



DEXTER L. McCOY
COMMISSIONER

CONTACT:
Nadia Hakim
Communications Director
Fort Bend County, Precinct 4
281-725-3246 | Nadia.Hakim@fortbendcountytexas.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Historic Cole Theater donated to Fort Bend County

FORT BEND COUNTY, TX – The Historic Cole Theatre was donated to Fort Bend County and formally accepted at Commissioners Court this afternoon. The donation was made by William “Bill” Butler.

“We are honored to receive such a generous gift, and my office looks forward to the challenging work of preserving a historic site while updating it into something that will continue attracting visitors and artists. This theatre has seen over a century’s worth of history and we want to build on its legacy so that audiences can continue immersing themselves in culture for many years to come,” said Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy.

The building is over a century old and started playing silent movies in 1919. It seats between 350 and 450 people in the audience and is complete with an orchestra pit beneath the stage. It was once one of the longest running cinemas in the United States, featuring films for 64 consecutive years.

The 2023 Fort Bend County Mobility Bond featured \$1.015 Million for beginning critical assessment and design work to rehabilitate the historic theater. The County hopes to partner with other entities for the project’s full development.

You can find photos of the building in its current state as well as photos from today’s commissioners court during the discussion of the item in [this digital folder](#). (Attribution to the office is required when used.)

Fort Bend County is home to nearly 900,000 people and is one of the fastest growing counties and most ethnically diverse counties in the United States. Commissioner McCoy took office in 2023 to serve Fort Bend Precinct 4’s nearly 250,000 residents. For more information on what’s happening in Commissioner Precinct 4 visit our website (FBCTX.gov/Precinct4) or follow our socials [@FBCprecinct4](#).

####