MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

From its inception, this organization has been centered on the creation of quality growth, quality jobs and quality development with the goal of creating a world class community.

Good leadership, good management, high standards and finding ways to attract quality growth must remain ingrained in the character of our leaders, business and government alike. This holds true no more starkly then in the past fiscal year where we had substantial changes in governmental leadership, yet those new leaders remain committed to the underlying principles of quality growth with a high focus on business recruitment and retention and a healthy and inviting business climate.

Quality growth at its core is non-partisan, focused on lifting all members of the community to better living standards through enhanced opportunity, from education to employment and beyond.

The formula remains the same, business recruitment, business retention, business climate, infrastructure sufficient to sustain growth, facilitate solutions to community challenges, support development with an emphasis on master planned communities and high end mixed use development. These are the things that have made Fort Bend a magnet for quality growth and these will be the things that elevate us to new heights in the future.

Les Newton
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Excerpt of University of Houston - Victoria, Class of 2005 Commencement Speech

"I have been invited to offer you a formula for success and happiness. "This ceremony pays recognition to your academic achievement. The sorting has begun and you have come through.

To whom much is given, much is expected. Your new status requires new responsibilities. I do not know what your destiny will be, but the ones among you who will find true happiness will be the ones whose trademark is service to others above self. I know those who love the work they choose will be happy and happiness is the key to successful living. Pick your work wisely; do not take a job you don't want. If you find yourself in a job that is a drudge, find work you can enjoy.

Success and happiness are achieved through love. Surround yourself with people who love you.

Success and happiness are achieved through character. Character is moral strength and reputation. Listen to your conscience! Your conscience will guide you down the right path. It is in the individual mind that the battle for good over evil is won. Choose ‘good’ and you change the world for the better. Choose evil and you make the world worse. We can change the world by winning the battle in the mind one good choice at a time.

One choice you can make right now is to avoid greed. What the world needs desperately is more character and morality, and less greed. You will be successful and happy in service to others. Who should you serve?

Serve your families, the one that exists and the one you create. You can serve family by setting a standard for values. You serve family by loving them enough to forego some personal whims for the sake of a family agenda.

Serve your friends. Help your friends and expect nothing in return. Everyone who comes to our party is not necessarily our friend but those who come to help at our flood are true friends.

Serve the elderly, disabled and the poor in wealth and spirit. Remember my test of character: Do something good for someone who can not possibly do anything for you.

You must also serve your God, country and community. The minimum standard for service to God is choosing good over evil. The minimum standard for service to country and community is to understand the issues, assess the character of the candidate, and vote! Whether you like it or not you are about to become a taxpayer – by virtue of your degree you have been selected to become a member of the “haves” club. You “have” a responsibility to participate in the democratic process. You “have” to understand the issues and let your vote reflect your character.

Knowledge is your catalyst to open doors; action is the key."

- Herb Appel

Excerpt of Herb Appel Obituary, Fort Bend Independent / Fort Bend Star July 2018

"I have been thinking about what to say about Herb Appel since his passing; understanding that my best efforts would immediately fall short of the measure of this man. To start off, Herb was a servant leader, he demanded excellence from everyone around him but none more than he expected of himself. There was something inspirational about him. He made you want to be a better person, if not for yourself, to ensure you didn’t let him down. He had a quiet wisdom, perfected by faith, patience and a keen intellect that seemed to know how to balance the scales to bring parties together. He was a master of his craft and his craft was making Fort Bend County a world-class community for business and residents alike. He was the North Star for many in the office and all those in his sphere of influence. He was a man’s man without arrogance or bravado. He embodied everything our organization holds dear, a love for community, quality, growth, opportunity, charity and among all, excellence.

He was truly Fort Bend County’s statesman."

- Jeff Wiley
FBEDC — Mission

The purposes for which this corporation is formed are to assist in and take a leadership role in the strategic planning, implementation and communication of the economic and physical development and redevelopment of Fort Bend County including without limiting the generality of the foregoing:

1. To coordinate and improve the economic vitality of Fort Bend County by promoting and preserving a positive climate for business and investment including the redevelopment of economically disadvantaged areas;

2. To identify and aggressively pursue the location and expansion of qualified businesses and well planned residential ventures to Fort Bend County;

3. To participate and cooperate with other organizations and governments in support of common interests and to facilitate solutions to problems that cross geo-political boundaries;

4. To help ensure that the necessary infrastructure for economic growth is in place.
GREATER FORT BEND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
— Team Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GFBEDC STAFF</th>
<th>Economic Development Partners (EDP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Wiley</td>
<td>Angela Fritz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Belt</td>
<td>Lance LaCour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn Martin</td>
<td>Bob Graf</td>
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<td>Rachelle Kanak</td>
<td>Cameron Goodman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keri Schmidt</td>
<td>Brett Gardella</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristin Weiss</td>
<td>Patti Worfe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don McCoy</td>
<td>Elizabeth Huff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GREATER FORT BEND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Next Page
Year In Review
FY 2019 represented a robust year from a capital investment perspective in the county with nearly $796 Million in new future capital investment associated with Fort Bend County GFBEDC assisted deals. Over $557 Million of capital is associated with Solar Energy Farms that will locate in Fort Bend County, $165 Million in Warehouse/Distribution; $62 Million in New Manufacturing Facilities and $12 Million in Office Headquarters Expansion. As always, the success in attracting economic expansion is the result of the partnerships that exist in Fort Bend County especially with the City economic development directors and cooperative and supportive governmental agencies that aggressively pursue economic expansion that generates new long term tax base and increases employment opportunities.

Commercial Space and New and Retained Jobs

Deal flow over the past 12 months represents 1.5 million sf of new commercial space on over 5500 acres of land and will generate over 1,400 new (779) and retained (650) jobs.

The Pipeline

We have approximately 95,000 sf of deals working representing $415 million in capital and 737 new and retained jobs. In addition, the Fluor project remains on the radar screen but looks to be years rather than months in development.

Mixed Use Development

The GRID and Katy Boardwalk are both mixed use centers that will have a mix of residential, retail, office and hotel space to attract business and resident interest. The GRID and Katy Boardwalk continue taking steps toward their phased development leading to two new mixed use centers that anchor the Northern and Eastern edges of the County. In addition, the City of Richmond continues its analysis on activating elements of historic Richmond as well as new development adjacent to I-69 in their ETJ.

We are working on a new mixed use center development that could accelerate mixed use growth in Precinct 3 as well. The addition of these and other projects along with Cinco Ranch’s La Centerra, Sugar Land Town Square and Brazos Town Center continues Fort Bend’s status as an innovator in mixed use, community focused development in the Houston region.

Fort Bend Marketing Program

Fort Bend Marketing Program continued to lead the way with video intensive productions, creating content focusing on purchasing power, land availability, access, and technology/innovation. Mid-year, the program transitioned to a new, highly targeted outreach effort to specific audiences to improve conversions. Audiences meeting specific profiles are identified, targeted, and reached through multiple channels including device ID targeting which is done through captured devices, the creation of look-alike audiences through pixel tracking technology, and remarketing to users sourced through search engine marketing efforts. The targeted audiences are served video productions and high-impact interactive ads directing them to the website through a variety of these digital platforms, while engaging advanced SEO efforts to improve user experiences and efficiencies on the site.

86th Legislative Session

The 86th Legislative Session started where the 85th Session ended, namely with a focus on property tax and school finance. In addition, actively seeking new MUD and management district status for the George Ranch became a focus of the GFBEDC on behalf of future quality growth opportunities benefiting Fort Bend County.

86th Legislative Session (Cont’d)

The GFBEDC also worked with the Sunshine Coalition and Senator Watson’s (D) and Representative Capriglione’s (R) staff to put forward acceptable changes to the Texas Public Information Act (TPIA) that exempt all but the very largest economic development agencies from the heavy burden of being treated as a governmental entity for purposes of the TPIA. The GFBEDC assisted the City of Richmond, which led efforts to secure a state sales tax exemption for a future hotel convention center project in their community. Finally, working as part of a coalition of interested groups seeking further residency for the Houston Region, funding bills were passed that access the State’s Rainy Day Fund to assist in recovery and resiliency efforts for the region, including local match dollars needed to access available federal funding.

Infrastructure

There remains much work to do on infrastructure to continue Fort Bend’s growth trajectory. As many successful master-planned communities reach their design build out, new communities and the related infrastructure are necessary to develop large tracts of land need to be delivered. A short and long term focus on Highway 36A continues as getting North – South mobility in place west of Rosenberg remains a priority. A focus on continued resiliency of the area from floods and levee preparedness remains a high priority. With a series of heavy rains over the past few years up to and including May 2019, more work remains, notwithstanding the significant efforts underway at a local, regional and state level. LID 2, the LID with the most taxable value in the county, passed a $70 million bond initiative in May 2019 to continue their efforts to protect their constituents. We expect there to be increased attention on mobility, drainage and facilities at the County level in the coming fiscal years.

Operations and Fiscal Responsibility

The GFBEDC with and through its partner city ED relationships produced a record year of development deals while operating the organization within budget guidelines and maintaining net membership revenues and operating expenses at or better than expected. Staff headcount remained the same. We also produced enough savings throughout the year to allow for unbudgeted, board approved, expenditures related to TARGET efforts, and the engagement of a government consultant to work on behalf of the organization and its efforts during the legislative session.
Accredo Packaging, Inc. \ Sugar Land Business Park

Accredo is a multi-national manufacturing enterprise, privately-owned, and Texas headquartered. They make sustainable flexible packaging and high barrier film solutions for a wide range of products. In Sugar Land, Fort Bend County Pct. 3, they have grown from an initial Phase I, through a Phase II expansion, and now have combined their last two phases on the remainder of their site in Sugar Land Business Park. When completed, this 200,000 sf, $62 million expansion will result in a total campus area of 32 acres, over 500,000 sf of LEED certified space, a total capital investment of over $120 million, and a total of 525 jobs. The City of Sugar Land and Fort Bend County granted incentives for all phases of development and expansion including this final phase.

Dollar Tree Warehouse and Distribution \ Rosenberg, TX

Befitting an area boasting three Class 1 railroads within close proximity with each paralleled either by a state highway, a US highway, or an interstate highway, Dollar Tree selected this soon to be annexed into Rosenberg site for a 1.2 million sf distribution center. Dollar Tree, a Fortune 500 company, is the largest and most successful single-price-point retailer in North America, operating almost 15,000 stores. This facility will have a total capital investment of $165 million and create 400 new jobs in the area. The City of Rosenberg and Fort Bend County granted incentives. By committing to serve the site with water/water sewer capability, the City of Rosenberg was able to also open up significant adjacent property to utilities, increasing the number of highly valued shovel-ready sites in the immediate area. The City of Rosenberg and Fort Bend County provided incentives for this relocation.
LendLease - Fort Bend Solar \ Tavener Road and US90A

The first of two mega-sized solar panel generation facilities to be developed in Fort Bend County in Pct. 1 by LendLease, Inc., a international, fully integrated property and infrastructure group based in Sydney, Australia. The project will sit on a Reinvestment Zone of almost 1,800 acres at the northeast corner of Tavener Rd. and US 90A. During initial planning and proof of concept studies, the capital investment originally was $170 million with the established intent to expand that investment should the studies point to a credible outcome. That was accomplished and the project now is at a capital investment of $250 million and a power output of approximately 200 MW, enough to power around 40,000 homes. Although not a producer of more than several permanent jobs, the project will provide a very significant addition to the county tax roll values and offer renewable, cheaper, clean energy to both county industry and communities alike. Both of the solar panel generation facility projects mentioned here will virtually not require any local government facilities or services. Fort Bend County and the Brazos ISD granted incentives.

LendLease - Cutlass Solar \ Unincorporated FBC - South Central

The second of LendLease's two mega-sized projects under development in Fort Bend County in Pct. 1 will sit on a Reinvestment Zone of almost 3,700 acres off the northeast corner of FM 361 and FM 1994 across from the Long Point Landfill and east of Guy, Texas. The initial phase I planning capital investment is allocated at $210 million with an initial operational second phase of an additional $97 million, totaling $307 million with a power output of up to 360 MW, as the intended project capability and value. Like Fort Bend Solar, the lack of permanent jobs is offset by the very large addition to the county tax rolls, renewable, clean, and cheap power to the area. In addition, changing land use from agricultural creates a substantial additional tax for these two projects in the form of Ag Exemption Rollback penalties. Fort Bend County granted incentives and the Needville ISD is considering a value limitation incentive as well.
Leading the City of Sugar Land and Fort Bend County into the future of the digital workspace, privately-held HCSS provides software solutions to the heavy construction industry across the globe. With a campus in Pct. 3 and a work environment that brings to mind the Millennial paradise in a Google and Facebook style, HCSS is starting their third building of 58,500 sf, with a capital investment of $12 million to their campus site. This expansion will bring their three building facility to approximately 120,000 sf and allow 200 more jobs to join the existing 300 jobs at the company. The City of Sugar Land and Fort Bend County granted incentives for the expansion.

The Katy Boardwalk District is a public private partnership engaged in development of an 80-acre project that will include 650 modern loft residences, 145,000 sf of commercial space, 60,000 sf of Class A office space and a four star 300 room hotel conference center. The TIRZ, originally established through the assistance of the GFBEDC which provided the 3P partnership to build Katy Mills Mall project, has been extended to continue this successful partnership between public and private entities to build enhanced high quality development in the City of Katy and Fort Bend County. The City of Katy has been a leader in working to attract significant mixed use development at the site.
The GRID continues to be successful in moving their development forward with the announcement earlier this year of the first phase of development and tenants as they work on the second phase infrastructure. Notable tenants announced include In-N-Out Burger (The first in Houston), Whiskey Cafe, Pluckers Wing Bar, Outback Steak house, Chipolte, Luma Grove and Drive Shack, a golf entertainment venue.

Located at the former TI Site in Stafford, the 192-acres will include more than 350,000 sf of shops, restaurants, and entertainment, 500,000 sf of creative-focused office space, multiple hotels, pop-up shops, food hall, rooftop dining and 2,400 urban residences. The heart of the project incorporates existing components of the site’s iconic industrial architecture to create an authentic and memorable urban environment, including an activated public green space able to host concerts, festivals, and outdoor movies. Public-private partners on this deal include the developer, StreetLevel, East Fort Bend Development Authority, WCID No. 2, City of Stafford and Fort Bend County. The GFBEDC assisted the creation of the local government corporation and incentive agreements between the parties.

District West is a new planned mixed use development in Precinct 3, near the Southeast intersection of Grand Parkway and Westpark Toll Road.

Circle Oak is a future mixed use development project at the NE and SE corners of State Highway FM 762 and Interstate 69 planned on land owned by the George Foundation.

MARCEL’s Cross Creek Town Center entered the development phase with a February 2019 groundbreaking. The new Cross Creek Town Center mixed-use development will be located within Cross Creek Ranch in the City of Fulshear.
Social Media
FBMP engaged an active social media campaign in Greater Houston's office market took a step backward in Q1-19 after improvement for two consecutive quarters to close 2018. Absorption fell negative and total availability increased. Concessions for large, well qualified tenants continue to increase and the overall increased vacancy increases pressure on second generation buildings and Class B buildings in all submarkets.

The most glaring adverse influence is the lack of growth in Oil & Gas job creation; jobs lost will not be replaced due to advances in technology, new jobs in this sector will be limited in the future.

Thus, Greater Houston, including Fort Bend County, has increased their efforts on Innovation, biotechnology and other life sciences, and the greater digital workplace. Fortunately, Fort Bend has always had a diversified office-use sector and is well positioned to expand on that demand rather than start it anew.

Office Market
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Fort Bend and Sugar Land have temporarily dodged a bullet on near term new supply of existing space of over 1 million sf as the new Fluor Corp. campus has been delayed. Any new Class A space contemplated must have over 50% pre-leasing to start construction.

Industrial Market
Overall, Greater Houston's Industrial sector had a red-hot quarter for construction starts with over 6.0 million sf in Q1-19, bringing under construction space in the region to 15.7 million sf.

This activity is triggered by a robust demand and a 5.0% vacancy or below for the last 13 quarters. It is possible to see a softening in market fundamentals over the year as speculative space delivers, causing an uptick in vacancy rates.

In Fort Bend County, over 3M sf of industrial space is under construction. The largest project under construction is a 477,355 sf in the Southwest Commerce Center in Missouri City, TX. In addition, Trammell Crow Company has several buildings either under construction or proposed in Park 8 Ninety. This scope of construction added to existing inventory in the area of the Beltway/US90A interchange has created a significant Industrial Hub in Missouri City and Fort Bend County.

In addition, Dollar Tree plans to build a 1.2M-sf distribution center in Rosenberg. Dollar Tree's selection of the site necessitated the extension of cisy water/sewer capacity to a large section of potential 'shovel ready sites' within both the Rosenberg city limits and ETJ adjacent to IH 69/US 59.
Why do we need a Fort Bend Marketing Program (FBMP) for the county? Fort Bend markets at the county level because we have a competitive and comparative advantage against all other counties in the Houston region. Quality of life, good governance, safe communities, purchasing power, an educated and skilled workforce, diversity, and overall demographics coupled with available land, superior infrastructure, and an aggressive, pro-business culture, puts Fort Bend in the lead regionally and nationally. This public-private partnership leverages dollars and messaging, setting Fort Bend apart as Greater Houston’s Finest Address.

This year, the FBMP transitioned from a program focused on branding via digital media to a direct-media buy, targeted approach focused on five specific audience classes. The campaign transition began January 1.

The FBMP went exclusively digital three years ago, focusing on three primary areas: Facebook, SEO, and SEM, coupled with video-rich content. The program continued this campaign from July through December of this fiscal year. The efforts generated significant brand recognition and drove users to the website, particularly the data and living pages.

Website Users

- Total Impressions: 1,832,777
- Total Engagements: 545,347
- Engagement Rate: 29.8%

July – December

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Paid Facebook Ads

- Impressions: 87,825
- Clicks: 18,392
- Average Position: 1.2

Search Engine Marketing

- Find Audience: 1,769,113 Impressions
- Assimilate Data: 1,269,536 Impressions; ER: 34.2%
- Track Users: Paid Search Impressions: 133,213; Clicks: 9,211
- Remarketing To Users: Display Campaign Impressions: 1,614,511
- Remarketing To Users: Top Display Ads: MORE Office; MORE Land
- Remarketing To Users: SEM Driven Site Visits: 31,700
- Remarketing To Users: SEO Quality Score: 7/10
- Remarketing To Users: Facebook Video Views 100%: 15,318

Device ID Targeting

- Find Our Audiences!
- ID Conference/Assemblies
- Capture Users Through Location Services On Phones
- Filter out bad data
- Full historical data to refine users
- Place code to track audience online activity
- Identify behaviors to target
- Serve target audience ads we’ve created
- NEW! Match desktop IP address to serve ads as well

The Stats

- WE HAVE MORE!
- MORE Land, MORE Access, MORE Talent, MORE Industrial, MORE Office, MORE Opportunity!
- Videos compliment the graphic collateral.

Next Page: NUMBERS THAT EXCEL
POPULATION, EMPLOYMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Fort Bend’s Labor Force continues to grow and has once again climbed to one of the top seven leaders in growth relative to the largest 349 counties quarterly reviewed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These counties make up a substantial majority of all employment in the country. With 4.3% growth, Fort Bend ranks 7th in the nation and third in Texas for employment growth year over year through December 2018. Midland, TX was No. 1 in the Nation and Brazoria was No. 5.

For 2017, Woods & Poole Economics of Washington DC compared Fort Bend County to all 254 counties in Texas; Fort Bend County ranks in the top 10% for the following:

- Population Growth
- Employment Growth
- Households with Money Income over $125K or more
- Households with Money Income over $150K or more

REGIONAL CRIME DATA

Fort Bend’s population stands at 788,000 people as of 2018 based on US Census forecasts averaging roughly 25,000 new residents a year since 2010. Fort Bend is one of the 10 largest counties in the State of Texas. Notwithstanding, it has one of the fastest population growth rates in the state no matter the size of the county, large or small.

Fort Bend grew faster than most counties in the region but was outrun by Waller, Montgomery and Liberty, all having substantially less in base population. No doubt the Grand Parkway will create new growth opportunities for perimeter counties as Fort Bend experienced throughout the last 20 years. However, we also have substantial opportunity as I-69 pushes westward to the County Line and Grand Parkway Segment C eventually expands South Southeast.

Over the last 8 years Fort Bend has averaged nearly 33% growth in its population, outperforming all of its peer regional counties, despite having the second highest population base in the region. This growth has also been high quality growth as families moving to Fort Bend continue to exhibit high education achievement, household income and purchasing power.
SOCIAL MEDIA
FBMP engaged an active social media campaign in as a cost effective strategy to maximize reach with a limited amount of expenditure. The Social Media campaign involved bimonthly paid posts primarily video-centric which included a specific Superbowl campaign. One out of every five people that saw...

Fort Bend County
Montgomery County
Brazoria County
Chambers County
Austin County
Galveston County
Liberty County
Waller County
Harris County
Texas

SOCIAL MEDIA
Fort Bend's Labor Force continues to grow and has once again climbed to one of the fastest growing counties in the country, recently placing 7th in growth among the largest 349 counties measured quarterly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These 349 large counties with population over 75,000 make up a substantial majority of all employment in the country. With 4.3% growth, Fort Bend ranks 7th in the nation and 3rd in Texas for employment growth year over year through December 2018. Midland and Brazoria Counties were the only other counties in Texas to beat Fort Bend at No. 1 and No. 5 respectively in the nation. Fort Bend also was 5th in the nation in year over year comparison in the previous quarter (September 2018/September 2017).

Not only employment growth has been good in the past fiscal year, the mix of employment was great with many of the higher paying industrial sectors experiencing robust growth, as can be viewed on the adjoining page (ranked from high to low wages).

FORT BEND LABOR FORCE REMAINS STRONG
Fort Bend’s Labor Force continues to grow and has once again climbed to one of the fastest growing counties in the country, recently placing 7th in growth among the largest 349 counties measured quarterly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These 349 large counties with population over 75,000 make up a substantial majority of all employment in the country. With 4.3% growth, Fort Bend ranks 7th in the nation and 3rd in Texas for employment growth year over year through December 2018. Midland and Brazoria Counties were the only other counties in Texas to beat Fort Bend at No. 1 and No. 5 respectively in the nation. Fort Bend also was 5th in the nation in year over year comparison in the previous quarter (September 2018/September 2017).

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FORT BEND POVERTY RATE LOWEST IN REGION
Fort Bend’s Poverty Rate is also among the lowest in the State. Fort Bend’s ties for the 7th lowest poverty level among all 254 counties in the State of Texas. Fort Bend also has the lowest poverty rate among all counties in the Greater Houston Region. Of the top 8 counties for lowest poverty rate in the State of Texas, only 4 have populations above 150,000, including No. 1 Collin County (1.005 Million in population) at 5.9%; No. 3 Williamson County (566K in population) at 6.1%, No. 5 Denton County (859K in population) at 7.1% and No. 7 Fort Bend County (787,858 in population) at 8.0%. Our poverty rate has steadily declined since the inception of the organization in 1986 when our County’s poverty rate stood at 12.5%. While there is more work to do, we have made great strides. As John F. Kennedy once said, “A rising tide lifts all boats”.

Individuals Below Poverty Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Poverty Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harris County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waller County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galveston County</td>
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<td>Austin County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chambers County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazoria County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Bend County</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)
County Employment Data*

The rate of unemployment in Fort Bend County fell three-tenths of a percentage point to 3.9 percent in February, down four-tenths of a percentage point from 4.3 percent a year earlier. Total covered employment in the county was up 2,124 jobs over third quarter 2018. The 1.1 percent increase was the strongest third quarter increase since 2006 when the county was up 2.6 percent over the quarter. Substantial job gains were found across most private industry sectors with the largest increase found in Construction, up 763 jobs or 6.6 percent. Professional & Business Services also managed a large increase of 69 jobs, up 3.4 percent. In the public sector, Local Government was down 369 jobs or 1.7 percent as educational institutions reduced payrolls for the summer months. Total covered employment was up 12,195 jobs over the year with the pace of job growth rising 6.8 percent, its fastest pace since fourth quarter 2013. Private-sector job gains were widespread with strongest increases found in Construction, up 1,386 jobs or 12.7 percent, and Financial Activities, up 12.2 percent. Other Services, which was the only industry sector posting an over-the-year loss in the previous quarter, was not reporting an increase, up 186 jobs or 3.3 percent over the year. The public sector also reported increases but at a slower overall pace of only 2.0 percent. The only loss reported was in Other Services, down 229 jobs or 3.7 percent. See page 2 for detailed data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FEB 2019</th>
<th>JAN 2019</th>
<th>FEB 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Civilian Labor Force</td>
<td>388,895</td>
<td>385,552</td>
<td>382,212</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Employment</td>
<td>373,704</td>
<td>369,551</td>
<td>365,621</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>15,191</td>
<td>16,001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparative Actual Rates

Texas 4.1% 4.2% 4.1%
U.S. 4.1% 4.4% 4.4%

Unemployment Rate

*Estimates reflect actual (not seasonally adjusted) data. Civilian Labor Force includes wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family, domestics in private households, agricultural workers, workers involved in labor disputes and the unemployed, all by place of residence. Covered employment data compiled from 3rd quarter 2018 contributors and wage reports submitted to the Texas Workforce Commission by employers subject to the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Source: Texas Workforce Commission in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. All data is subject to revision.

Fort Bend County Labor Market Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVERED EMPLOYMENT</th>
<th>Number of Jobs</th>
<th>Quarter Chg</th>
<th>Annual Chg</th>
<th>Avg Wkly Wage*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial Sector</td>
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<td>2ND QTR 2017</td>
<td>3RD QTR 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Employment</td>
<td>198,454</td>
<td>188,330</td>
<td>178,259</td>
<td>12,195</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</td>
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<td>3,592</td>
<td>3,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
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<td>Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<td>Financial Activities</td>
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<td>Professional &amp; Business Services</td>
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<td>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</td>
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<td>Other Services</td>
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<td>Nonclassifiable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Government</td>
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<td>810</td>
<td>760</td>
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<td>State Government</td>
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<td>21,281</td>
<td>21,660</td>
<td>20,975</td>
<td>-69</td>
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</table>

Creating the right business climate requires the development of important community attributes that work to provide a competitive edge in facilitating commercial, residential, population and workforce growth. We diligently pursue and highlight four foundational attributes that set the table for positive growth in our area. These attributes position Fort Bend County favorably in the Greater Houston region:

**Business Climate**

- **Setting the Table**

  Notes

  Creating the right business climate requires the development of important community attributes that work to provide a competitive edge in facilitating commercial, residential, population and workforce growth. We diligently pursue and highlight four foundational attributes that set the table for positive growth in our area. These attributes position Fort Bend County favorably in the Greater Houston region:

  - **Cooperation**
  - **Pro-Business**
  - **Education**
  - **Proximity**

**Fort Bend**

Fort Bend began its growth cycle because this community offered sale, superior schools, and lands that were desired prospect with incentives. That proximity made all the important key transportation corridors that link people and businesses in Fort Bend to the rest of the region. Fort Bend County is the center of the region. These important corridors include Interstate 10, Interstate 69, Fort Bend Toll Road, West Park Tollway, Grand Parkway, and Highway 9A.

Expansion of higher education has also been a priority for the organization and the FBEDC works closely with UI, TSTC, HCC, and WCDC in efforts to expand and ensure a future workforce.

In this endeavor, nothing ventured, nothing gained is the mantra.