

TO: THE SEALY NEWS
NEWS RELEASE

Texas A&M University's Downtown Revitalization Plan for Sealy receives Prestigious Award

The Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) awards committee has chosen Texas A&M University's Downtown Revitalization Plan for Sealy as the recipient of the Chapter's 2011 Student Planning Award. The awards program allows the Texas APA to promote the work of planners in our state by recognizing exemplary work. This accomplishment shows the value of planners and planning to our state, its communities and its people. This prestigious award will be presented to Dr. Elise Bright and the outstanding student planning team at the Texas Chapter APA annual conference in Austin.

"I was very impressed with the A&M graduate class", Mayor Tirey said. "I am proud to say that we are implementing their plan and in a very short time we have accomplished several of their recommendations". "We have replaced benches and trash receptacles in the downtown area; in addition we are working on the quiet zone with the railroad and the new fountain/clock tower". "I feel these projects are direct results of the downtown revitalization plan". "We have also taken their idea of embracing our Railroad heritage and extending that theme to our new police station, fire station and the new Memorial park pool house". "I am always proud when our youth shows such great vision and that we as a city have accepted the plan and are implementing it", Tirey said.

The Downtown Revitalization plan completed by the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning at Texas A&M University was funded by the Sealy Economic Development Corporation. In addition, the Sealy EDC received a grant from the Anice Read Fund of Communities Foundation of Texas to help offset the cost of the comprehensive downtown plan.

The Sealy Downtown Revitalization plan may be viewed on the City of Sealy website at http://www.ci.sealy.tx.us/whats_new/index.htm

