



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 13, 2022

Graham Chamber of Commerce
608 Elm Street
Graham, Texas 76450-3047

Dear Citizens of Graham:

Thank you for sending the unopened envelope found in your centennial time capsule from 1972. I know you were as excited as I was to find out what was inside. I am pleased to share that the envelope contained a proclamation from Governor Preston Smith to the people of Graham. I am returning to you the original copy from the time capsule for preservation.

The proclamation provides a wonderful glimpse into our “heritage as Americans and as Texans,” as the Governor noted. Texans faced turbulent times both at home and abroad then. While it is different, in many ways, it still remains the same: people around the globe, and especially in Texas, seeking liberty and justice for themselves, their families, and their neighbors.

Governor Smith spoke glowingly of Graham and its future: “The continued progress and growth of the City and area reflects the dedication and civic mindedness of its people.” And so it has. The indomitable spirit and can-do attitude—true trademarks of the Lone Star State—has been present in Graham throughout its history. Spanning the arrival of the Graham brothers at Salt Creek in 1871 to the burial of the time capsule in 1972 and on to its unearthing 50 years later, Graham and its people reflect the best of the future for Texas.

You have my congratulations on exploring the past as we prepare for the future. What will it look like in 50 years? It is limited only by our imaginations. If you make plans for a future time capsule, I would be honored to add an object which a future generation could open and discover what life was like in 2022. I am certain that the City of Graham will continue to forge new paths of excellence as we look toward the endless possibilities of the Texas of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Abbott".

Greg Abbott
Governor

GA:ca

Enclosure