

# Downtown Revitalization Tools & Resources



\$4.1 Billion

**SINCE 1981** 

designated Main Street communities reported the following reinvestment into their Main Street districts.

## What is Main Street?



A community is only as strong as its core.

## The Main Street Four Point Approach™

Economic Vitality Downtown is a marketplace with the potential for return on investment.

Design

Downtown's historic nature is what makes it special. The historic assets are worth saving & reusing.

Promotion

Downtown is a vibrant, active place worth visiting.



The Main Street program is an effective organization through which the downtown vision is achieved.

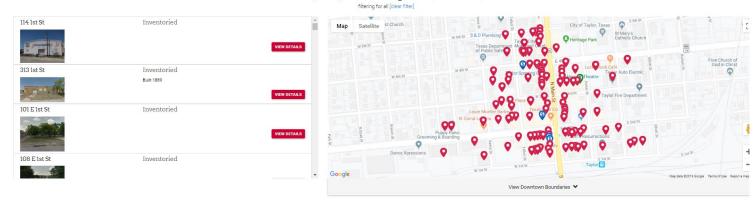


## **ECONOMIC VITALITY**

focuses on capital, incentives, and other economic and financial tools to assist new and existing businesses, catalyze property development, and create a supportive environment for entrepreneurs and innovators that drive local economies.



Find your place in Taylor (114 results)





#### Why Taylor?

Downtown Taylor offers an urban feel in a small town setting just 30 minutes east of Austin in one of the fastest growing counties in Texas. With a reputation for world-class barbecue and cotton production, Taylor has recently become known as a small-business friendly community attracting diverse and creative entrepreneurs. An updated downtown master plan has helped generate momentum for transformative projects like Heritage Square Park, city hall redevelopment and a downtown shate park.



Design

## DESIGN

supports a community's transformation by enhancing the physical and visual assets that set the commercial district apart.



## PROMOTION

positions the downtown or commercial district as the center of the community and hub of economic activity, while creating a positive image that showcases a community's unique characteristics.



## ORGANIZATION

involves creating a strong foundation for a sustainable revitalization effort, including cultivating partnerships, community involvement, and resources for the district.



# **Downtown Buildings = OPPORTUNITY!**



## **Becoming a Main Street community**

HERITAGE TRAILS REGIONS Plains Trail Region Forts Trail Region Pecos Trail Region

> Mountain Trail Region Forest Trail Region Lakes Trail Region Brazos Trail Region

Independence Trail Region Hill Country Trail Region Tropical Trail Region



# EXAMINE<br/>MAIN STREET CITIES 2019Under 5,000<br/>24 citiesImage: Descent of the second of the sec

50,000+ urban population 15 cities

# **TARGETED INCENTIVES**

- Support local and existing businesses first.
- Be sure the incentive supports what you want.
- Be strategic in application.



# **TYPES OF INCENTIVES**

- Tax breaks
- Low interest loans
- Grants
- Infrastructure
- Workforce training
- Promotion assistance
- Preferential purchasing



# **DOWNTOWN FOCUS AREAS**

Consider conducting a **CEDS** to identify and prioritize projects (some may be eligible for EDA funding).

Contact the Houston-Galveston Area Council about this process.

- 1. Preservation & development
- 2. Small business support & start-ups
- 3. Downtown housing



# 1. Preservation & Development

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ)

**Public Improvement District** 

## **Texas Historical Commission**

- CLG Grants (\$2,000 to \$30,000)
- Historic Preservation Tax Credits (State & National)
- ADA Tax incentives

## **Texas Department of Agriculture**

- Planning and Capacity Building Fund (up to \$55,000)
- Texas Capital Fund (\$50,000 to \$150,000)
- Infrastructure Development program (\$50,000 to \$1.5 million)
- Real Estate Development program (\$50,000 to \$1.5 million)
  Hotel Occupancy Taxes
  Opportunity Zones

# 2. Small Business Development

#### Local

- Sales tax rebates
- Property tax abatements

#### Texas Governor's Office:

- Texas Enterprise Zone Program
- Product Development and Small Business Incubator
- Skills Development Fund
- Self-Sufficiency Fund
- Capital Access Program
- Texas Leverage Fund

#### **Texas Department of Agriculture:**

- Small & Microenterprise Revolving Loan Fund
- Go TEXAN Partner Program

#### Community Banks and the Small Business Administration (SBA)

# 3. Downtown Housing

#### **Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs**

• Low-income Housing Tax Credits

#### **Texas Department of Agriculture**

Community Development Fund

#### Neighborhood Empowerment Zones

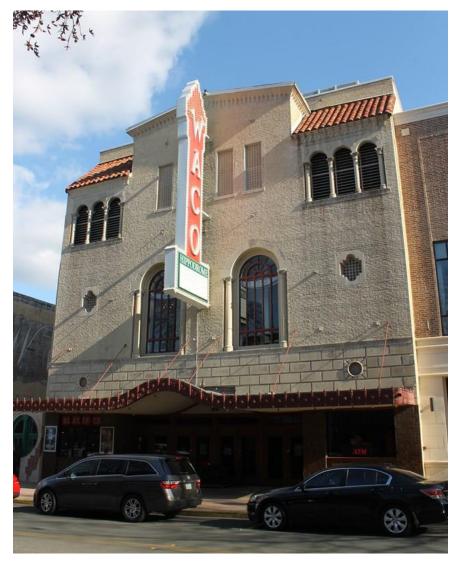


# **DOWNTOWN CONSIDERATIONS**

- Think beyond retail.
- Link downtown strategies to broader community goals.
- Establish standards to support quality development & improvements.
- Business start-up training & entrepreneurship.
- Downtown housing.
- Targeted incentives policy to match your needs.



## TAX CREDIT



Waco Hippodrome <u>Historic Use</u>: Movie theater and performance venue <u>Current Use</u>: Movie theater and restaurant <u>Total Rehabilitation Cost</u>: \$2,811,719 <u>Qualified Rehabilitation Expenses</u>: \$1,541,466 <u>Date Certified</u>: April 21, 2016 *Also certified for Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits.* 

## TAX CREDIT



24-26 North Main, Elgin <u>Historic Use</u>: Retail <u>Current Use</u>: Retail, apartment <u>Total Rehabilitation Cost</u>: \$150,000 <u>Qualified Rehabilitation Expenses</u>: \$140,000 <u>Date Certified</u>: February 23, 2017 *Also certified for Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits.* 

## **SMALL BUSINESS**



Pop-Up Retail <u>Past Use</u>: Vacant lot & parking <u>Current Use</u>: Pop-up Retail <u>Cost</u>: \$2500-\$5000 per container

**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION** *real places telling real stories* 

## **SMALL BUSINESS**



Innovation Pipeline, Tyler Entrepreneurship Center Partnership between City, TJC, UT-Tyler, SBDC, Chamber & others Offers training, incubator space, makerspace, mentoring, legal assistance, etc.

**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION** *real places telling real stories* 

## Housing



Conrad Lofts, Plainview Affordable housing (29 apartments, 796-1,900 sf) Combined the use of Historic Preservation and Affordable Housing Tax Credits



#### TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



www.thc.state.tx.us

## THANK YOU!

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