Center
Favorite	Trees; Music; The Square; Denton Community Market
Favorite	The Square, The music & art; the eclectic culture, the local possibility, its <u>not</u> corporate or
Favorite	Success of downtown mixed-use that has occurred. Vibrant culture.
Favorite	community spirit
Favorite	Sustainability
Favorite	Community Market; DCTA; The Square
Favorite	Schools; Square; Universities
Favorite	Jazz Fest
Favorite	A Train; Bike; Private Schools
Favorite	Natural Gas Wells & Poor Air Quality
Favorite	Courthouse, Bldgs on Square, Campus Theater, New A-Train, Family Involvement Programs
Favorite	Arts and Music in Denton
Favorite	UNT music programs & Campus Theater
Favorite	indie vibe; not a suburb but our own unique tone
Favorite	Jazz Fest, Redbud Fest, Dog Days, other fun annual traditions
Favorite	unique; diverse
Favorite	Our independent identity; not a suburb
Favorite	Support for the <u>Arts</u>
Favorite	Local Businesses

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Favorite	A real discrete town with its own discrete character
Favorite	vibrant mix of youth, middle-aged, seniors
Favorite	College town, Close to DFW
Favorite	The Artistic Community!
Favorite	Diversity; Community Feel; Flexibility
Favorite	DOWNTOWN! Square, Events, Music, Restaurants (Cartwrights!!)
Favorite	Parks and Rec Dept.
Favorite	Family friendly activities galore & local biz.
Favorite	Small Town Feel
Favorite	The Square and Restaurants!
Favorite	The sense of community doing things together!
Favorite	Historic Homes and Denton Square
Favorite	Parks!!!
Favorite	Unique downtown environment & walkability
Favorite	Love how Denton has developed!
Favorite	Arts!
Favorite	Intellectual Stimulation
Favorite	Growing Creative Economy
Favorite	35 Denton
Favorite	Cool People; fun environment; walkable downtown; train to/from Dallas; reasonable cost of
Favorite	DCTA
Favorite	Great place to raise your kids. We've been in Denton 16 years and have enjoyed it. Our kids went to Wilson, Strickland, & Ryan. We also enjoy getting dinner and a beer at the square
Favorite	It's variety of opportunities; Universities; parks and rec; transportation; rail; airport; utilities
Favorite	I like that we have distinct shopping districts and distinct residential areas
Favorite	Great Libraries!
Favorite	The Square!
Favorite	I love the Historical Districts throughout Denton. It reminds us of where we came from.
Favorite	I love that Denton is a large city but still has a small town feel
Favorite	Continued support of the arts; #35d; jazzfest; downtown growth/development; support of small
Favorite	UNT & TWU
Favorite	Denton Arts & Jazz Festival; Thinline Film Festival; The Square; NX35
Favorite	Small town atmosphere but big city ideas
Favorite	The arts, music, food, fun, history
Favorite	Parks; Fine Arts
Favorite	City is increasingly Alive and Vibrant
Favorite	The Square, Fry, Industrial, and Apogee Stadium
Favorite	Hospitals, universities, & colleges
Favorite	Quality Schools
Favorite	Holiday Lighting on the Square; Most anything on the square
Favorite	Love the local businesses! Beth Marie's, Frenchy's, Sleeping Lizzards :)

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Favorite	A strong, vibrant, & active population of concerned people who insist on participation in the City,
Favorite	Great libraries
Favorite	Public Involvement
Favorite	Variety of activities & interests
Favorite	You feel like a community!
Favorite	Old & New mix; arts; the people; north tx state fair; arts & jazz
Favorite	Great Local Restaurants
Favorite	easy to get around; has kept a lot of its heritage; culture
Favorite	A strong arts and music community
Favorite	35 Denton; live music; Jazz Fest
Favorite	The Music! Arts & Jazz
Favorite	Small Business Comm, Lived here 42 yrs, 4th gen!
Favorite	more industry for high paying local jobs
Favorite	Denton's Bike Culture!
Favorite	Live Music
Favorite	the square; local businesses; trees; civic center pool
Favorite	art & music; first Friday; music on the square; tree lighting; 35 Denton
Favorite	The Festivals! Cinco de Mayo, Juneteenth, Jazz & Art, Blues ....
Favorite	Mix of "personalities: - arts/music, education, fam friendly
Favorite	Local Music
Favorite	dog park, community feel, & events
Favorite	FESTIVALS; Local Businesses
Favorite	Denton is a great place to live for all walks of life! It is a diverse community and the quality of life is better because of that
Favorite	Denton Community Market
Favorite	Historic Homes :)
Favorite	Denton Feels like home
Favorite	Arts & Entertainment "Downtown"; Schools; Sense of Community
Favorite	A Creative Art Studio
Favorite	A more walkable city
Favorite	support of downtown area. Private shops, businesses, community events
Favorite	ALL festivals
Favorite	Opportunities for the public to go the universities for events: music, sports, cultural,
Favorite	Vibrant downtown, even in the evening. Art & music
Favorite	Small business character of the square with box stores on the outskirts
Favorite	The Music & Entertainment in the Downtown area
Favorite	Music scene at universities and in town
Favorite	The libraries! The cute (old) houses; the dog friendly community; the diversity of peoples;
Favorite	Large enough to be meaningful, small enough to be affected
Challenges	Code enforcement, student housing, bike lanes, noise pollution
Challenges	more tree & green space

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Challenges	cutting down too many trees
Challenges	Plan for gas production & truck/pipeline traffic
Challenges	Plan ahead for gas well pad sites (12 to 18 well bores per site)
Challenges	Older sections of Denton & areas needing updating
Challenges	Balance presence of corporate & local businesses
Challenges	More trees in parks
Challenges	Not as pedestrian friendly as needed. More sidewalks & pathways/intersections to promote
Challenges	FIX OUR STREETS; they are a joke for a progressive town
Challenges	Our growing problem with preventable diseases
Challenges	We need more businesses within walking distance
Challenges	Fix zoning & appearance of industrial & commercial buildings as other cities have (Trophy Club, Flower Mound) Denton looks blue collar
Challenges	No bus stops. Serious issue for low income groups
Challenges	Inadequate Code Enforcement
Challenges	Keeping our excellent energy supply current and in repair & prep'ed for this growth
Challenges	The Denton Drive & Ft Worth Drive entrances into Denton do not make a good first impression
Challenges	Save & replant trees
Challenges	Need better roads for traffic flow
Challenges	Historic Preservation
Challenges	Lack of promotion of business just south of the square
Challenges	Honor the environment! Save our Trees! Challenge!
Challenges	Get the dumpsters off the sidewalks & out of the streets. They are not public art
Challenges	Roads!
Challenges	Transportation - lack of sidewalk & bike trails; Low end shopping, need higher end retail - e.g. Central Market; Entrances to city unappealing
Challenges	Denton can stand on its own - it does not need to be a Georgetown to Austin; Dallas is not that
Challenges	Keeping an identity & growth plan that is separate from UNT/TWU
Challenges	More parks, bike paths, bike parking
Challenges	conservation/sustainable source of water, especially in light of recent droughts
Challenges	Development vs Green Space/Open Space
Challenges	Bike lanes on small neighborhood roads
Challenges	Green space replaced w/ student housing :(
Challenges	Need more green space
Challenges	Not convenient to bike & run (unsafe due to lack of infrastructure)
Challenges	Keep Lg. Trucks off square during rush hours 11:30 - 1, 4:30 - 6
Challenges	Developing all land in city limits
Challenges	Air quality/Gas Wells/Traffic
Challenges	Better signage of where destinations are
Challenges	Our weak public transportation system
Challenges	Creative vision for the community

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Challenges	Make UNT shoulder the \$ for the convention center
Challenges	Dealing with only 900 homeless children in DISD
Challenges	Roads; losing eclectic vibe due to more homogenous corporate atmosphere seeping in; bike lanes; losing "bottom up" creativity
Challenges	Not becoming a little Dallas
Challenges	The entire United Way needs Assessment
Challenges	A fracking site next to homes, a hospital and a park!
Challenges	Traffic/Connectivity
Challenges	Poor Air Quality
Challenges	Planned Roads
Challenges	I live in an apartment and have to drive my recycling across town. If apartments could have recycling bins, it would encourage more people to participate
Challenges	Traffic; difficulty in getting permits; staff prejudice
Challenges	Not pedestrian friendly from train to square
Challenges	Many people don't want change and stop it even if it is positive; Factions compete instead of
Challenges	Sustainable source of water; property development & growth; DISD-schools
Challenges	More frequent transit time so you can take a bus across town and not have to spend hours doing
Challenges	The Fry Street debacle was disheartening. It really took away from the Historic Hickory/Oak St
Challenges	Too few bike lanes & Trails
Challenges	Complete Streets, urban densification, less car dependence
Challenges	No Food/Beer/ANY delivery truck on square. Allow only on Pecan, Walnut, Cedar, Austin Streets
Challenges	Make permits easy
Challenges	Drilling and Fracking in City!
Challenges	Intense heat in summer - need more planning for heat island effect + shade
Challenges	Big box retailers and chains are taking over and turning Denton into "Anytown, USA"! Local moms & pops are struggling. Cool it with the mega development
Challenges	not enough citizen participation; need neighborhood meetings
Challenges	Encouraging local, independent biz & providing a livable area for artists
Challenges	When a street is repaired... in a few weeks it is dug up again by another department
Challenges	No county hospital
Challenges	Need better schools
Challenges	Gas drilling, unplanned and in populated areas
Challenges	Providing sufficient housing for low income families
Challenges	AMC Movie Complex
Challenges	Rough Roads; Need for better grocery stores near the downtown area
Challenges	Traffic - more lanes needed
Challenges	light rail/mass transit to Ft Worth as well as Dallas
Challenges	Development / Growth
Challenges	Transportation
Challenges	Code enforcement! Too much & too little

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Challenges	The Business & Development Community & the City Government don't always see eye to eye
Challenges	Denton is on the edge of H2O restrictions annually - incentivize residential collections systems
Challenges	Retaining & maintaining historical areas & homes
Challenges	Traffic is an obvious challenge. Also, around the Square seems to be getting tighter with all the new apts and restaurants
Challenges	Eclectic Architecture - encourage it!
Challenges	1) Parking; 2) Parking; 3) Parking to accommodate growth!
Challenges	TRAFFIC
Challenges	Mow grass along rail lines, i.e. Mingo Road
Challenges	Apartment recycling
Challenges	Fire/EMS to outlining city areas
Challenges	Road Repairs
Challenges	Some apt buildings around TWU are rundown and need to be restored or torn down. This brings the value of our houses down
Challenges	Improve appearance of main entries into City
Challenges	Fracking & drilling inside the city boundaires. The Rayzor Ranch well site is horrible for those of us who live in that neighborhood
Challenges	No WOW effect when you enter denton
Challenges	Traffic. Streets. Traffic Patterns
Challenges	Homes around the universities should have tougher upkeep rules. Many look awful
Challenges	Maintaining Historic Charactre in a growing city
Challenges	Maintain small town feel in a the midst of large urban development. Keep unique identity
Challenges	Preserving & Encouraging LOCAL OWNED BUSINESS over corporate enterprise
Challenges	We need to take care of our homeless population!
Challenges	To give residents voice/power over universities
Challenges	air quality
Challenges	Tension between Bikes, Cars, Busses
Challenges	not enough PUBLIC space (like a riverwak, city benches, etc.)
Challenges	Polluted air water & land due to natural gas drilling
Challenges	Cherish historic neighborhoods
Challenges	Putting gas well on Bonnie Brae by hospitals, parks, & homes
Challenges	Streets that do not connect the city, i.e. Carroll Blvd that dead ends in a neighborhood rather than go through it
Challenges	Excellence in schools; Traffic
Challenges	bike lanes; road repairs; traffic
Challenges	few bike racks; need more dog parks
Challenges	increasing urban density and limiting car dependent sprawl
Challenges	When are we going to solve the downtown parking?? When???
Challenges	no urban chickens yet!

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Challenges	Developing a code with flexibility to make reasonable decisions not create a code that is so strict we lose positive ideas and opportunities for growth and redevelopment
Challenges	Lack of public green space throughout the city
Challenges	Encouraging & keeping mid-small businesses and their growth!
Challenges	more community activities (movies in the park, etc)
Challenges	Homeless population
Challenges	Quick access to all of Denton; Committed City Government; Friendly Folks; Desire to plan with
Challenges	Red Tape: Old School Way of Thinking
Challenges	More upscale grocery & shopping
Challenges	More Downtown "green spaces" parks!!!
Challenges	More Restaurants/Shopping
Challenges	Above ground electric utilities - eye sores
Challenges	gas drilling, pollution, traffic, lack of interaction among racial groups
Challenges	Maintaining the small town environment
Challenges	Thoroughfares around the city. More supermarkets in some areas
Challenges	Substandard rental property; keeping historic/older houses; creating good jobs
Challenges	Bad traffic planning, need to be able to move traffic better; not enough corporate jobs; not enough townhome condos
Challenges	Keeping ahead of growth; being productive
Challenges	Hide dumpsters from view. Remove them. Street parking spaces and sidewalks
Challenges	Connected walking & bike paths citywide
Challenges	Maintaining healthy and high-achieving public schools
Challenges	Keeping a rich agricultural heritage
Challenges	Small Business Growth
Challenges	Need more sidewalks throughout the entire city
Challenges	Quit making adjustments to be "like" some other city. Do or take action b/c it is the right action not an imitation of another
Challenges	travel not by car i.e. bike lanes. Not enough sidewalks
Challenges	city v. developers putting in new roads
Challenges	Keep Denton's soul while cultivating new development
Bold Idea	No more lights on Loop 288 - Is to be a a loop (through traffic) around city.
Bold Idea	More parking then bring back Denton Trade Day on the Square!
Bold Idea	Make it Green
Bold Idea	The community market needs a year-round permanent home
Bold Idea	get Denton to 100% renewable energy by 2020
Bold Idea	Activities & Entertainment for people other than students
Bold Idea	More individual windmills/solar panels
Bold Idea	Continuity
Bold Idea	Place all electric underground YES!
Bold Idea	Get rid of slum lords
Bold Idea	Fine Arts Theater would be great; more bike paths

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Bold Idea	dirt walking trails
Bold Idea	Urban Chickens
Bold Idea	Renovate Mall
Bold Idea	High Quality Employers
Bold Idea	I want Denton to remain the Big City with the Small Town Charm. Denton...It's like a small town
Bold Idea	car-free Denton
Bold Idea	ice rink!
Bold Idea	Expand the industrial/Commercial tax base by continuing & expanding efforts to attract quality
Bold Idea	Place all electric utilities underground.. Please!!!
Bold Idea	Sidewalks! Crosswalks! Bike Lanes!
Bold Idea	"Feet on the Street" Well developed pedestrian pathways connecting A-Train station, square,
Bold Idea	More Trees, More Lakes, More Art, Cleaner, Neater
Bold Idea	Outdoor tiered grass seating performance park off the square; interconnected network of Bike Lanes/sidepaths/and trails
Bold Idea	Free, Small Splash park for kids in central locations
Bold Idea	An Arts District
Bold Idea	Complete Streets, more bus shelters
Bold Idea	Urban Chickens/Green Energy/Sustainable supply of dependable water
Bold Idea	Be Like Frisco
Bold Idea	REAL bus shelters at DCTA stops
Bold Idea	Bring Back Friday Night live. It would build a community with our youth!
Bold Idea	All public buildings equipped with solar panels
Bold Idea	More parking in the downtown area to facilitate the continued growth
Bold Idea	Able to look up when the next bus is coming online. Live, up to minute info
Bold Idea	Safe bicycle lanes; more interconnected public transportation; better traffic flow
Bold Idea	Utilize our assets! (Arts, Food, Ideal, Biz, etc.)
Bold Idea	Preserving neighborhoods around TWU
Bold Idea	Welcoming parking for the visitors to the square and beyond
Bold Idea	Improve promotions of businesses just off the square
Bold Idea	More green development
Bold Idea	Need underground utilities
Bold Idea	Protect trees
Bold Idea	High Tech like Austin
Bold Idea	Fix our streets! Visitors & future res. Think we are a joke!
Bold Idea	Rezone land downtown, south of Mulberry to Eagle. Get rid of used car lots, tire shop, etc.
Bold Idea	No more dumpsters on city sidewalks & streets
Bold Idea	All new construction in Denton required to have water collections & dispersent system
Bold Idea	Water conservation rules w/ teeth!
Bold Idea	Beautify all of Denton not just certain areas
Bold Idea	Unique and local businesses
Bold Idea	Regional fire training center



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Bold Idea	Plan for more bike friendly roads
Bold Idea	Maintain neighborhood quality by control of rental properties. Require green zones for new development. Encourage renewable energy for developments
Bold Idea	Return to 20 years ago
Bold Idea	Local Community and Business Growth
Bold Idea	Keep it spacious and breathable - NOT JAMMED together housing. Please!
Bold Idea	Rain Collection; Urban Chickens; Electric/Hybrid car charging stations; solar panel covered
Bold Idea	Like to see parks expand, birding trails with more paved areas
Bold Idea	I want to see "cottage housing" with shops nearby. Sustainable compact neighborhoods with
Bold Idea	Save the Environment
Bold Idea	Improve walkability in Denton. Transit & pedestrian oriented development
Bold Idea	Better pedi areas; sidewalks in neighborhoods & covered bus stops
Bold Idea	380 Highway - a gateway to the city of Denton coming west from Cross Roads, McKinney, Etc. Zoning of NR2 discourages business to evaluate and locate their firm on this important gateway.
Bold Idea	A Zoo!
Bold Idea	Municipal Golf Course
Bold Idea	Improve the city's development climate to ensure quality responsible growth as the city grows which will not stop! Make sure it is done right, don't try to stop it!
Bold Idea	bike lanes
Bold Idea	Mow & maintain public ROWs - Square, Fry, Mingo rd
Bold Idea	Solar Energy; Everyone recycles; connected walk ride trails; arts
Bold Idea	More Trees (incentivize private property owners to plant & establish)
Bold Idea	Incubator for new high tech business and manufacturing
Bold Idea	FREE splash park at Quakertown for everyone
Bold Idea	Become a truly bike and pedestrian friendly city
Bold Idea	Support the proposed new convention center!
Bold Idea	LIVE WORK LOVE PLAY
Bold Idea	Oppose the corrupt Convention Center!
Bold Idea	Healthy Wellness Community
Bold Idea	Creative hub, more jobs for creative workforce
Bold Idea	Continue to protect floodplain & environmental sensitive areas in future development
Bold Idea	Be a Locovore! More community gardens and farmers markets with fresh eggs and urban
Bold Idea	Playgrounds
Bold Idea	Upgrade and strive for improvement in everything we do from planning to streets, traffic, and
Bold Idea	Traffic Circle at Eagle/Dallas Dr/Bell intersection. With public art sculpture in center
Bold Idea	Use what we've got - then get inventive
Bold Idea	A large public convention/event area that is central to existing hotels, shopping, etc.
Bold Idea	For Denton to be the largest city with green home development. To put in place sustainability, resource conservation standards to protect and conserve natural resources
Bold Idea	more dog friendly plaes
Bold Idea	Incorporate healthy cities/healthy communities concepts into planning

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Bold Idea	Sustainability & Green efforts/reuse
Bold Idea	increased rail/public transit
Bold Idea	Unique outdoor amphitheater
Bold Idea	Equally good quality of life (work, home, play) in all areas of the city
Bold Idea	What about getting an ice rink? Partner with the stars to build & maintain. Would attract lots of NTX kids & is a great place to keep cool in the summer
Bold Idea	more restaurants
Bold Idea	Current emphasis on "preserving" open space. We need to create open spaces.
Bold Idea	Commercial Air Service/Municipal Golf Course
Bold Idea	Wider streets & thoroughfares. More industry: trucks, automotive, medical, etc.
Bold Idea	A performing arts center/arts district not part of UNT
Bold Idea	children's museum!!!
Bold Idea	Convention Center
Bold Idea	Turn parking into urban farms
Bold Idea	Overall commute, commuter, & parking plan (bikes, mass transit, etc.)
Bold Idea	Addition of a large company; Road Improvement: Increased Commerce; Green Energy
Bold Idea	More higher paying jobs in Denton
Bold Idea	more walking distant to work and play
Bold Idea	Encourage more business in Technology to locate here
Bold Idea	Some type of bold Idnetification for Denton as you enter & leave the city; Arches across highway
Bold Idea	Become a leader in tech/IT world
Bold Idea	Don't be: Frisco, Plano, Allen. Don't go back 20 years!
Bold Idea	Great Steets
Bold Idea	DCTA bus on 35 West to Ft. Worth
Bold Idea	West Oak St. Arts District
Bold Idea	A push for employers to bring in & energy
Bold Idea	Great Place for Business
Bold Idea	Great Center of Commerce capitalizing on all commerce
Bold Idea	Create a transitional housing complex for homeless
Bold Idea	Partnerships with SE Denton, NW Denton areas - better tie in with community
Bold Idea	Incentivize Creative Economy
Bold Idea	Every neighborhood walkable to retail, church, fun
Bold Idea	Create a campus for local non profits
Bold Idea	an outdoor gym area/ adult playground, next to children's playground promotes health, fitness,
Bold Idea	Curbside pickup for compost (kitchen, not just yardwaste) .. Like Boulder, CO
Bold Idea	Better public transportation system
Bold Idea	We need a convention/public arts center
Bold Idea	Historic Preservation with progress
Bold Idea	Denser housing to facilitate public transit
Bold Idea	25 square miles of open/green space
Bold Idea	Embrace Diversity

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Bold Idea	We need urban chickens! :)
Bold Idea	Preserve our older housing and storefronts
Bold Idea	No more gas wells
Bold Idea	Renewable energy; reduce light pollution; build w/in a specified circumference in order to have more green space; bike paths & more walkability; draw in the artists to stay
Bold Idea	High Quality RV Park
Bold Idea	Green Building/Water Conservatoin
Bold Idea	Commuter train station at UNT
Bold Idea	Keep our historical district
Bold Idea	Keep our small businesses

## Kickoff Open House

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### Tell Us Your Story: Share an Anecdote of Your History in Denton

**Sticky notes were typed verbatim-- no comments have been edited.**

"I moved to Denton in 2003 to attend UNT. Upon graduation, I move to Lewisville for 2 years and missed Denton so I returned in 2009. I LOVE being a Dentonite. We are a very eclectic city and I think it makes us very unique. There is a pride calling ourselves Dentonites because we a large city that has a small town atmosphere which is very unique. You get the best of both works. Large city amenities and services with the safety and security of a small town. It's awesome."

"I came to Denton for UNT in 2005 and never left after getting a full time job at UNT. My Denton fate was sealed. I stay because it's affordable, fun, and friendly. There's always something to do and get involved with. I can't wait to see where our city goes!"

"Moved to Denton for a man. He asked if I could move here and I said, "Sure, I don't have to brush my hair." Mind you I was a 100k a yr exec at the time. There is a bohemian culture here and high culture too which is fun. I also love it as we age. Being close to 2 major airports allows me to hop on a plane often. <3"

"Moved here when I saw the "former" Longhorns at Razor Ranch and loved the thought of the 'Gateway to the west.' Was so sad when there tore out that major centerpiece to our area. Been here 29 years – finished my B.S. at UNT."

"My wife and I attended UNT in the mid 1990's and then moved around Texas for the next 10 years. When choosing a city to buy a home and schools for children to attend we returned to Denton. We really like the direction Denton has been heading while retaining its identity. I hope it continues to move that way over next 20 years!"

"Moved to Denton are 10 plus years ago and commuted to DFW every day. Had a child and wanted to spend more family time. Loved Denton. Borrowed and quit job, started business in order to be (hopefully) part of growing the thriving, exciting, vibrant, changing community of concerned, energetic cats."

"My story is still being written... but... the first part consists of a UNT degree, another UNT degree, a brief career at TWU, a dynamic church, 3 beautiful children, a fantastic husband, and lots of fun writing it all. {TBD} The end? Hopefully people will always remember me."

"I'm a new comer to the City of Denton. I've found it to be a lot different from my hometown. It doesn't have the openness I remember from Ft. Worth. I'm trying to become more a part of all activities to get more insight."

“Both my children chose Denton’s two excellent universities to attend. They have been very successful. Go to UNT & TWU.”

“Lived in Denton entire life. 42 yrs. Parents born here! Grandparents too! Parents started recycling business 42 years ago. Employ over 35 people in Denton. Hope to stay.”

“Denton is more than you expect! The quality of life here attracts people to come here and be part of the community life. The quality of life is more than the icing on the cake – it forms the decorations that make it stand out!”

“08/09/12 “My Story” New to Denton as a resident. Familiar w/ Denton through the heart of my brother who died May 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. He loved Denton and UNT. I now know why!”

“During my (almost) decade in Denton, I’ve managed a costume shop, taught photography, worked as a barista, been married, bought a house, made lifelong friends, and raised a family. I could never imagine doing any of those things without the help of the personified version of Denton that is my best friend! Thanks Denton!”

“I have enjoyed living in a house I love with a huge, wild yard at a cheap rental rate. I have been able to befriend my neighbors and integrate into a community. I believed I would never feel like Denton could be my home coming here six years ago as a student, but – whadyaknow!”

“Born & Bred”

“I came here as a student in ’78-’79 and decided to make my life here. I am married and own two small businesses. I do not think I could start them in any other town. I own Cheeps and Critters Pet Thrift Store and Never a Dull Moment tool sharpening.”

“Jan 13, 1969 our family moved to Denton. My husband had a position at the faculty of NTSU. We had 2 daughters that grew up in Denton and we grew to love the “top of the golden triangle.” Denton has the qualities of the Metroplex with the small city feeling. What more could I want! I love this city! It has good high school football (Ryan).”

“I was born and raised in Denton. Went through the public school district. Served on the Sherriff Department and was elected Constable of Precinct 1 for 1 term. I love the history of Denton and watching it grows.”

“Just had lunch at Banter, followed by shopping at La Di Da, SCRAP, and Recycled with my daughter. It was wonderful that all these interesting places are so close to each other, and to my home – we walked here!”

"I came to Denton originally as a student. I had many fun times, especially hearing live music and great band (Fry St. Fair!). Now I am a homeowner and professional with two children of my own. I still enjoy music in Denton – but now it's Twilight Tunes & Jazz Fest!"

"I was a music student at NTSU in the 70's. Left Denton, left the country, moved to a different state...and came back 10 years ago."

"I moved to Denton in 1973 with my parents. They both started small businesses – Jim's Diner and Rose costumes – that flourished. I learned to love the community – the cowboys and hippies – the sports and the arts. After spending 28 years in the Air Force, Denton was where I wanted to live after traveling the world."

"After moving here in 1981 I quickly recognized Denton was perfectly placed to bloom. I seem to have a great environment to raise a family education, culture opportunities at the universities, sporting events, and many Park and Rec facility opportunities. The city has foresight with utilities for growth. We need to keep all these things happening and developing in a positive manner and be prepared to redevelop as things go."

"I told my husband if we ever moved again the only place I would move to is Denton. We move and now live in Denton. The Best Move Ever!"

"Moved here in 1970. 4 children graduated from Denton schools. All received degrees with 3 masters – UNT & TWU. I returned to University and obtained 2 masters degrees. Taught in DISD 20 plus years. Active in College Emeritus. Participate in theatre and arts. Love the town – do NOT want Urban Sprawl."

"I got hooked on Denton when I went to my first Arts and Jazz Festival. That is my favorite event in this wonderful city. You can also see the stars at night! And I love small businesses. Let's keep them alive!"

"I came to Denton as a grad student and then left for several years. I am now back with my family because we liked this community and the people in it."

We moved to Denton in 2001 to be close to our ageing parents (Ft. Worth and Lake Texoma). I moved my business here from Pennsylvania. We both attended UNT in the 1970's. Loved Denton then. Love Denton now. My business is booming. We own our home. Our parents retired in Denton."

"Watched and helped Denton grow from a backwater village to a vibrant city."

"Denton is so unique for it offers something for everyone. Eclectic, everything goes – Students, Professionals, Locals & Out of Towners, Music, Horse Country, Industry, & More."

“College brought me to Denton, but the Big City amenities along with the small town life style is what made me decide to stay. After college I moved away for a brief time, but Denton brought me back to start my business and live with my family.”

“We moved to Denton in 2002 in order to attend & become more active in DBC.”

“We moved here in 1997 to retire because 2 universities are here with their cultural opportunities, there was a good golf club, and Denton was its own city and not a suburb.”

“I came to Denton in 2001, married my sweetheart here, got my degree here, bought my first home here, then gave birth to my first child here. Denton can be, and is, a place to live a whole life. I feel lucky to call Denton home.”

“I have lived here since 1957 and enjoy this city. I love participating in the arts, theater and once I was in a DCT production. I have been on City Council and other boards and love being a part of this growing city.”

I came to Denton to attend UNT, and have stayed because it is where I want to raise my family.”

“Came to Denton for UNT and stayed for the community events. Love Dog Days of Denton, Jazz Fest, 5Ks.”

“Retired here to join family and enjoy the amenities and geography. There has been a family member here since the first census. We are committed – enjoy the arts & the universities.”

“Working for the Midway Mart on Hickory and Carroll for 3 years has been a formative Denton experience for me. Centrally located, my customers included county employees, students, Verizon employees, homeless, musicians/artists, council members, and the Chamber of Commerce president.”

“We moved here from the suburbs by choice to raise our son in an intellectual, liberal, diverse small city.”

“Been in business in Denton for 25 years.”

“I first taught here – beginning at UNT – then moved here to an older home – to preserve some of Denton’s heritage and add to the community.”

“I have lived here now over 20 years. Raised two children and been involved at many levels. I feel community involvement is the key to a great city.”

“I came to Denton to attend UNT. I stayed because I loved the area. I have had two small businesses, and I have many fond memories of Fry St and Fry St. Fair.”

“Came for family and A-Train.”

“Grandkids, Music, Ice Cream. That says it all.”

“I work at UNT. Moved to Texas from Chicago. Love It!”

“Came to Denton to join a band...ended up finding a home! (P.S. and a wife!)”

“Came to work here. Grew to love the town. Seemed to be progressing well. Moved here! Love it!”

“Moved here 30 years ago to go to UNT. Left for 15 years, returned 11 years ago to teach at UNT. Want to see sustainable growth for Denton.”

“Left Rith & Rin to work in a new state with new people & never looked back.”

“Came to Denton when I retired – One of our daughters has moved to Denton 4 years ago. The 2 universities were an attraction for us – as was proximity to Dallas & Ft. Worth.”

“We helped build Eureka Park! It was a super community building project.”

“I moved to Denton to go to UNT and fell in love with the music & independence. It’s unlike anywhere in the DFW area.”

“I have lived here for 16 years and it is easier to get around town now than it used to be!”

“I came here for college and stayed to raise a family.”

“Denton – a great place to live, work, learn and play!”

“We went to UNT, work, having 2 kids and own business in Denton.”

“Moved to Denton 16 years ago for a job with wife and kids. Both kids went through Wilson, Strickland, & Ryan. Commuted to Dallas & Ft. Worth for many years, but now I’m employed in Denton again.”

“Home grown girl – born at Flow Hospital. Live in Austin & East Texas before returning to Denton to raise my 3 girls. We <3 Denton!”

“Moved here from Philadelphia. I have enjoyed the balance between growth & maintaining the quality of life.”



“Came to Denton-UNT; Stayed due to arts and community; love the local businesses and community vibe.”

“My mom and dad met in Denton during WWII – went to movies at Denton Square. Mom went to TWU.”

“Born here. Met my husband at UNT. Have been here since and have raised 3 sons. We have seen it grow and want to preserve Denton.”

“I got a job that brought me to this wonderful jewel of the American south.”

“Three members of my family graduated from UNT.”

“Professional Growth at University & excellent community to raise a family.”

“Born in Denton. UNT Graduate. Raising a family. Restoring a historic home.”