



JANUARY 2025 EDITION

The Voice of Business

The Pearland Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for our annual trip to Austin for Pearland Day. This is a key opportunity for us to connect with our elected officials and share our legislative priorities. Thank you to Frontier Waste Solutions and Memorial Hermann Pearland for being our platinum sponsors. Additional sponsorship opportunities are still available, and we would love to have you join us!

The Chamber will continue to advocate for the creation of a Mental Health Hospital in Brazoria County. This is our #1 priority and will continue to work on the important topic.

[Click here for information on Pearland Day in Austin](#)

[Click here for information on our Mental Health Research](#)

Employment Situation

The December 2024 Houston Area Employment Situation report, released by Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast, highlights that Pearland continues to maintain one of the lowest unemployment rates in the region at 3.5%, a slight increase from 3.3% in November. Brazoria County's unemployment rate stands at 5.4%, while the Houston MSA reports an overall unemployment rate of 4.6%, which is above both the state (4.2%) and national (4.2%) averages. The regional decline in employment is largely attributed to seasonal job losses in Leisure and Hospitality (-2,100), Private Education and Health Services (-1,400), and Professional and Business Services (-600), sectors that historically experience fluctuations this time of year. Additionally, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities led job growth with a gain of 6,900 jobs, largely due to holiday retail hiring.

[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 November's numbers. The total net collections increased compared to the previous November by \$119,609 and is 2.7% above the city's adopted annual budget. The current period collections compared to last year are up 3.2%. Page 2 of the report compares Pearland to other cities across the state.

[Click here for the report](#)

Pearland Innovation Hub

Pearland Innovation Hub (PIH) continues to promote their online platform, which is designed to supercharge your small business journey. The program has already grown to over 200 businesses. Features of the platform include:

- **Continued Learning Webinars:** Sharpen your skills and stay ahead of the curve with informative online workshops delivered by industry experts.
- **Grants Database:** Discover funding opportunities perfectly suited for your business needs.
- **Exclusive 1:1 Technical Assistance:** Get paired with vetted professionals for 10 hours of tailored advice. Need a website revamp? A marketing guru? Our technical assistance program has you covered

Also, save the dates for upcoming events including Entrepreneur Insights and Business Breakthrough Conversations.

[Click Here to become a member of the Pearland Innovation Hub for FREE](#)

Development in Pearland

The Pearland Economic Development Corporation's Fall 2024 Newsletter highlighted some great new projects in our community. The report highlights Lonestar Electric Supply coming to Lower Kirby and building a 114,650 sq ft facility and bringing an estimated 80 jobs!

The Chamber also had one Ribbon Cutting in the month of December for [Beyond the Celebration](#). We hosted 53 Ribbon Cuttings in 2024. Ribbon Cuttings are a great opportunity to meet new members and learn about their company.

[Click Here for the PEDC Newsletter](#)

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

The Chamber luncheon schedule is packed for the remainder of the year including the [State of the City on February 6](#) and [State of Pearland ISD on March 13](#).

Also, due to the winter storm, we moved the Annual Banquet to February 19. We do hope you will join us at this great celebration!

We are excited to continue **Influenced by the Chamber**, a new initiative designed to amplify your business's visibility through the power of our community influence. As leaders in the business community, we leverage our extensive social media reach and strong local connections to showcase and promote businesses like yours. Best of all, this program is completely free to participate in!

[Click here to register for the Annual Banquet](#)

[Click here to submit your business to be influenced](#)