

# Special Tomball EDC

## Agenda Item

### Data Sheet

Meeting Date: July 8, 2025

#### Topic:

Consideration and possible action by Tomball EDC to approve, as a Project of the Corporation, the designation of Legacy Square, a redevelopment of the former First Baptist Church into an arts and cultural destination including a multipurpose event venue in Old Town Tomball.

- Public Hearing

#### Background:

On January 10, 2023, the TEDC Board of Directors approved the First Baptist Church Project designation as a mixed-use development to support revitalization and new and expanded business development in Old Town Tomball. City Council formally approved the Project, via two separate readings of Resolution No. 2023-04-TEDC on February 20, 2023, and March 6, 2023.

The TEDC officially closed on the purchase of the 4.63-acre site on April 12, 2023.

At that time, one potential use discussed was a future City Hall, but following the City's selection of the Regions Bank site for that function, the vision evolved toward establishing an arts and cultural district, with a multi-use event facility as its centerpiece. This direction has remained consistent with the Board and Council's prior guidance.

Since then, the TEDC has undertaken a comprehensive due diligence process, including site and facility assessments, visioning sessions, and stakeholder/partner engagement to shape the future use of the site. A recurring theme throughout this process has been the community's strong interest in establishing a vibrant destination that honors the historical significance of the location while contributing to the cultural and economic vitality of Old Town. These discussions have consistently supported the idea of repurposing the former main sanctuary into a flexible, multi-use event space surrounded by supporting elements of an arts and cultural district.

As part of this designation, the proposed name for the project—Legacy Square—has been introduced to reflect the rich heritage of the First Baptist Church of Tomball and to honor the deep history and cherished memories the church holds for so many in the community.

The name also speaks to the enduring impact this project aims to leave for future generations: a transformative, community-centered development that celebrates the past while shaping a vibrant, inclusive, and culturally rich future for the City of Tomball.

This designation also affirms the TEDC's long-term commitment to positioning Old Town as a destination for both residents and visitors, and sets the stage for continued planning, partnership development, and strategic investment.

**Origination:** Kelly Violette, Executive Director, Tomball Economic Development Corporation

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval.

**Party(ies) responsible for placing this item on agenda:** Kelly Violette

**FUNDING (IF APPLICABLE)**

Are funds specifically designated in the current budget for the full amount required for this purpose?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, specify Account Number: # \_\_\_\_\_

If no, funds will be transferred from account # \_\_\_\_\_ To account # \_\_\_\_\_

Signed	_____	Approved by	_____
	Staff Member-TEDC		Executive Director-TEDC
	Date		Date