

**Economic Development Regional  
Highlights and Events Newsletter**

4/1/2021

**Key Services**

- Comprehensive Planning
- Historic Preservation
- New Elected Officials Guide
- Grant Writing & Administration
- City Homepage Templates
- [Economic Development](#)
- [Transportation Planning](#)
- [GIS Mapping Services](#)

**Upcoming Events**

**Leadership Central Texas 2021**

Applications due Apr. 1, 2021

[Click Here!](#) To apply.

**Rural Internship Program 2021**

Applications due Apr. 1, 2021

[Click Here!](#) To apply.

**The New Reality of Economic Development**

Apr. 7, 2021 10:30am-11:30am CDT

Registration Fee: \$79 Individual/\$295 Group

[Click Here!](#) To register.

**USDA ReConnect Program Webinar**

Apr. 14, 2021 1:00pm CDT

Registration Fee: Free

[Click Here!](#) To register.

**Central Texas Highlights**

**Central Texas Food Bank**

The Central Texas Food Bank/San Saba Mobile Food Pantry is April 14th 10:00am-11:30am.

This will be a mobile (drive thru) distribution.

The food pantry will continue to distribute food on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. [Click Here!](#) For more information.

San Saba Civic Center.  
1190 S. Thomas Stewart  
San Saba, TX 76877

**Did You Know?**

**The Office of Small Business Assistance**, is excited to announce the official launch of the Governor's Small Business Resource Portal! Whether you are an aspiring entrepreneur or an established business owner, the portal will provide you with the most relevant resources and contacts to help you find success. This important tool offers a customized list of useful business resources to assist in starting or growing a business in Texas. [Click Here!](#) To launch the portal.

**Opportunity Zones: The Early Evidence**

The Hutchings Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy at Brookings convened a virtual conference on February 24 on Opportunity Zones. Ed Glaeser of Harvard gave opening remarks, followed by a presentation from CDFR Member Kenan Fikri of the Economic Innovation Group. There were four sessions total, organized by topic, each containing several paper presentations and discussant responses. [Click Here!](#) To read more.

**SBA Community Navigators**

Through the Community Navigator Pilot Program, SBA will engage with states, local governments, SBA resource partners, and other organizations in targeted outreach for small businesses underserved communities. These efforts began with SBA issuing an Information Notice that offers advice and guidance on best practices for adopting the community navigator model for use by SBA district offices, state and local government partners, Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), Women's Business Centers (WBCs), Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE), and other resource partners. The Biden-Harris Administration and Congressional leaders supported a \$100 million investment, as part of the American Rescue Plan, to establish Community Navigator Programs for individuals with disabilities and/or in minority, immigrant, rural, and other underserved communities across the country.