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CONTACT: Chuck Dart
City of Ferris
(972) 842-2923

FERRIS MAIN STREET EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Nacogdoches, Texas – November 2, 2011

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) and its Texas Main Street Program (TMSP) has recognized Ferris as one of the fifty five (55) National Recognition Cities in Texas. The Ferris program earned national recognition for the first time since its inception in 1997.

Cities selected as National Recognition Cities must show above average performance in 10 categories. The selection criteria focus on planning, staff and volunteers, preservation ethic, training and program assessment.

“Historic Downtown Ferris is the heart and soul of our city and what makes us unique,” said Chuck Dart, Economic Development and Main Street Director. “We are proud to have earned national recognition for the hard work of so many people.”

The cities were honored at the annual Texas Downtown Association meeting in Nacogdoches on November 2, 2011.

“Throughout 2011 we have been celebrating the Texas Main Street Program’s 30 years of progress, having taken our first designated cities in 1981. Recognizing these cities for their efforts in revitalizing their historic downtowns takes on special meaning this year. The programs being acknowledged are large and small from all areas of the state, showing that the Main Street model is appropriate for all kinds of communities with historic downtowns,” said Debra Farst, TMSP state coordinator.

For additional information about the national Main Street effort, visit the National Trust Main Street web site at <http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/>. For more information on the Texas Historical Commission’s Main Street program visit www.thc.state.tx.us.

The THC’s Texas Main Street Program is a revitalization program for historic downtown and neighborhood commercial districts. It is based on a Four-Point Approach™ — organization, design, promotion and economic restructuring, all within the context of historic preservation. Implemented in 1981, the program has assisted approximately 165 communities throughout the state. For more information, contact Debra Farst at 512/463-5758.