

VEDC Update for Port Lavaca MAY RECAP – May 30

# <u>VEDC Staff met with the City manager for the scheduled monthly meeting (5/21). Discussed Quality of Life items</u> (schools, crime, housing) and other items.

## **Residential**

- VEDC Staff and Developer sat with the City Manager and identified some prospective properties. VEDC has sent more information to a developer on specific properties. VEDC staff is working with a local realtor on this, as well.
- VEDC staff is meeting with an organization regarding home repairs to offer possible assistance to qualified homeowners. An update will be provided next month.

## Marketing

- City Manager provided VEDC staff with 2024 Police stats to post on site.
- VEDC will be having some photos done soon to compliment the web page.
  - Photos will include both an "industrial" look and a retail look.
- VEDC moved to a new provider to pull MLS listings so they should populate. Staff will manually add properties not listed.
- VEDC staff has provided City Manager with a draft of guidelines regarding Port Lavaca becoming a certified "Film Friendly City". These guidelines will be presented to City Council in June. Once approved, Port Lavaca will be officially a Certified Film Friendly City.
  - VEDC staff met with Tania (5/30) to discuss photo locations to submit to the State for the Film Friendly website.

## **Business**

- The VEDC staff has reached out to a combined (breakfast/lunch) concept sit down restaurant to have a discussion with them opening in Port Lavaca. Pending.
- VEDC staff has reached out to a franchise broker, seeking opportunities in the area. This is a newer franchise to the area.
- VEDC staff will be scheduling BRE visits with industrial clients in the next couple of months.
- VEDC staff attended Select USA, a summit for Foreign Direct Investment. This is an event VEDC attends as part of a state mission and is hosted by the US Department of Commerce, through the International Trade Administration. Many connections were made with global companies. Information will be sent to VEDC staff once information is compiled, and staff will reach out to companies who could be prospects in Port Lavaca.

## Projects/Other

- VEDC staff hosted the Semiannual meeting at the Port of Calhoun. This was well attended and VEDC staff thank all the council members, the mayor and the City manager for attending.
- VEDC staff assisted ExxonMobil with a meeting in Olivia to discuss the potential project. NO DECISISIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE MADE BY EXXONMOBIL UNTIL 2027.
- All projects will be updated by VEDC President during quarterly meetings, or if requested earlier. Projects in the area benefit the region.