

STATE OF THE CITY



Pop Quiz!



1. In 2017, Cardone Industries broke ground on its 920,000 square foot Distribution Center in the Harlingen Industrial Park for \$50 million capital investment which will bring 750 new jobs. **True or True**
2. 920,000 square feet is the size of the Astrodome or 16 football fields. **True or True**
3. Texas Regional Bank broke ground on its \$10 million headquarters at I-2 and Stuart Place. **True or True**
4. Harlingen Medical Center opened its \$8.5 million Emergency Room expansion. **True or True**
5. The Total number of building permits issued in fiscal year 2017 increased by 30% over fiscal year 2016. **True or True**
6. Harlingen and its Los Indios Free Trade Bridge Partners Cameron County and San Benito broke ground on the cold room inspection facility to bring produce cargo at that port of entry. **True or True**
7. Harlingen had an unprecedented 16 straight months of retail sales tax growth and an overall year end growth of 4.4%. **True or True**
8. Harlingen's completion of 3 All Inclusive playgrounds earned it the prestigious Texas Municipal Excellence Award from the Texas Municipal League. **True or True**
9. Harlingen completed its signature landscape project at the entryway to the City at I-2 and I-69 as a result of winning the Governor's Community Achievement Award. **True or True**
10. Harlingen's partnership with the Texas National Guard's Operation Crackdown resulting in another 30 blighted structures being knocked down bringing the total to 243 since the program's inception 5 years ago and improving safety in our neighborhoods. **True or True**
11. Valley International Airport marked its 15th consecutive month of positive passenger growth averaging a 7.5% increase over the previous year and Sun Country resumed flights with a staggering 99.6% load factor in April. **True or True**
12. VIA also saw a 16.4% increase in cargo shipments. **True or True**
13. Harlingen Waterworks completed its state of the art all liquid and solids treatment facility in 2017 at a cost savings of \$30 million dollars. **True or True**
14. Harlingen Waterworks installed 324 new water meters increasing its customer account total to over 25,600 with new connections outpacing the prior year by 33% for Water and 42% for sewer. **True or True**
15. Harlingen's new convention center will have a seating capacity of 1500 and will be funded without utilizing the City's general fund revenues. **True or True**
16. MRE Capital will invest over \$5.5 million in restoring the 9 story Baxter Building in 2018. **True or True**
17. Violent Crime was down nearly 40% from its 5 year high and Property Crimes were down nearly 18%. **True or True**
18. From October 2008 thru September 2020, both our police officers and fire fighters will have received an annual average pay increase of 3.3%. **True or True**
19. Harlingen's fund balance ended the fiscal year with \$17.7 million representing 149 days of operations. **True or True**
20. Standard and Poors reaffirmed Harlingen's AA- rating "with a positive outlook" indicating a 1 in 3 chance to raise the rating in 2018. **True or True**