



VEDC Update for Port Lavaca – October NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

VEDC Staff has scheduled recurring monthly update meeting with City Manager.

Residential Incentives Draft

- Pending (still) – presented to Council on January 29th. The VEDC is waiting on the direction of the City Council.
- Residential Development – VEDC Staff meeting with Frank Alvarez (comptroller’s office) to better understand how to present the use of TIRZ and PID for development. We can schedule a presentation directly to council if desired.
- VEDC has a met with Stuart Lynn (Developer) to discuss housing development for Port Lavaca
- VEDC has spoken to other developers for housing needs in Port Lavaca

Marketing

- VEDC inquired about contracting Retail Strategies to recruit retailers. VEDC is updating the retail trade area data and will be provided to CM at next monthly meeting.
- VEDC has contracted with web developer for the Port Lavaca tab on the VEDC website. Should be completed no later than Oct. 31.
- Created one pager for retail marketing
- VEDC staff spoke to City Manager regarding Port Lavaca becoming a certified “Film Friendly City”. We can present the process to the council during a later meeting.
 - First steps required include:
 - VEDC Staff (the invitation will be extended to Tania French at the chamber, as well) to attend a workshop hosted by the state. THEY ARE WORKING ON SCHEDULING ONE IN THE FALL. The FF staff is supposed to contact VEDC staff to update on a date.
 - Will review updated forms with CM during the scheduled monthly meeting in November.

Business

- Working with a potential shoe retailer (consultant) looking to possibly have a location in Port Lavaca. Have followed up; waiting for an update.
- Having met with a consultant on August 23rd, CM and VEDC staff are working on an Economic Impact Analysis as it relates to Safe Harbor Refuge.
- VEDC staff met with CM on a marketing plan for vacant buildings/lots and other sites and will target those sites (next scheduled meeting). Will discuss at next monthly meeting with CM (November)
- VEDC staff will be attending retail attraction trade shows, effective 4th quarter 2024 (schedule will follow). Discuss what a “wish list” would be for retail.
- Working with Chamber to schedule meetings with business owners/ roundtable discussion. It was suggested we hold off for a couple of months due to a plethora of upcoming events.
- VEDC staff creating a list of retailers that fit the minimum criteria for the city size.



Projects

All projects discussed on August 12th are still active: (VEDC President will present a quarterly update when preferred date is given by CM)

- VEDC is working with a new DOW supplier that will have an economic impact, including some jobs, in the community.
- WGS is still a very active project. This would be at the ALCOA site and originally would result in 1,500 jobs.
- Project Lynas is still active
- 4 other (previously 3) large projects are being worked on in the region which will result in many jobs, if sites are selected. Everyone is still in the planning stages.

Other

- VEDC staff attended Sales Tax Workshop held in Austin
- VEDC will host the annual meeting on December 4 (Save the Date was emailed)– Members of Council and Commissioners are invited to attend