



Development District of Central Texas

**April 18, 2024
9:30 a.m.**

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Agenda



Development District of Central Texas

Thursday, April 18, 2024

Central Texas Council of Governments Building
2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513

Regular Meeting: 9:30 AM

Virtual Link: [DDCT Meeting](#)

Call in Number: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](#)

Access Code: [599-946-797](#)

AGENDA

1. Welcome.
2. Opportunity for Public Comment.
3. Staff Update. *(pg.6-8)*
4. **Action Item:** Regarding approval of meeting minutes from the January 4, 2024 meeting. *(pg.10-12)*
5. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding approval of 2024 Rural Internship Program applications. *(pg.14-22)*
6. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding approval of 2024 Leadership Central Texas Program applications. *(pg.24-60)*
7. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Fair Housing Presentation and Discussion. *(pg.62-63)*
8. **Discussion Item:** Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Implementation. *(pg.66-72)*
9. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives. *(pg.74-75)*
10. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Federal and State legislative updates pertaining to economic development. *(pg.78)*
11. Board of Director's Comments.
12. Other Business: Next meeting date Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 9:30 AM.
13. Adjourn.

The Development District of Central Texas is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal opportunity for effective communications will be provided upon request. Please contact the DDOCT office at 254-770-2379 24 hours in advance if accommodation is needed. Citizens who desire to address the Board on any matter may sign up to do so prior to this meeting. Public comments will be received during this portion of the meeting. Comments are limited to 3 minutes maximum. No discussion or final action will be taken by the Board.

Item #3

Staff Update

Update on CTCOG Planning Grants and Activities**EDA Planning Grant Update**

Staff has kept up to date with reporting for the EDA Planning Grant, including ED916 and 918 Semi-annual Program Outputs and Annual Capacity Outcomes Questionnaires, Annual Progress Reports, and SF-425 Financial Reports.

CTCOG Activities

- Staff has continued publishing three weekly and biweekly newsletters on
 - Economic Development grants, resources and webinars;
 - Economic Development regional highlights, and events.
 - Central Texas Transportation, highlighting grants, resources, and updates on implementation of the 2022-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Staff attended TxCBDG, TDA, TEDC, TARC, EDA, TML and other partner agency virtual meetings during the last year to receive updates. Staff is attending the Southwest Region Economic Development Association (SWREDA) Regional Conference 2024 Annual Conference May 15-17 in Oklahoma City.
- The Leadership Central Texas and Rural Internship Programs were advertised to the region from their approval at the January 4 DDCT meeting to their deadline on March 29. Emails describing the program were sent out to all city managers, county clerks, county judges, EDCs, and Chambers in the region numerous times over three months, public notices were placed in all seven county courthouses, and newspaper advertisements were paid for in the Killeen Daily Herald and Temple Daily Telegram. Additionally, social media posts were made on the DDCT, CTCOG, and community pages around the region, and a Facebook advertisement (boosted post) was made to push information on these programs out to the community directly. \$75 was spent on boosting the Leadership Central Texas Facebook post, receiving 2,930 views, 153 post engagements, and 104 link clicks. In total we received 6 Leadership Central Texas applications with 2 staff members who will be participating as well, and 4 Rural Internship Program applications-a program high!
- Staff has continuously updated the grants and resources page on the DDCT website to include more information on deadlines and eligible uses of funds, as well as deleted older resources and added new ones. These include grants, loans, and other programs for water and wastewater infrastructure, broadband, economic development, and for workforce development and community revitalization.
- Staff has continuously updated the Discover Central Texas Facebook and Twitter with events, sites, attractions, and destinations for tourism along a theme for each month. Website hosting expired in January 2024 and staff have been working to obtain a new vendor for hosting and maintenance.
- Staff is working to create a housing, comprehensive plan, and zoning toolkit and resources page on the DDCT website.

- Staff has continuously updated the DDCT and Central Texas Transportation Facebooks with grants and other resources.
- Staff is researching and coordinating implementation of programs for the 2022-2026 CEDS and Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Staff is monitoring programs funded and created by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to learn how they can benefit our region.
- CTCOG, HOTCOG, and BVCOG are in the Central Texas Regional Broadband Working Group for the Texas Broadband Development Office.
- Staff is assisting the City of Cameron with reimbursements for engineering and construction fees for their EDA grant as well as administering the project and completing all progress and financial reports.
- Staff is continuing administering an EDA grant for the City of Belton for their Rockwool project with reimbursements for engineering fees and completing required documentation for construction bid opening and submittal as well as the construction contract. Easement requests for parcel owners on property have been submitted, waiting on parcel owner legal reviews of requests.
- Staff is working on an EDA EAA grant application for the city of Copperas Cove for a Downtown Improvements Plan update.
- Staff assisted Killeen with funding sources for development of a plaza with a grocery store, low income housing, and a transportation hub.
- Staff is assisting the non-profit New Life Village to fund new tiny homes, a water storage tank, and water and street infrastructure for aged out foster youth. Staff is applying for the USDA Community Facilities grant for this project and is currently working on pre-application materials to confirm eligibility of the project.
- Staff is assisting the Water Finance Exchange where needed for Central Texas Water Supply Corporation's application for various TWDB and USDA programs for new raw water and high capacity pumps.
- Staff is working with the city of Mullin on obtaining grant funding for water/sewer line construction, street reconstruction, and/or development of a park or industrial park.
- Staff held the Veteran Entrepreneurial Summit held in Lampasas on January 30, 2024.
- Staff continues to provide technical assistance to communities for grant applications and general resource requests.

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas Q1 2024 Economic Snapshot for CTCOG Region

- Unemployment Rate: As of January 2024, the unemployment rate is 4.46%, a decrease from the 4.49% rate at the end of Q3 2023.
- Labor Force Participation Rate: As of September 2023, the labor force participation rate is 53.20%, a decrease from 57.05% in 2018.
- Workforce: 205,265
- Exports: \$48.57 billion; a decrease from Q4 2023's \$48.86 billion.
- Total Jobs Increase: From 2018 to 2023, jobs increased by 3.9% from 205,925 to 213,966. This change outpaced the national growth rate of 3.6% by 0.3%.
- Professional & Business Services: 80,000+ Jobs vs. national average 172,000+ Jobs.
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities: 76,000+ Jobs vs. national average of 150,000+ Jobs.
- Government Sector: 60,000+ Jobs vs. 35,000+ national average.
- Fastest Growing Industries: Construction, retail trade, and accommodation and food services.
- Largest Industries: Government, health care and social assistance, and retail trade.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Item #4

Meeting Minutes



Development District of Central Texas (DDCT)

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, January 4, 2024

9:30 AM

Regular Meeting

Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)

2180 North Main Street

Belton, TX 76513

Voting Members Present:

Dean Roome – Bartlett Municipal Development
District

Jim Gibson – Rockdale Municipal Development
District*

Ginger Watkins – Cameron Industrial Foundation

Dexter Morris – City of Mullin

Stacey Ybarra – Lampasas Economic Development
Corporation*

Ted Gonzalez – Central Texas College

David O'Connor – Nolanville Economic Development
Corporation*

Kayla Schraub – Mainstreet Hamilton*

Additional Attendees

Adam Grundy – U.S. Census Bureau

Carol Faulkenberry – Texas Department of
Agriculture

Anna Barge – CTCOG*

Dominic Elizondo – CTCOG

Uryan Nelson – CTCOG*

James McGill – CTCOG

Hope Davis – CTCOG*

Anita Janke – CTCOG

Callie Tullos – CTCOG

**Denotes online attendee*

Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order: Dexter Morris, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. A quorum was present.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment: No comments were made by the public.

3. Staff Update:

Dominic Elizondo gave an update about CTCOG activities including the EDA Partnership Planning Grant for FY24-26 is expected to be awarded in late January, or early February to the DDCT/CTCOG. Staff are assisting the City of Cameron and the City of Belton with administration of EDA grants. Staff assisted the Area Agency on Aging with submitting a Texas Veterans Commission grant application. We are helping Copperas Cove, Mullin, Central Texas Water Supply Corporation, and New Life Village with grant and loan applications. Staff are assisting with planning and hosting a Veteran Entrepreneur Summit on January 30,

2024. Mr. Elizondo also provided economic updates for Q4 2023, noting that the unemployment rate went up slightly to 4.49%.

4. Action Item: Regarding approval of meeting minutes from the October 5, 2023 meeting.

Ginger Watkins made a motion to approve the October 5, 2023 minutes, seconded by Dean Roome; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Approval of New Board Members.

Teddy Clevenger, Superintendent of Bartlett ISD and Kayla Schraub, Main Street Manager for the City of Hamilton have been nominated for the DDCT Board.

Dean Roome made a motion to approve Teddy Clevenger and Kayla Schraub as new board members of DDCT, seconded by Ginger Watkins; the motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Approval of 2024 Rural Internship and Leadership Central Texas Program.

Dominic Elizondo reviewed the Rural Internship Program and Leadership Central Texas Program and their respective applications. The scholarship for the Rural Internship Program will be \$1,000 and three awardees are expected now that more funds will be allocated to this portion of the EDA grant budget. The board had no changes for the program from the previous year.

Ginger Watkins made a motion to approve the Rural Internship Program and the Leadership Central Texas Program and their applications, seconded by Dean Roome; the motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion Item: Regarding presentation of Census Builder tool.

Adam Grundy, Supervisor for the Data User and Trade Outreach Branch of the U.S. Census Bureau, provided a presentation on the Census Business Builder Tool. The Census Business Builder Tool is a suite of services that provide selected demographic and economic data from the Census Bureau tailored to specific types of users in a user-friendly format. The tool has interactive maps to browse and download data about the selected area and type of businesses.

8. Discussion Item: Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation

Dominic Elizondo discussed the CEDS objective “Proactively shape growth to ensure quality of place.” Mr. Elizondo read the first strategy. Discussion took place over the high demand for housing versus the resistance to development. Ms. Watkins recommended infill development. She shared about the EPA’s “Attracting Infill Development in Distressed Communities” document. There were recommendations on developing tools for small cities and events.

The Board agreed with the idea of posting how best to disseminate strategies to increase housing, develop land use plans and master plans, and assisting jurisdictions with updating ordinances, and that the board agreed on posting these strategies, tools, and resources on the DDCT website and creating summits for each of them.

Mr. Elizondo read the other strategies as a group. The “Texas Downtowns”/Placemaking classes were discussed as a project of interest. Staff will develop a summit for the Texas Downtowns/Placemaking

concept. Carol Faulkenberry mentioned that the Texas Department of Agriculture has a grant program to pay for city plans. There was interest in adding tools to DDCT's website for how to have developers fund utility expansion.

9. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Anna Barge noted the Texas Digital Opportunity Plan draft public comment period closing on January 5th and referenced the packet for more information.

10. Discussion Item: Regarding Federal and State Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development

Anna Barge discussed the propositions related to economic development that were on the November ballot. This included:

- Proposition 2 related to childcare facilities, passed
- Proposition 5 relating to funds for Texas Universities, passed
- Proposition 7 related to the Texas Energy Fund, passed
- Proposition 8 related to the Broadband Infrastructure Fund, passed

11. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Grant Opportunities

Dominic Elizondo provided an update on State and Federal grant opportunities and their eligible projects and match, including:

- USDOL YouthBuild Program
- EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs
- TDA Texas Rural Community (TRC) Loan
- LCRA Community Development Partnership Program
- USDA Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Program

12. Board of Director Comments: No Comments.

13. Discuss agenda items for the next meeting on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

13. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM.

Dexter Morris, DDCT Chair

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG Planning Director

Item #5

Approval of 2024 Rural Internship Program Applications

Approval of 2024 Rural Internship Program Applications

The Rural Internship Program is a grant program offering \$1000 scholarships to rural (population of 20,000 or less) EDCs, chambers, cities, or other organizations dedicated to promoting local economic development for high school junior or senior interns to work on economic development projects for the community.

The Rural Internship Program received four applications-a record number of applications-from the Kay Theatre, Hamilton EDC, Nolanville EDC, and Lampasas Chamber of Commerce. The FY 2024 program opened for applications January 4, 2024 after Board approval. Emails on this program were sent out to all city managers, county clerks, county judges, EDCs, and Chambers in the region numerous times over three months to advertise it.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Intern Hours</u>	<u>Reason for Intern</u>
Kay Theatre (Rockdale)	10-15 hours/week	Collaboration with board for development and promotion of programming for Rockdale's 12 day 150 th birthday celebration, creation of Youth Advisory Committee, and staffing and operations of theatre during events.
Hamilton EDC	2 hours/day, 10 hours/week	Social media campaigns, marketing, promotion, research, and event planning.
Nolanville EDC	9 hours week, M-W-Fri weekly	Marketing and community outreach for new Nolanville SMART Museum, learning and encouraging use of AI and VR technologies for students, participating in set up of museum including marketing, admissions, and special events.
Lampasas Chamber of Commerce	20 hours/week, five weeks	Research and design marketing materials for Texas Tourism Friendly Community designation portfolio, distribute marketing materials to media centers, assist with event set up.

On April 11, 2024, the EDA notified DDCT staff that EDA Planning Partnership Grant funds (the DDCT's three year funding source) are no longer allowed to be used for the Rural Internship Program. This is due to restrictions on EDA planning grant funds being used for scholarship or internship programs. Staff is currently researching alternative sources of funding to provide scholarships as soon as possible.

Action Needed: Consider approval of 2024 Rural Internship Program applicants.

Rural Internship Program Application

The DDCT is offering \$3000 in scholarships to Chambers of Commerce, local Economic Development organizations or tourism organizations for the internship of Junior and Senior high school students that promotes economic development in rural communities. Scholarships are \$1000 each. To be eligible for this program, the rural community population must be 20,000 or less based on the 2020 US Census and must be located within the seven-county Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) region.

Organization:

Address: City: Zip:

1. Applicant community population per 2020 US Census:

2. What community service will the student be assisting?

Chamber of Commerce ☐ Economic Development Org ☐ Tourism Organization ☐

Other ☐ Explain:

3. Current Staffing and reason for need of student Intern:

4. Tasks/Responsibilities student will be assigned:

5. **Skillsets/Talents the student should possess:**

6. **Desired start date for Student Intern:** / /2024.

NOTE: Student must submit a Letter of Acceptance to the Organization within 60 days of being selected. Only 2 Applications will be selected by the Board per fiscal year.

7. **Estimated Daily/Weekly hours required from Student Intern:**

NOTE: Student is required to work a minimum of 60 hours, not to exceed 100 hours. Scholarship may be split between students.

8. **Additional Information/Comments:**

Application submitted by:

Name: Title:

Mailing Address:

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Phone: / / email:

Signature: Date:

Applications or questions may be submitted to Dominic Elizondo at

dominic.elizondo@ctcog.org. **Application Deadline is March 29, 2024**

Applications will be evaluated by the DDCT Board and recipients selected on April 5, 2024.

To be completed by DDCT Staff:	Date Application received:
DDCT Board Action: Application Approved/Denied	Date of Action:
If denied, explanation:	

Rural Internship Program Application

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Organization:

Address: City: Zip:

1. Applicant community population per 2020 US Census:

2. What community service will the student be assisting?

Chamber of Commerce ☐ Economic Development Org ☐ Tourism Organization ☐

Other ☐ Explain:

3. Current Staffing and reason for need of student Intern:

4. Tasks/Responsibilities student will be assigned:

5. **Skillsets/Talents the student should possess:**

6. **Desired start date for Student Intern:** / /2024.

NOTE: Student must submit a Letter of Acceptance to the Organization within 60 days of being selected. Only 2 Applications will be selected by the Board per fiscal year.

7. **Estimated Daily/Weekly hours required from Student Intern:**

NOTE: Student is required to work a minimum of 60 hours, not to exceed 100 hours. Scholarship may be split between students.

8. **Additional Information/Comments:**

Application submitted by:

Name:		Title:	
Mailing Address:			
Phone:		/	
		/	
email:			
Signature:		Date:	

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Rural Internship Program Application

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Organization:

Address: City: Zip:

1. Applicant community population per 2020 US Census:

2. What community service will the student be assisting?

Chamber of Commerce ☐ Economic Development Org ☐ Tourism Organization ☐

Other ☐ Explain:

3. Current Staffing and reason for need of student Intern:

4. Tasks/Responsibilities student will be assigned:

5. **Skillsets/Talents the student should possess:**

6. **Desired start date for Student Intern:** / /2024.

NOTE: Student must submit a Letter of Acceptance to the Organization within 60 days of being selected. Only 2 Applications will be selected by the Board per fiscal year.

7. **Estimated Daily/Weekly hours required from Student Intern:**

NOTE: Student is required to work a minimum of 60 hours, not to exceed 100 hours. Scholarship may be split between students.

8. **Additional Information/Comments:**

Application submitted by:

Name: Title:

Mailing Address:

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Phone: / / email:

Signature: Date:

Applications or questions may be submitted to Dominic Elizondo at

dominic.elizondo@ctcog.org. **Application Deadline is March 29, 2024**

Applications will be evaluated by the DDCT Board and recipients selected on April 5, 2024.

To be completed by DDCT Staff:	Date Application received:
DDCT Board Action: Application Approved/Denied	Date of Action:
If denied, explanation:	

Rural Internship Program Application

The DDCT is offering \$3000 in scholarships to Chambers of Commerce, local Economic Development organizations or tourism organizations for the internship of Junior and Senior high school students that promotes economic development in rural communities. Scholarships are \$1000 each. To be eligible for this program, the rural community population must be 20,000 or less based on the 2020 US Census and must be located within the seven-county Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) region.

Organization:

Address: **City:** **Zip:**

1. **Applicant community population per 2020 US Census:**

2. **What community service will the student be assisting?**

Chamber of Commerce ☐ Economic Development Org ☐ Tourism Organization ☒

Other ☐ Explain:

3. **Current Staffing and reason for need of student Intern:**

The Kay Theater is a volunteer-driven organization. Events are staffed and managed by volunteers as well.

The student intern would help staff special events and aid in some operational aspects of the theater.

Inclusion of youth staffing may also draw additional participation from youth of the community.

4. **Tasks/Responsibilities student will be assigned:**

Staffing and operations of Theater concession during events.

Collaboration with board in developing programming (movies, theatrical, and musical entertainment) for the Kay Theater which will engage community youth.

Aid in promotions and marketing of Theater programming.

Aid in the formation and recruitment of a youth advisory committee.

5. **Skillsets/Talents the student should possess:**

Interpersonal and Communication skills. Ability to collaborate in a multi-generational group. Youth leadership and peer engagement skills.

Social media, graphics and website content development.

6. **Desired start date for Student Intern:** 06/03/2024.

NOTE: Student must submit a Letter of Acceptance to the Organization within 60 days of being selected. Only 2 Applications will be selected by the Board per fiscal year.

7. **Estimated Daily/Weekly hours required from Student Intern:** 10-15 hrs per wk

NOTE: Student is required to work a minimum of 60 hours, not to exceed 100 hours. Scholarship may be split between students.

8. **Additional Information/Comments:**

In July 2024, Rockdale is celebrating its 150th Birthday. During the 12-day celebration, the Kay Theater will host and produce several events.

The student intern will be integral in helping staff these events. It is our hope their participation will draw additional youth of the community to enjoy the arts & entertainment offered at The Kay during the Sesquicentennial and beyond. Many youth in the community are unfamiliar with The Kay.

Application submitted by:

Name: Brian Beard Title: President

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1572, Rockdale, TX 76567

Phone: 512/470/4343 email: brianbeard74@gmail.com

Signature: Brian Beard Date: 29/03/24

Applications or questions may be submitted to Dominic Elizondo at dominic.elizondo@ctcog.org. **Application Deadline is March 29, 2024**

Applications will be evaluated by the DDCT Board and recipients selected on April 5, 2024.

To be completed by DDCT Staff: Date Application received:

DDCT Board Action: Application Approved/Deferred Date of Action:

If denied, explanation:

Item #6

Approval of 2024 Leadership Central Texas Program Applications

Approval of 2024 Leadership Central Texas Applications

Leadership Central Texas received eight applications for 2024. To advertise the program this year, social media posts were made on the DDCT, CTCOG, and community Facebook pages around the region, and a Facebook advertisement (boosted post) was made to push information out to the region directly. \$75 was spent on boosting the Leadership Central Texas Facebook post, receiving 2,930 views, 153 post engagements, and 104 link clicks. A newspaper advertisement was run in the Killeen Daily Herald and Temple Daily Telegram as well as a public notice in all seven county courthouses. Emails were also sent out to cities and counties across the region.

Applicant Name	Employment	City of Employment	City of Residence	Best Skill, Career, or Personal Achievement?
Laurie Wilson	Assistant City Manager, City of Killeen	Killeen	Killeen	Being an accessible contact at the City to civic and non-profit organizations, the school district, the Chamber, the local college, and various utility partners and being involved with various boards and civic organizations.
Sydney Cable	Executive Officer, Temple Builder's Association	Temple	Temple	Ability to identify problems and create solutions in personal and professional life.
Brittany Campbell	Sales Agent, EXIT Heart of Texas Realty	Killeen	Killeen	Adaptability and leadership.
Janell Ford	City of Killeen, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing	Killeen	Belton	Being a skilled writer-written speeches for top military commanders and local government leaders as well as interviewed Barack Obama, Maya Angelou, and Oprah Winfrey.
Renee Hensley	Housing Consultant, Safe Military Housing Initiative	Wilmington, NC	Fort Cavazos	Has a logistical mindset and does not stop working until the task is complete.
Ricky McCall	City of Cameron Code Enforcement Officer	Cameron	Buckholts	Has been told by employees is a good manager, has served multiple city and board roles with integrity and passion.

Shakima Lourick	N/A	N/A	Copperas Cove	Born leader with integrity and honor.
Suzannah Bowden	Communications Coordinator, City of Morgan's Point Resort	Morgan's Point Resort	Waco	Marketing and communications, graphic design, fundraising development. Secured \$100,000 as Development and Marketing Coordinator for Rise Up for Youth.

Action Needed: Consider approval of 2024 Leadership Central Texas applicants.



Leadership Central Texas 2024 Application

PURPOSE

Leadership Central Texas is offered by the Development District of Central Texas to any qualified citizen who lives or works within the seven county-region (Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba) served by the Central Texas Council of Governments. The purpose of Leadership Central Texas is to identify and develop regional leaders and to promote awareness of regional/state leadership opportunities. Topics are taught with active participation from leaders serving on regional boards, committees and organizations. Each certified attendee will be encouraged to identify leadership opportunities where their individual talents would best be applied to insure the growth and future well-being of our Central Texas Region.

OBJECTIVES

Leadership Central Texas has the following objectives:

1. Highlight opportunities for regional public service which match the area(s) of interest of the participants resulting in benefits for the participants, their communities and the region.
2. Provide useful information for participants to utilize, thereby enabling them to be effective leaders on the regional level.
3. Develop relationships across the Central Texas Council of Governments' 7 county region.

** Organizations, presentations and dates are subject to change.*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*

To be eligible, an applicant must fulfill one of the following requirement(s):

1. Citizens demonstrating a desire to serve in a leadership role;
2. Completed a local leadership program in his or her community or is currently enrolled;
3. Be a past/present elected official of his/her community, region or state.

** Prior non-acceptance of an applicant does not affect future consideration for selection.*

Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Date Completed

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

- The tuition fee of **\$75.00** for Leadership Central Texas is nonrefundable and payable upon acceptance to the program.
- Tuition must be submitted with a 1 page personal biography.
- The deadline for applications is **March 29, 2024**.
- The selection process will be finalized as of April 5, 2024.
- Class size is limited. All eligible applicants will be considered with an effort to have leaders from each county represented in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Limit your responses to the space available. Letters of recommendation are encouraged but not required.

Name:			
Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag:			
Business Name:			
Business Address:			
	Zip:	County:	
Business Phone:			
Business Email:			
Home Address:			
City	Zip:	County:	
Home Phone:			
Home Email:			
Which address should we use to contact you?	Business ☐	Home ☐	
Number of years you have lived in the region.			
Number of years you have worked in the region.			
How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?			
Word-of-mouth	DDOCT web page	Local chamber	
Other (please list)			

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name			
Your title			
Previously held positions at this firm:			
Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?	Yes ☐	No ☐	
May we call your supervisor for verification?			
Name of Supervisor/ Phone #			
Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?			

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

- I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge.
- I have read and understand the eligibility requirements.
- I hereby give Leadership Central Texas the right to make inquiries regarding the information provided on this application form.
- It is my understanding that Leadership Central Texas is to be a learning experience and that attendance of the meetings is mandatory. Due to the in-depth and timed instruction given, any participant who is absent for two (2) or more hours in any given session, up to and including missing a full session, will not receive certification from the class.

2024 Class Dates (subject to change):

Thursday, June 20, 2024

Thursday, July 18, 2024

Thursday, August 15, 2024

Classes times are from 9:00am-4:00pm with lunch provided.

Applicant Signature:

Date:

Employer Signature, if applicable:

Date:

PROMOTIONAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

I hereby grant the Development District of Central Texas ("DDCT"), their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, the right and permission, with respect to those photographs taken of me, any video and/or audio recordings of me, and with respect to any printed matter in connection therewith, to do the following:

1. Include such photographs, and/or recordings in all media pertaining to Leadership Central Texas, and in the advertising, publicity, and promotion thereof.
2. Use my name in connection with the foregoing.

I hereby release, discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless DDCT, their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, from all claims and demands whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the foregoing, and waive any right to inspect or approve the same.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date:



Leadership Central Texas 2024 Application

PURPOSE

Leadership Central Texas is offered by the Development District of Central Texas to any qualified citizen who lives or works within the seven county-region (Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba) served by the Central Texas Council of Governments. The purpose of Leadership Central Texas is to identify and develop regional leaders and to promote awareness of regional/state leadership opportunities. Topics are taught with active participation from leaders serving on regional boards, committees and organizations. Each certified attendee will be encouraged to identify leadership opportunities where their individual talents would best be applied to insure the growth and future well-being of our Central Texas Region.

OBJECTIVES

Leadership Central Texas has the following objectives:

1. Highlight opportunities for regional public service which match the area(s) of interest of the participants resulting in benefits for the participants, their communities and the region.
2. Provide useful information for participants to utilize, thereby enabling them to be effective leaders on the regional level.
3. Develop relationships across the Central Texas Council of Governments' 7 county region.

** Organizations, presentations and dates are subject to change.*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*

To be eligible, an applicant must fulfill one of the following requirement(s):

1. Citizens demonstrating a desire to serve in a leadership role;
2. Completed a local leadership program in his or her community or is currently enrolled;
3. Be a past/present elected official of his/her community, region or state.

** Prior non-acceptance of an applicant does not affect future consideration for selection.*

Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Date Completed

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

- The tuition fee of **\$75.00** for Leadership Central Texas is nonrefundable and payable upon acceptance to the program.
- Tuition must be submitted with a 1 page personal biography.
- The deadline for applications is **March 29, 2024**.
- The selection process will be finalized as of April 5, 2024.
- Class size is limited. All eligible applicants will be considered with an effort to have leaders from each county represented in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Limit your responses to the space available. Letters of recommendation are encouraged but not required.

Name:			
Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag:			
Business Name:			
Business Address:			
	Zip:	County:	
Business Phone:			
Business Email:			
Home Address:			
City	Zip:	County:	
Home Phone:			
Home Email:			
Which address should we use to contact you?	Business ☐	Home ☐	
Number of years you have lived in the region.			
Number of years you have worked in the region.			
How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?			
Word-of-mouth	DDOCT web page	Local chamber	
Other (please list)			

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

--

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name	Temple Area Builders Association		
Your title			
Previously held positions at this firm:			
Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?	Yes ☐	No ☐	
May we call your supervisor for verification?			
Name of Supervisor/ Phone #			
Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?			

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

- I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge.
- I have read and understand the eligibility requirements.
- I hereby give Leadership Central Texas the right to make inquiries regarding the information provided on this application form.
- It is my understanding that Leadership Central Texas is to be a learning experience and that attendance of the meetings is mandatory. Due to the in-depth and timed instruction given, any participant who is absent for two (2) or more hours in any given session, up to and including missing a full session, will not receive certification from the class.

2024 Class Dates (subject to change):

Thursday, June 20, 2024

Thursday, July 18, 2024

Thursday, August 15, 2024

Classes times are from 9:00am-4:00pm with lunch provided.

Applicant Signature: 

Date:

Employer Signature, if applicable:

Date:

PROMOTIONAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

I hereby grant the Development District of Central Texas ("DDCT"), their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, the right and permission, with respect to those photographs taken of me, any video and/or audio recordings of me, and with respect to any printed matter in connection therewith, to do the following:

1. Include such photographs, and/or recordings in all media pertaining to Leadership Central Texas, and in the advertising, publicity, and promotion thereof.
2. Use my name in connection with the foregoing.

I hereby release, discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless DDCT, their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, from all claims and demands whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the foregoing, and waive any right to inspect or approve the same.

Applicant Signature: 

Date:



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OBJECTIVES

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*

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2. Completed a local leadership program in his or her community or is currently enrolled;
3. Be a past/present elected official of his/her community, region or state.

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Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Killeen Citizens Academy

Date Completed

May 2023

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

N/a

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

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- Class size is limited. All eligible applicants will be considered with an effort to have leaders from each county represented in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Name:	Brittany Nichelle Campbell		
Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag:	Brittany Campbell		
Business Name:			
Business Address:	4003 W Stan Schlueter Lp Ste 106		
Killeen TX	Zip:	76549	County:
Business Phone:			
Business Email:	brittany@exithot.com		
Home Address:	3601 Greyfriar Dr		
City	Killeen	Zip:	TX
		County:	Bell
Home Phone:			
Home Email:	goforitbrit@gmail.com		
Which address should we use to contact you?	Business	☐	Home
		☐	
Number of years you have lived in the region.	13		
Number of years you have worked in the region.	13		
How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?	Killeen City Council Member Michael Boyd		
Word-of-mouth		DDOCT web page	Local chamber
Other (please list)			

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

Licensed TX Realtor
B.A Business Management
M.Ed. (in progress)

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name			
Your title	Sales Agent, EXIT Heart of Texas Realty		
Previously held positions at this firm:	Sales Agent, Director of Agent Development		
Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?	Yes	☒	No
May we call your supervisor for verification?	Yes		
Name of Supervisor/ Phone #	Greg Rhuelen (254) 781-2012		
Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?	No		

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

Innovation Black Chamber of Commerce
National Association of Realtors

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

In reflecting on my journey as a military veteran, personal trainer, and realtor in Central Texas, I pinpoint my adaptability and leadership as standout skills. These qualities, honed during my military service, seamlessly transfer to other fields. My commitment to continuous improvement is evident in my fitness certifications and successful client transformations. Navigating the complexities of the Central Texas real estate market further underscores my ability to thrive in diverse environments. Beyond individual accomplishments, I take pride in contributing to the community, building a robust network, and fostering well-being among clients. This combination of skills and achievements defines my career, and I believe it aligns seamlessly with the values of this leadership program.

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

In Killeen I consider my most significant contribution to be fostering a sense of well-being and connection. Whether as a military member, personal trainer, or realtor in Central Texas, I've strived to create a positive impact by actively engaging with and supporting those around me.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

If selected as a class member of Leadership Central Texas, I aim to gain valuable insights, skills, and connections that will elevate my ability to make a positive impact in the community. I hope to deepen my understanding of local issues, broaden my network with like-minded individuals, and enhance my leadership capabilities. The experience would not only contribute to my personal growth but also empower me to play a more influential role in shaping the future of Central Texas.

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

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Applicant Signature:

Brittany Campbell

Date:

27 FEB 24

Employer Signature, if applicable:

Date:

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Applicant Signature:

Brittany Campbell

Date:

27 FEB 24



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Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Date Completed

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Name:			
Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag:			
Business Name:			
Business Address:			
	Zip:	County:	
Business Phone:			
Business Email:			
Home Address:			
City	Zip:	County:	
Home Phone:			
Home Email:			
Which address should we use to contact you?	Business ☐	Home ☐	
Number of years you have lived in the region.			
Number of years you have worked in the region.			
How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?			
Word-of-mouth	DDOCT web page	Local chamber	
Other (please list)			

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

--

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name			
Your title			
Previously held positions at this firm:			
Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?	Yes ☐	No ☐	
May we call your supervisor for verification?			
Name of Supervisor/ Phone #			
Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?			

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

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Applicant Signature:

Date:

Employer Signature, if applicable:

Date:

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Applicant Signature: _____

Date:



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Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Date Completed

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

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Name:			
Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag:			
Business Name:			
Business Address:			
	Zip:	County:	
Business Phone:			
Business Email:			
Home Address:			
City	Zip:	County:	
Home Phone:			
Home Email:			
Which address should we use to contact you?	Business ☐	Home ☐	
Number of years you have lived in the region.			
Number of years you have worked in the region.			
How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?			
Word-of-mouth	DDOCT web page	Local chamber	
Other (please list)			

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

--

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name			
Your title			
Previously held positions at this firm:			
Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?	Yes ☐	No ☐	
May we call your supervisor for verification?			
Name of Supervisor/ Phone #			
Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?			

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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Applicant Signature:

Date:

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Date:

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Local Leadership Program Completed, if any: **None**

Date Completed **None**

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

SELF

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Name: **Renee Hensley**

Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag: **RT HENSLEY**

Business Name: **SAFE MILITARY HOUSING INITIATIVE**

Business Address: **8209 Market St. Unit A #266**
Wilmington, NC Zip: **28411** County:

Business Phone: **470-406-3273**

Business Email: **RT@Safemilhousing.com**

Home Address: **171-6 Casa Blanca Rd**
Fort Cavazos, TX Zip: **76544** County: **BELL**

Home Phone: **702-370-2136**

Home Email: **Business2327@gmail.com**

Which address should we use to contact you? Business ☐ Home ☒

Number of years you have lived in the region. **Close to 2 years.**

Number of years you have worked in the region. **Close to 2 years.**

How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?

Word-of-mouth ☐ DDOCT web page ☐ Local chamber ☐

Other (please list) **Online**

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

**Masters in Emergency Management/Homeland security;
 Biosecurity Threat Management, Bachelors in International
 Affairs m/Diplomatic Service, Minor in History, Certified
 Medical Assistant Training, Rad Cert, Infection Control Cert,
 etc.**

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name **SMHI**

Your title **Housing Consultant**

Previously held positions at this firm:

Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas? Yes ☒ No ☐

May we call your supervisor for verification?

Name of Supervisor/ Phone #

Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

Safe Military Housing (Housing Consultant)
U.S. Army housing RAB board (March 2022- Feb 2022)
Fort Moore & Beyond (December 2022-Present)
Baby Haven, South Africa (Volunteer)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

I am a go getter, I work hard to achieve a goal, I don't stop till the task is complete, I am a logistical mindsetted individual, etc.

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

I have worked in underserved overseas communities providing medical assistance to those who had no medical care access, I have assisted families in providing safe military housing, I have worked for many years to advise families on how to effectively navigate military policy, etc.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

I would like to gain my networking opportunities through central Texas, learn more leadership skills and seek to better understand my region entrepreneurship and local social programs.

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

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Applicant Signature: 

Date: **16 March, 2024**

Employer Signature, if applicable: **None**

Date: **NA**

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2. Completed a local leadership program in his or her community or is currently enrolled;
3. Be a past/present elected official of his/her community, region or state.

** Prior non-acceptance of an applicant does not affect future consideration for selection.*

Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

N/A

Date Completed

N/A

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

N/A

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

- The tuition fee of **\$75.00** for Leadership Central Texas is nonrefundable and payable upon acceptance to the program.
- Tuition must be submitted with a 1 page personal biography.
- The deadline for applications is **March 29, 2024**.
- The selection process will be finalized as of April 5, 2024.
- Class size is limited. All eligible applicants will be considered with an effort to have leaders from each county represented in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Limit your responses to the space available. Letters of recommendation are encouraged but not required.

Name: Ricky Eugene McCall

Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag: Ricky

Business Name: N/A

Business Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Business Phone: _____

Business Email: _____

Home Address: 105 E. Ave. G

City Buckholts Zip: 76518 County: Milam

Home Phone: 254-239-6090

Home Email: rickymccall30@gmail.com

Which address should we use to contact you? Business ☐ Home ☒

Number of years you have lived in the region. 46 yrs 06 mos

Number of years you have worked in the region. 28 yrs

How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas? Wife

Word-of-mouth _____ DDOCT web page _____ Local chamber _____

Other (please list) Wife seen about DDOCT on a Facebook Post

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

see attached

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name City of Cameron

Your title Code Enforcement Officer

Previously held positions at this firm: N/A

Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas? Yes ☒ No ☐

May we call your supervisor for verification? Yes

Name of Supervisor/ Phone # Ricky Tow, 254-697-6646

Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases? Yes

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

see attached

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

see attached

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

see attached

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

see attached

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

- I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge.
- I have read and understand the eligibility requirements.
- I hereby give Leadership Central Texas the right to make inquiries regarding the information provided on this application form.
- It is my understanding that Leadership Central Texas is to be a learning experience and that attendance of the meetings is mandatory. Due to the in-depth and timed instruction given, any participant who is absent for two (2) or more hours in any given session, up to and including missing a full session, will not receive certification from the class.

2024 Class Dates (subject to change):

Thursday, June 20, 2024 Thursday, July 18, 2024 Thursday, August 15, 2024

Classes times are from 9:00am-4:00pm with lunch provided.

Applicant Signature: Ruby E. McCall

Date: 03/26/2024

Employer Signature, if applicable: _____

Date: _____

PROMOTIONAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

I hereby grant the Development District of Central Texas ("DDCT"), their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, the right and permission, with respect to those photographs taken of me, any video and/or audio recordings of me, and with respect to any printed matter in connection therewith, to do the following:

1. Include such photographs, and/or recordings in all media pertaining to Leadership Central Texas, and in the advertising, publicity, and promotion thereof.
2. Use my name in connection with the foregoing.

I hereby release, discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless DDCT, their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, from all claims and demands whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the foregoing, and waive any right to inspect or approve the same.

Applicant Signature: Ruby E. McCall

Date: 03/26/2024

EDUCATION:

July 2022, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Basic Code Enforcement

June 2015- Present, Texas School Board Association, Yearly School Board Training

2017, Lone Star Governance, Training for School Boards

May 1996, Graduated Associated Christian Schools (Home School)

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES:

May 2015, I was elected to the Buckholts ISD Board of Trustees, in Buckholts, Texas. In 2021 I was chosen to serve as President of the Board.

2001, Joined San Andres Masonic Lodge # 170 AF & AM in Cameron, Texas, 2016/2017 I was chosen to serve as Master of the Lodge, I am currently serving as Master of the lodge for the second time, and I just finished up serving as District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District #104

January 2012 – Present, I serve as the Senior Pastor of Iglesia Bautista Calvario (Calvary Baptist Church) in Buckholts.

I am a former member of the Buckholts Lions Club, the Buckholts Volunteer Fire Department, and I served 4 years as the Mayor of Buckholts.

In my current and former positions listed above it has been my complete honor and I feel privileged to have been able to serve and to currently serve the public.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

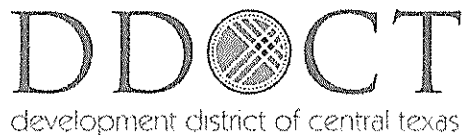
What Do I Consider to be My Best Skill, Career, or Personal Achievement to Date:

Best Skill: I feel, and I have been told by employees and my own superiors that I am a good manager. I have had previous employers study me and the way I manage my employees.

Best Career: my current job as the Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Cameron. My current boss (City Manager Ricky Tow) has a wealth of knowledge and I value the discussions we have. I feel that he has taught me a lot so far.

Serving as mayor of Buckholts and currently serving as a School Board Member, I have served and do serve with integrity, and a passion for doing what is right and best for all.

If I am chosen as a member of this class, I hope to learn as much as possible from the instructors that will present to the class, so I can grow my knowledge and continue to work and serve the people of my community.



Leadership Central Texas 2024 Application

PURPOSE

Leadership Central Texas is offered by the Development District of Central Texas to any qualified citizen who lives or works within the seven county-region (Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba) served by the Central Texas Council of Governments. The purpose of Leadership Central Texas is to identify and develop regional leaders and to promote awareness of regional/state leadership opportunities. Topics are taught with active participation from leaders serving on regional boards, committees and organizations. Each certified attendee will be encouraged to identify leadership opportunities where their individual talents would best be applied to insure the growth and future well-being of our Central Texas Region.

OBJECTIVES

Leadership Central Texas has the following objectives:

1. Highlight opportunities for regional public service which match the area(s) of interest of the participants resulting in benefits for the participants, their communities and the region.
2. Provide useful information for participants to utilize, thereby enabling them to be effective leaders on the regional level.
3. Develop relationships across the Central Texas Council of Governments' 7 county region.

** Organizations, presentations and dates are subject to change.*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*

To be eligible, an applicant must fulfill one of the following requirement(s):

1. Citizens demonstrating a desire to serve in a leadership role;
2. Completed a local leadership program in his or her community or is currently enrolled;
3. Be a past/present elected official of his/her community, region or state.

** Prior non-acceptance of an applicant does not affect future consideration for selection.*

Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Date Completed

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

City of Morgan's Point Resort

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

- The tuition fee of **\$75.00** for Leadership Central Texas is nonrefundable and payable upon acceptance to the program.
- Tuition must be submitted with a 1 page personal biography.
- The deadline for applications is **March 29, 2024**.
- The selection process will be finalized as of April 5, 2024.
- Class size is limited. All eligible applicants will be considered with an effort to have leaders from each county represented in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Limit your responses to the space available. Letters of recommendation are encouraged but not required.

Name:	Suzannah Bowden		
Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag:	Suzannah Bowden		
Business Name:	City of Morgan's Point Resort		
Business Address:	8 Morgan's Point Blvd.		
	Morgan's Point Resort, Texas	Zip: 76513	County:
Business Phone:	254-346-1695		
Business Email:	suzannah.bowden@mprtx.us		
Home Address:	6503 Dunn St.		
City	Waco, Texas	Zip: 76710	County: McClennan
Home Phone:	254-723-3334		
Home Email:	suzannahlairee@gmail.com		
Which address should we use to contact you?	Business ☒	Home ☐	
Number of years you have lived in the region.	2		
Number of years you have worked in the region.	2		
How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas?	CTCOG		
Word-of-mouth		DDOCT web page	Local chamber
Other (please list)			

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications. (Most recent first)

Emporia State University
Blinn College
McGregor Highschool

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name			
Your title	Communications Coordinator		
Previously held positions at this firm:	n/a		
Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?	Yes	☒	No ☐
May we call your supervisor for verification?	Yes		
Name of Supervisor/ Phone #	Uryan Nelson 512-521-6642		
Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?	yes		

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

Board of Directors - NonProfit GO (2021-2023)
Board of Directors - Juniper Arts Academy (2020-2022)
Volunteer, Miss Kansas Organization (2017-2023)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

My best skill is in marketing and communications, bolstered by my proficiency in graphic design and fundraising/development. One notable career achievement was when I secured over \$100,000 as a Development and Marketing Coordinator for Rise Up For Youth. This accomplishment highlights my ability to leverage strategic communication and fundraising tactics to achieve tangible results.

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

I believe my most significant contribution to any community has been my dedication to advocating for quality mentoring. Through my volunteer work and collaboration with local mentoring organizations from 2017 to 2024, I ensured access to mentoring programs for individuals in need. This endeavor not only empowered individuals to reach their full potential but also fostered a stronger, more supportive community fabric by investing in the next generation's success.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

If chosen as a class member, I hope to gain invaluable insights, skills, and connections that will further enhance my ability to serve the city of Morgan's Point Resort effectively. I also view this as an opportunity to invest in my professional development, expand my impact, and contribute meaningfully to the betterment of my community.

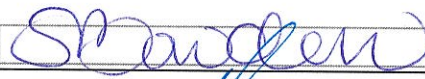
PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

- I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge.
- I have read and understand the eligibility requirements.
- I hereby give Leadership Central Texas the right to make inquiries regarding the information provided on this application form.
- It is my understanding that Leadership Central Texas is to be a learning experience and that attendance of the meetings is mandatory. Due to the in-depth and timed instruction given, any participant who is absent for two (2) or more hours in any given session, up to and including missing a full session, will not receive certification from the class.

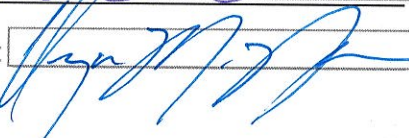
2024 Class Dates (subject to change):

Thursday, June 20, 2024 Thursday, July 18, 2024 Thursday, August 15, 2024

Classes times are from 9:00am-4:00pm with lunch provided.

Applicant Signature: 

Date: 4/12/20

Employer Signature, if applicable: 

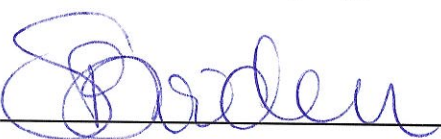
Date: 4/15/20

PROMOTIONAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

I hereby grant the Development District of Central Texas ("DDCT"), their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, the right and permission, with respect to those photographs taken of me, any video and/or audio recordings of me, and with respect to any printed matter in connection therewith, to do the following:

1. Include such photographs, and/or recordings in all media pertaining to Leadership Central Texas, and in the advertising, publicity, and promotion thereof.
2. Use my name in connection with the foregoing.

I hereby release, discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless DDCT, their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, from all claims and demands whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the foregoing, and waive any right to inspect or approve the same.

Applicant Signature: 

Date: 4/12/20

Item #7

Fair Housing Presentation and Discussion

Fair Housing Presentation and Discussion

The Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) is contracted with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for their Community Economic Development Assistance Fund (CEDAF) grant to provide technical assistance, TDA program dissemination, Section 3 outreach, and Fair Housing events.

A discussion of fair housing requirements for TxCDBG grant recipients and ways communities can further TDA and Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) fair housing efforts is included as a Fair Housing event.

Staff will provide a brief presentation on fair housing for the Board to discuss.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Fair Housing, Local Governments, and TxCDBG Recipients

Fair Housing Month

Development District of Central Texas
Date
@9:30 a.m.



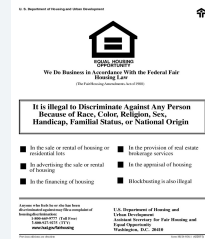
Texas Community Development Block Grant

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Federal Fair Housing Act

- Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968
- Protects right to rent or buy apartments or homes and mortgages free from discrimination.
- Applies to cities and local governments-prohibits from zoning or land use policies that exclude or discriminate against protected persons.
- Includes protection against refusal to permit reasonable modification to premises for handicapped persons or reasonable accommodation in rules and policies necessary for equal opportunity.



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Fair Housing and TxCDBG Recipients

- The Texas Department of Agriculture is committed to furthering fair housing in conjunction with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.
- All recipients of TxCDBG funds must certify that they will serve to further fair housing efforts by the TDA.
- Recipients must choose at least one among different eligible fair housing activities to complete during the duration of the grant.
- Fair Housing training may be required for chief elected officials and consultants.



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How Can Communities Help Further Fair Housing?

- Conduct a community-wide housing analysis to determine impediments to fair housing and implement solutions.
- Cities can pass a fair housing ordinance (with penalty clause) and publicize it.
- Counties may adopt written fair housing policies and procedures equivalent to a fair housing ordinance and publicize them.
- Sponsor or fund fair housing counseling/referral services for owners and renters.
- Designate April or any other month as "Fair Housing Month" by proclamation along with another sponsoring activity.

Fig.1: City of Dallas Fair Housing Ordinance in Code.

Section	Section Title
10-1	10-1.01. Purpose
10-2	10-2.01. Definitions
10-3	10-3.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-4	10-4.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-5	10-5.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-6	10-6.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-7	10-7.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-8	10-8.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-9	10-9.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-10	10-10.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-11	10-11.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-12	10-12.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-13	10-13.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-14	10-14.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-15	10-15.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-16	10-16.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-17	10-17.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-18	10-18.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-19	10-19.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-20	10-20.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-21	10-21.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-22	10-22.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-23	10-23.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-24	10-24.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-25	10-25.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-26	10-26.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-27	10-27.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-28	10-28.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-29	10-29.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-30	10-30.01. Fair Housing Ordinance
10-31	10-31.01. Fair Housing Ordinance

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How Can Communities Help Further Fair Housing? Con't

- Promote housing opportunities outside historically minority and/or low and moderate-income neighborhoods.
- Utilize local businesses and banking institutions to promote fair housing by displaying fair housing posters.
- Conduct free training workshops on fair housing laws to homebuyers, rental property owners, and tenant organizations.

Fig.2: Fair Housing Poster.



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Discussion

- What Fair Housing measures have you implemented?
- Which will you try and implement in the future?
- Are there any barriers to fair housing access in your community?

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Item #8

CEDS Implementation

Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation

The 2022-26 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was approved by the DDCT Board on January 6, 2022.

As a result of the DDCT Board CEDS Workshop on January 12th, 2023, the Board decided to have a recurring agenda item for Board discussion on strategizing implementation of CEDS objectives and strategies.

This meeting the focus will be the objective to “Enhance the region's economic connectivity.” The strategies under this objective are to:

- Expand broadband, creating a Broadband Advisory Council to accelerate the audit/survey/buildout process across jurisdictions.
- Expand public transit offerings to provide reliable, affordable public transportation options for connecting rural residents with employment centers.
- Improve the conditions of roadways, with particular attention to increased use of county roads.
- Develop an airport master plan addressing airport marketing/branding, increasing competitiveness vis-à-vis Austin, and needed upgrades such as additional hangar space.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Objective	Strategies & Actions	Roles	Priority	Funding Source	Progress Status	Comments/Updates
Improve and formalize emergency operational and community protocol within and across jurisdictions	Prepare municipalities to function in remote/mobile formats during emergencies	CTCOG Technical Advisement to Jurisdictions	High		Not Started	Ongoing through planning process-HSAC
	Resume periodic emergency drills on various scenarios, including rehearsals for key generator hookups.	CTCOG to participate in local jurisdiction exercises	High		Not Started	Region does trainings at various levels, not really a high priority thing
	Evaluate scenarios for how people will access emergency medical services & supplies (including temperature-sensitive medicines) in consideration of rural areas' distance to hospitals	CTCOG assist where needed and coordinate with healthcare coalition program manager	High	N/A	Started	Emergency trailer (minus meds with temp sensitive)- reach out to HCCAA (after current grants are submitted)
	Develop and maintain jurisdiction-specific protocols for emergency communications and operations, including Severe Weather Emergency Response Plans. Protocols should include regional communication; consider municipal leadership overturn; address communication with utilities providers; address backup power use; and address use of radio/TV for residents without social media. Appoint a CTCOG staff member to serve as a point person for advising municipal leaders in times of crisis and for performing checks that protocols are annually updated.	CTCOG to coordinate and provide templates where appropriate and needed	High		Not Started	Anna look into resources for local governments on FEMA's website, compile info and send it out
	Host a "Small Town Summit" and coordinate basic emergency planning meetings on an ongoing basis	CTCOG as lead; leverage FEMA NIMS materials	High	N/A	Complete	Emergency Mgmt sessions complete
	Create local volunteer task forces composed of residents willing to perform physical infrastructure checks and advise municipal leadership where roads, water distribution, and electric poles are out; seek participants that own drones.	Municipalities	Med		Not Started	Maybe part of community preparedness program?
	Educate jurisdictions on how to leverage the Defense Support of Civil Authorities program to secure generators, water, etc. from Fort Cavazos during crises.	CTCOG with DSCA program and National Guard	Med	N/A	Complete	Happened at Small Town Summit
	Develop and centrally store templates for municipalities to send out emergency information (e.g. boil notices).	CTCOG	Low	N/A	Not Started	CodeRed notification
Educate and prepare residents and businesses to better sustain themselves during disasters.	Assist businesses in developing continuity plans and accessing resources/programs for recovery and resilience. Leverage U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Guides.	CCOG with SBDCs, local chambers, EDCs, and "SBA Regional Navigator" designee	High	SBA programs	Complete	In appendix of CEDS and on our drive in our toolkits from Ready.gov
	Develop and disseminate educational materials to households regarding preparations they can make to sustain themselves longer without utilities or transportation	CTCOG prepare materials; municipalities disseminate	Med	N/A	Started	Follow up with Connie and Jesse
	Conduct outreach and assistance to residents of mobile/manufactured homes and other vulnerable structures to encourage repairs and other measures to make them more resistant to storm impacts	Municipalities, coordinated by CTCOG, in collaboration with Housing Divisions, Offices on Aging, Hill Country Community Action	Med	N/A	Not Started	Winter 2022/2023
	Consider processes for jurisdictions to further build relationships with residents to gain awareness of who has special needs and risks in the event of a crisis	Municipalities with local real estate groups; Belton "R U OK?" model	Med	N/A	Started	Need to continue outreach to local govts- maybe with the group that is being developed??
	Encourage businesses to explore profitable supply chain localization measures.	CTCOG with local chambers and advisement from TMAC (Texas' Manufacturing Extension Partnership)	Low	TMAC assistance pursuing individual grants for businesses to offset costs	Not Started	
	Identify facilities that can house displaced/evacuated residents and serve as command-and-control centers. Prepare them with backup generators, caches of food/water, and transportation plans.	EMCs	High		Not Started	Winter 2022/2023-Anna

Prepare and harden infrastructure needed for emergency communications, emergency services, & resilience.	Evaluate the cyber preparedness of CTCOG's 7-county 911 system.	CTCOG	High		Started	CSEC has staff member doing this
	Procure and place generators (esp. diesel with 5-7 day capacity) at additional priority locations that will serve as warming/cooling centers.	CTCOG coordinate with municipalities and service providers	High		Not Started	As needed
	Adopt rural healthcare innovation models that provide for rural urgent care and health emergency response teams, leveraging Texas A&M Health.	Counties, Texas A&M Health (OnMed collaboration)	High	Texas A&M Health program supported by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas	Complete	OnMed presented at Sept Ex Committee Meeting -no one interested
	Continue investing in and hardening broadband and cellular networks (e.g. improved battery backup and/or solar on cell towers/repeaters).	CTCOG coordinate with municipalities and service providers	High	Municipal funds, Federal funding and ARPA, Texas Comptrollers office, IIAJ	Started	Research level, networking
	Invest in roadways needed for emergency services.	CTCOG coordinate with municipalities and service providers	High	Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Organization (KTMPPO), IIAJ, GLO for Milam & Coryell Counties	Started	Currently identifying the roads that are important for emergency services and their status (flooding, road issues), try to address this in the SS4A Action Plan
	Set up social media channels for individual jurisdictions to build following for improved outreach during emergencies.	Individual jurisdictions, with CTCOG technical assistance	Med	N/A	Started	Shared tips in December. Dominic followed all of the city and county pages that he could find. Shares content via email and tagging local governments on posts.
	Explore and develop capability for CTCOG to deliver alerts to all phones active in the region.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	CodeRed app will notify you based on your location, phones already kind of do this independently of us
	Educate jurisdictions on resources available for cyberattack prevention and mitigation.	CTCOG, leveraging Texas Municipal League and State resources	Med	State Homeland Security Program	Started	Grant opens in Dec, funded following fall, educate region starting Jan
	Invest in backup power and communications; consider use of solar for redundancy	CTCOG coordinate municipalities	Med	TX PACE Program, SERI, 911	Started	CTCOG PS paying for maintenance and some repairs of generators for 9-1-1 centers
Develop a strong regionally-based business marketing effort.	Develop a regional brand and marketing plan and unified business attraction messaging effort and showcasing Central Texas as the "hub" of the major Texas metros; diversity of communities and people, including lower-density rural living options; I-14 improvements/expansion; and historical heritage tourism.	CTCOG	High	Consider EDA funding	Started	Industry info and economic data is on the CTCOG and DDCT websites, next step is to merge with DCT website
	Hold Opportunity Zone investment forums to generate interest in specific development projects and connect investors with developers.	CTCOG with OZ host municipalities	High	N/A	Complete	10/7/2022
	Develop a regionally-based tourism marketing effort promoting area destinations, downtowns, and outdoor assets.	CTCOG	Med	Municipal contributions; Texas Commission on the Arts' Cultural Districts Designation Program and associated grants	Complete	Updating content, reminding cities about themes, still need 13 cities to participate
	Integrate messaging about the Fort Cavazos talent base into business attraction marketing efforts.	CTCOG	Low	Municipal Contributions	Started	Work with Fort Cavazos TAP

Strengthen the conditions for growth of new and existing businesses.	Expand broadband, creating a Broadband Advisory Council to accelerate the audit/survey/buildout process across jurisdictions.*	CTCOG with consultant and locally active ISPs	High	ARPA, Connected Nation, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund	Started	BDO Regional Working Group (CTCOG, BVCOG, HOTCOG), Texas received BEAD funding to create BEAD 5 year Action Plan and a TX Digital Opportunity Plan. Both have received public omments. The BOOT program will see more eligible locations due to SB 1238. Local Gov Broadband Roundtable meets virtually on first Thurs of each month at 10am. The Broadband Infrastructure Fund has been created.
	Develop a regional water/sewer plan prioritizing investments needed for <u>industry growth</u> .	CTCOG with local water and sewer authorities	High	Texas Water Development Board; USDA Rural Development, EDA Public Works Grant	Started	Brainstorm on how this would be useful, focus on industry growth, maybe more of a focus on water, think of dams
	Identify and prepare additional sites for industrial and distribution facilities; conduct site assessment and preliminary site design to aid in prioritization and site marketing.	EDCs as lead, with counties and municipalities	High	CDBG for certain areas; potential future TxEDC programs replacing Texas Capital Fund Real Estate	Started	Discussed in STS- need further discussion on how EDCs want assistance with this
	Build on the momentum of the Research Park to further cultivate high tech industry clusters; study the potential to develop a broader "innovation zone" with the Park as its hub.*	CTCOG with A&M-Central Texas	High	Municipal Contributions	Started	Research Park is applying for EDA Tech Hubs grant, with focus on tech such as AI, rehabbing building for military transition program
	Create a regional outreach effort to promote entrepreneurial opportunities to Fort Cavazos personnel transitioning into the civilian workforce, with a focus on defense contractor opportunities	CTCOG, SBDCs, area incubators, PTACs	Med	DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation; SBA Office of Veterans Business Development	Started	Event to take place in Jan 30 2023
	Collaborate with Tesla to connect local businesses to related supply chain opportunities.	CTCOG and Tesla with local chambers and advisement from TMAC (Texas' Manufacturing Extension)	Low	N/A	Not Started	What lense do we want to look at this through?
	Encourage greater utilization of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers to help local businesses capture greater federal procurement opportunities and Fort Cavazos economic impact; host education/awareness events in collaboration with PTACs.*	PTACs, Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), CTCOG, Fort Cavazos	Low	N/A	Not Started	Try to do event/webinar/summit with PTAC in 2023, incorporate into entrepreneurial event, tried reaching out but no response
	Promote digital literacy in small businesses, leveraging existing training models.*	Chambers	Low	N/A	Not Started	CTCOG creates fact sheet, type based on feedback from DDCT
	Strengthen and continue partnerships between institutions of higher education and high/middle schools in the region to provide apprenticeships opportunities and increase participation of youth in skilled jobs and post-secondary degrees.	High schools and middle schools, higher education institutions, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Chambers, major employers	High	Texas Workforce Commission programs (Skills Development Fund), employer contributions	Complete	P20 Council-SOAR Career Coaches program engaging thousands of students withcareer readiness and support, traning workshops, resources for employment, and graduate hiring events. Next hiring event is Apr.16, 2024 at Cadence Bank Center. Also provides Virtual College Experience Program. Rockdale technical education/career development center with EDA Public Works grant.

Cultivate, attract, and retain a talented workforce.	Further leverage and scale mechanisms for facilitating entry of Fort Cavazos personnel into local private sector talent pool (e.g. the Heroes MAKE America and Hiring Our Heroes programs). Create a marketing campaign and associated "concierge service" to encourage Fort Cavazos personnel to remain local after service, supporting them in career exploration and accessing transitional services.	CTCOG coordinate with area higher education institutions, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, Chambers, Hiring our Heroes (U.S. Chamber Foundation), Heroes Make America (The Manufacturing Institute)	High	CTCOG and partner staff time with potential employer contributions/sponsorships	Started	Veteran Employer Summit-May 17th, Maybe reoccurring summit (entrepreneurship and/or milspouse). Possibly hold annually. Central Texas Entrepreneur Summit to be held in Lampasas on Jan.30,2023 with resources for veterans. TAP at Fort Cavazos concierge service. Milspouse Event was on 11/1/22. Approx a dozen attendees Maybe have discussions with partners when planning entrep. event on what our role can be on this topic
Proactively shape growth to ensure quality of place.	Study the region's housing stock and develop strategies to ensure adequate housing product for current and future residents. Product should outline tactics for municipalities to help induce both new construction and improvements to substandard homes.	CTCOG and Jurisdictions	High	Community Development-Block Grant	Started	How does the DDCT want us to address this?
	Create a Regional Trails Plan that enhances multi-modal transportation options and ensures robust access to outdoor amenities and water features. -probably 2023	CTCOG and KTMO, jurisdictions, Texas Parks, and Wildlife, US Army Corp	High	KTMO; Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	Not Started	Could be part of Regional Multimodal Plan (KTMO), TxDOT has their Bicycle, Tourism, and Trails Plan which was created by their statewide BPAC
	Encourage a diversity of retail, services, and entertainment establishments, particularly in <u>downtowns</u> ; <u>conduct retail leakage studies</u> ; <u>host a small-town "Texas Downtowns" regional gathering to discuss strategies to increase foot traffic</u>	CTCOG and local EDCs	High	N/A	Started	Small Town Summit 9 Ask if retail leakage studies is something DDCT is interested in
	Develop a regional land use plan and master plans for cities, setting the foundation for decisions affecting where growth and development are channeled.	CTCOG and Jurisdicaitions	Med	Texas Dept. of Agriculture Programs	Not Started	Master plans should be developed via consultants, CTCOG can help with land use planning as needed - we can look into funding sources (state and federal level)
	Assist jurisdictions with updating ordinances and policies in anticipation of subdivision development interest; with attention to policies requiring developer contribution to utilities expansion.	CTCOG and Jurisdicaitions	Low	N/A	Not Started	CTCOG can assist in a contract level as needed
	Expand broadband, creating a Broadband Advisory Council to accelerate the audit/survey/buildout process across jurisdictions.	CTCOG with Connected Nation and locally active ISPs	High	ARPA, Connected Nation, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund	Started	Same as another above objective-CAPCOG, BVCOG, CTCOG Regional Working Group on broadband.

Enhance the region's economic connectivity.	Expand public transit offerings to provide reliable, affordable public transportation options for connecting <u>rural residents</u> with employment centers	CTCOG , Hill Country Transit District, TXDOT, MPO's	High	Federal formula funds	Started	Rural service for the HOP is free for a year, Killeen has a city wide dial for a ride service, upcoming changes will be announced soon. Plans for microtransit zones. HOP is trying to secure funding from cities/counties to make up for budget shortfalls. May 2024- microtransit stops getting rolled out, TMAs later that year Secured contributions from every county but Hamilton, still in the talks with Hamilton. RFP out for 60-90 microtransit vehicles and a tech vendor to do trip planning, vendor selected-Spare Labs. Might be applying for TxDOT coordinated call grant and ICAM Pilot Program. Connector route from Copperas Cove to Temple planned with six vehicles, 30 minute headway and connector terminus. Hydrogen corridor planned-Low/No Emission grant?
	Improve the conditions of roadways, with particular attention to increased use of county roads.	CTCOG discussions with Killeen-Temple MPO and other MPO's	Med	State Highway Fund, CDBG	Not Started	INFRA, MEGA, Surface Transportation, Community Development Fund grants may be useful, EDA grants Can be addressed in SS4A Action Plan-draft plan done September 2024, final plan January 2025 tentatively. RAISE grant open for applications. ROUTES. EDA Public Works-Mullin may apply for reconstruction of roads.
	Develop an airport master plan addressing airport marketing/branding, increasing competitiveness vis-à-vis Austin, and needed upgrades such as additional hangar space	CTCOG and airport authority	Med	FAA Airport Improvement Program	Started	Maybe reach out to airport staff across region to see if they are interested? , microtransit route to GRK? No current marketing plan, but have 2019 master plan.
Improve municipal systems that allow for fair taxation, stable revenues, and growth.	Accelerate appraisal efforts, particularly in high-growth communities.	Tax Appraisal Districts with CTCOG coordinating	High	N/A	Started	Context: Rogers not doing thorough appraisals - losing out on tax money Bartlett and other small towns have opposite issues-appraisals too high due to high growth in neighboring urban areas Will set up meeting in summer or fall
	Harmonize all communities' GIS systems and parcel address methodologies.	Municipalities with CTCOG technical assistance	Low	N/A	Started	We would need specific funding for staff coordination
	Build additional capacity to assist jurisdictions with grant identification/writing/administration.	CTCOG	High	N/A	Complete	Anna working on this at the end of August

Strengthen CTCOG offerings to complement municipalities' capabilities.	Hold a periodic introductory class for newly elected officials to familiarize them with CTCOG capabilities, and to provide them with a "municipal imperatives" cheat sheet to aid in their prioritization.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Next class is February 20th, 2024, includes topics on planning and zoning, grant resources, and roles and responsibilities of officials.
	Create marketing materials summarizing CTCOG services, assistance, and resources available to municipalities.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Printed and sent out!
	Conduct remote/hybrid meetings to increase accessibility for rural communities.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Ongoing
	Provide technical support as-needed to communities on subjects of planning, transportation, legal, etc.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Ongoing
	Perform a "circuit rider" function, checking in with smaller/rural communities in particular to ensure functioning relationships with Tax Appraisal Districts, 911 system effectiveness, etc.	CTCOG	Low	N/A	Started	Uryan & Jim, have county level meet ups- start scheduling in March 2024, send a Planner with staff

Item #9

Regional Broadband Initiatives

Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Staff will provide an update on various broadband initiatives and opportunities for the region.

- Texas BDO Regional Working Group Central Texas Region has been established (CTCOG, BVCOG, HOTCOG)
- The BOOT program will see more eligible locations due to SB 1238.
- Local Gov Broadband Roundtable meets virtually on first Thursday of each month at 10am (BDO program). The event link can be found [here](#).
- The BDO submitted the Texas Digital Opportunity plan to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on February 28th. The NTIA has since accepted their plan.
- The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is winding now. Approximately 23 million households rely on this program but funding is set to run out by the end of April if Congress does not take action. The program subsidizes internet costs for households. The BDO surveyed ISPs in the state and found of the 19 ISPs who responded, 58% indicated they would offer an alternative low-cost solution to the ACP-approved recipients, and 20% plan to offer the unsubsidized low-cost option long-term.
- The USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program is open. Applications are due on May 21, 2024 by 11:59pm. The program furnishes loans and grants to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas. More information can be found [here](#).
- The Comptroller has adopted the final rules for the broadband development program established by SB 1238. The rules went into effect on March 24, 2024. The comptroller's office released the proposed rules in October 2023. Due to the high volume of comments, the comptroller's office extended the public comment period. Among other things, the new rules do the following:
 - Require the comptroller to create and annually update the state's Broadband Development Map depicting broadband service availability across Texas;
 - Establish a Broadband Development Map location classification challenge process for internet service providers and political subdivisions;
 - Provide the criteria that the comptroller's Broadband Development Office (BDO) must consider when making a map challenge determination, including: (1) the availability of reliable broadband service; (2) actual internet speeds and reliability data; (3) whether an existing federal funding commitment covers the area; and (4) any other information the BDO believes may help make its determination; • Establish new program definitions;
 - Require the BDO to publish notice of funds availability;

- Allow the BDO to reject broadband funding applications that do not facially comply with program requirements and provide resubmission rules;
 - Establish the process to resolve overlapping project area issues;
 - Provide broadband funding eligibility and award criteria, including a fiber optic preference, and requires the BDO to publish notice of eligibility and award criteria;
 - Provide the funding application protest process and requires the BDO to publish notice of funding criteria and protest and resubmission requirements; and
 - Clarify the restrictions on eligible uses of BDO broadband infrastructure grants.
 - The full listing of the rules can be found [here](#).
- In order to challenge the new broadband coverage maps from the BDO, your agency will need to acquire a Tier E license. For more information, visit this [link](#).
 - The BDO's Technical Assistance Program (TAP) is available for applications from county broadband committees certified by the BDO through application on website. Counties awarded in the TAP Program will receive assistance from a team of contracted broadband planning and consulting specialists from Cobb, Fendley and Associates. The final deliverable will be a County Broadband Plan with actionable strategies to improve availability of broadband. The application window opens in late Spring 2024. All services are paid for directly by the BDO. For more information, go [here](#).
 - NTIA's State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program opened for applications by state broadband agencies March 29 and applications are due May 28, 2024. This program will implement funding strategies for the BDO's programs identified in the Texas Digital Opportunity Program. For more information, go [here](#).

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

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Item #10

Federal and State Updates

Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development in Texas

- In late February, the US EPA announced that Texas will receive over \$358 million to implement drinking water and clean water infrastructure upgrades. The funding is part of the IIJA which includes \$5.8 billion investment through the Clean Water & Drinking Water State Revolving Funds. The Texas Water Development Board runs the state's programs. Visit TWDB's website for more information (<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/>)

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

DDCT Board Members

DDCT Board Membership 2023 Contact Information

Name	Board position	County Represented	Title	Organization	Address	Email	Phone
Cynthia Hernandez		Bell	Executive Director	Belton EDC	2180 N. Main Belton, TX 76513	chernandez@beltonedc.org	254-770-2270
Bobby Whitson		Bell	Bell County Commissioner, Pct.2	Bell County Commissioners Court	3305 E. Elms Rd. Killeen TX 76542	bobby.whitson@bellcounty.texas.gov	254-690-2274
Ginger Watkins		Milam	Economic Development Director	Cameron Industrial Foundation	102 E. First Cameron TX 76520	gwatkins@cameronindustrialfoundation.com	254-697-4970
Dean Roome		Bell	Municipal Development District Board Member	City of Bartlett	140 W Clark St Bartlett TX 76511	deana001@aol.com	254-527-3219
Charley Ayres		Bell	Director, Industry/Education Partnership	Workforce Solutions of Central Texas	200 Main St. Belton, TX 76513	charley.ayres@workforcesolutionsctx.com	972-983-1411
Ted Gonzalez	Vice-Chair	Bell	Associate Deputy Chancellor	Business Services at Central Texas College	Academic Dr, Killeen, TX 76549	ted.gonzalez@ctcd.edu	254.526.1668
Jim Gibson		Milam	Economic Development	Rockdale Municipal Development District	134 North Main Street, Rockdale, TX 76687	jim.gibson@rockdalemdd.org	
Michael Boyd		Bell	Councilmember	City of Killeen		mboyd@killeentexas.gov	254-952-7837
Brian O'Connor		Bell	Director	City of Nolanville EDC	101 N 5th Street	boconnor@nolanvilletx.gov	
Stacey Ybarra		Lampasas	Economic Development Director	City of Lampasas	312 E. Third St. Lampasas, TX 76550	sybarra@cityoflampasas.com	512-556-6831
Dexter Morris	Chair	Mills	City Manager	City of Mullin	105 N. 3rd Street Mullin, TX 76864	dexter.morris.tx@gmail.com	(325) 985-3909
Kayla Schraub		Hamilton	Main Street Manager	City of Hamilton	108 N. Bell Street, Hamilton, TX, 76531	mainstreet@hamiltontx.com	254-784-5610
Dr. Teddy Clevenger		Bell	Bartlett ISD Superintendent	Bartlett ISD	404 Robinson, Bartlett, TX, 76511	tclevenger@bartlett.txed.net	

Bell, Milam, Hamilton,
 Coryell, Lampasas,
 and Mills

= Counties represented by Board Members

End of Packet
