



## APRIL 2024 EDITION

### **The Voice of Business**

The Pearland Chamber of Commerce hosted a Candidate Forum for contested races for Pearland City Council, Pearland ISD and Alvin ISD. Early voting concludes today with Election Day on Saturday, May 4.

The Chamber also supports the Pearland ISD Bond Packages. The two packages won't increase the overall tax rate but will provide essential infrastructure and technology items for the district.

Grand Parkway Segment B was discussed at our Transportation Committee this month. TxDOT provided an update on the construction timeline and provided updates on the project intersecting at Highway 35 in Alvin and at Interstate 45 in League City. A full copy of the presentation is available below.

[Click here for information on the contested races](#)

[Click here for the TxDOT presentation on Grand Parkway](#)

### **Employment Situation**

The March 2024 Houston Area Employment Situation that was released by Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast shows Pearland has the lowest unemployment percentages in the region (**3.5%, down from last month's 3.7%**). Brazoria County's unemployment is 5.4. The Houston region's unemployment is currently 4.2%, while the national average is 3.9% (page 16 of the report). The report shows growth in primary areas like Government; Mining and Logging and; and Construction. The mining and logging sector comprises establishments extracting naturally occurring minerals such as coal and ores; liquid minerals, such as crude petroleum and natural gas; and timber. Of the three main component industries, Support Activities for Mining accounts for a slight majority of the sector's employment at just over 53 percent (see Chart 14).

[Click Here for full employment report](#)

### **Sales Tax Update**

The City of Pearland receives updates on sales tax collection from the state. Sales Tax collections are a great tool to evaluate the local economy. The report is always from two months prior, so the most recent report reflects February's numbers. The total net collections increased compared to the previous year by \$95,802 or 2.9% and is 3.5% behind the city's adopted annual budget. Overall, the year-to-date collections for Pearland are up 1.0% compared to last year. Page 2 of the reports compares Pearland to other cities across the state.

[Click here for the report](#)

### **Development in Pearland**

The Pearland Economic Development Corporation's commitment to promoting entrepreneurship and innovation was on display when the PEDC awarded the team of Informuta the \$40,000 Pearland Spirit of Entrepreneurship prize at this year's Rice Business Plan Competition. Additionally, the PEDC's Inspiration Lives Here Campaign is being displayed across multiple media channels. Visit their YouTube channel for all the great videos!

[Click here for the LinkedIn Post](#)

[Click here to see the Inspiration Lives Here Campaign](#)

### **Small Business Development Center**

The San Jacinto College Small Business Development Center has held an office at The Commerce Center since 2009. The SBDC Team provides free qualified and confidential advising, tools, resources and information for small businesses and startups to set them on the path to success.

[Click Here to meet the SBDC Team](#)

### **Chamber Report**

Small Business Week is from April 28 to May 3. The Chamber has a GREAT lineup of programs, trainings, and networking opportunities. The week will conclude with a celebration of Small Business during our May First Friday held at Koza's Inc.

The Pearland Chamber of Commerce's Annual Report is available for viewing. This document showcases our journey to the 2023 Chamber of the Year.

[Click Here for information on Small Business Week](#)

[Click Here for the Chamber's Annual Report](#)