



## PRESS RELEASE

August 27, 2015

### Preservation Topics discussed

On Tuesday, September 8, the State Coordinator for the Texas Historical Commission Main Street Division, Debra Drescher, will discuss preservation topics at the Ferris City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. Ferris, unlike the majority of Main Street cities, does not have a preservation ordinance. This will be a discussion item only, meaning the council will vote at a later date.

Loss of a historic building is permanent and often painful for many residents. In the past few weeks, the Malloy Lumber Company building has been slowly dismantled, its planking and tin destined for reuse elsewhere. Both the lumber building and the gas station were condemned by the City. "Repair is the preferred option to demolition, but the cost can be a factor," said Chuck Dart, City of Ferris Director of Economic Development. "In 2013, the estimated rehabilitation cost for the old gas station was \$700 per square foot." By comparison, a new commercial building is around \$200 per foot.

"Imagine the impact on our historic town square, if, for instance, Javier's or the US Drug was torn down?" said Karen Carreon, Chair of the Ferris Main Street Board. "Today, there is nothing the City can do to stop it. We must protect our historic buildings." City Council meetings are open to the public.

For more information, contact Chuck Dart at (972) 842-2923.