



PRESS RELEASE



Leadership Pearland Class of 2026 visits The Community of Choice on City Day

Pearland, Texas, November 17, 2025

Leadership Pearland is a program that equips participants with the tools and insights needed to lead effectively in a growing and dynamic city. This year's class includes 15 individuals who encompass a range of occupations from Municipal employees, Health Care supervisors, financial gurus to leaders in the future of our education system.

City Day was comprised of the Leadership Pearland class visiting City Hall, Municipal Court, Animal Shelter & Adoption Center, Fire Station #4, and the Surface Water Treatment Plant.

Speakers at City Hall included Trent Epperson, City Manager of City of Pearland, Gladis Sanchez from the City Secretary's Office, Joshua Lee from the Communications Department, and Vance Wyly from Community Development, offering valuable information about their respective roles. Mr. Epperson shared an impressive statistic that according to U.S. News & World Report, Pearland was recently awarded being the #1 Best Place to Live in Texas and ranked #3 overall in the United States.

Tours were led by Carry Capers at the Delores Fenwick Nature Center, Ryden Cohen at the Police Department, Josh Craft at the Animal Shelter, Steven Arnett at the Fire Station and Shaun Gilmore at the Water Treatment Plant. The class learned about current programming, volunteer opportunities and day to operations.

As the sun began to set, the class had a wonderful dinner hosted by Magnolia Cajun Comfort with members of City Council. This allowed the class to break bread with elected officials from the City, connecting on past experiences, future goals, and everything in between.

Ending the day with Mayor Cole recognizing the Leadership Class and showcasing why this program is valued and truly something special.

Pearland's current population sits at 133,000, and after just one day gaining insight as to how the city functions, it easy to understand why Pearland's tagline is, "The Community of Choice." The organization and amenities could compete with those of a much larger urban area, demonstrating Pearland's commitment to providing a vibrant, well-managed, and welcoming community for all.