

Executive Summary

Prepared by the Courthouse Supplemental Plaque Review Committee

For consideration by the Williamson County Commission

A committee of Williamson County Historical Commission members were charged with reviewing the supplemental plaque on the County Courthouse referencing African-American settlement of Williamson County for revisions due to potential inaccuracies.

Current supplemental plaque reads: “African Americans, the largest ethnic group among pioneer settlers, comprised 10 percent of the County’s population in 1850 and more than nineteen percent in 1860.”

Courthouse Supplemental Plaque Timeline Summary:

11/1970 – Historical Marker is installed on the Williamson County Courthouse.

10/1998 – Supplemental plaque referencing African Americans requested by WCHC and approved by THC.

8/25/16 – Email to THC requesting information on the procedure to change the language on the plaque.

5/9/19 – WCHC began work on language revisions to the plaque.

6/2020 – WCHC approves language revisions to submit to Williamson County Commission.

Williamson County Historical Commission recommends the following language revision:

“African-Americans comprised ten percent of the population in 1850, more than nineteen percent by 1860 and were Williamson County’s largest ethnic group”.

The Commission felt this language modification better reflects the African-American contribution to Williamson County.

Texas Historical Commission advised the cost of the replacement plaque would be approximately \$500.00. The Williamson County Historical Commission has allocated the funds for a replacement plaque.