



VEDC Update for Port Lavaca – March 2024 APRIL COUNCIL MEETING

Residential Incentives Draft

- Pending – presented to Council on January 29th. The VEDC is waiting on direction from council.

Marketing

- VEDC has the new demographics to be placed on the website and other marketing literature. (currently reflects numbers from 2016)
- VEDC is working with a third party to update the VEDC website to include a page/tab for Port Lavaca that will include economic development information specific to Port Lavaca (in progress)
- Website now automatically populates with MLS real estate listings
- VEDC staff is creating a one-page marketing sheet for Port Lavaca per request

Business

- VEDC staff drove the city with the CM to discuss certain areas and residential needs.
- VEDC staff walked the downtown area with Chamber staff to get a feel for the community. Very few business owners were open or available to talk.
- VEDC is looking at dates for a community meeting (partnering with the Chamber).
- VEDC will schedule business visits to build relationships and identify issues.

Projects

- WGS is still a very active project (this was the day and a half site visit March 4th and March 5th). This would be at the ALCOA site and would result in 1,500 jobs. We are on the short list.
- Project Lynas is still active
- 3 other large projects are being worked on in the region which will result in many jobs, if sites are selected.

Other

- VEDC staff spoke to a possible buyer/investor and civil engineer, regarding the hotel across from the nautical center. The prospect has already purchased properties (residential) in Port Lavaca.
- VEDC staff has reached out to HUD/ USDA representative regarding a home repair program that may be available. Will update after conversation.