

**Thelma Bowie – Candidate for Commissioner At Large  
City of Texas City  
(May 2022)**

**If elected, what key competencies would you bring to the position?**

As a solution-oriented leader with twenty plus years of experience in the petrochemical industry, I bring a keen understanding of business strategies and performance objectives, personal accountability for exceeding work performance and customer expectations, and strong interpersonal and communication skills which parallels well with competencies required of an engaged and effective city commissioner. Specifically, I served as the Bp Laboratory Coordinator for Analytical and Technical Laboratory Services (ATLS), and in this capacity, my many roles and duties included:

- Managed daily laboratory operations including safety, personnel, multimillion-dollar budget, data quality, and customer satisfaction for twenty-nine units at both refinery and chemical plant.
- Served as Supervisor Team Leader to define and implement laboratory and supervisor performance contract measures.
- Recognized as “2003 Best in Class” for Solomon Study of Bp Laboratories.
- Recognized as “2003 Best in Performance” in the Cracker Plus Benchmark Study.
- Recognized as “2003 Best in Class” in Employee Safety.
- Certified and delivered Frontline Leadership and Customer Focus training to refinery supervisors / superintendents.

As City Commissioner for District One for three full terms, I am both proficient and knowledgeable of the inner workings of city business, Housing Authority Commission, Zoning Commission, Charter Review Committee, Audit Committee, and the city’s Strategic Planning Committee. Presently, as Commissioner at – Large, I serve in a critical leadership role as Mayor Pro Tem and an active member of the Mayor’s Executive Team. I serve on the Zoning Commission and Planning Board, both relating to land use matters for the city of Texas City. Serving on Community Matters 2030 Committee affords me a well-honed understanding of the city’s strategies and resulting goals, objectives, and action plans for the next ten years. I serve as a Board of Director member on the Gulf Coast Transit District Board, representing the city of Texas City. I am well-rounded and prepared to continue serving Texas City as Commissioner at-Large.

**Briefly outline the top issues you feel will be significant in Texas City over the next three to five years.**

- *Community Matters 2030* is the city’s strategic plan that will guide the city for the next 10 years. While the final report is approved by our commission, the real work ahead is to successfully move the defined strategies, goals, objectives, and action plans forward.

- As one of the fastest growing cities in the county, we must invest in infrastructure, so our season of growth fosters a seamless process for both new residential and commercial developments as well as established neighborhoods.
- We are in the beginning phases of major flood remediation projects critical to the city such as repairs to Pumps A and B, construction of a mega pump to transfer water from Moses Lake to the Gulf of Mexico, drainage improvements to Southpoint, Amburn Park, Freeway Park, and Delany Lake areas. Additional drainage projects include culvert replacement for 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue drainage ditch and slope paving on the 34<sup>th</sup> Street drainage ditch. We must see these monumental projects to completion.
- Given rising crime rates across the United States, Texas City is no exception. We must aggressively recruit and retain our police officers. We recently approved a 15% pay increase for officers in a 3-year contract (7%, 4%, and 4%). We have eighty-one officers hitting the streets but have grants to hire up to 101 officers. We have work to do.

**What can you do as an elected official to help small businesses in the community?**

Long-term, I will continue supporting the Texas City Economic Development Corporation’s Strategic Planning process currently underway; the resulting Strategic Plan will serve as a guiding document for the city over the next five years. As a member of our local Chamber of Commerce, I support activities and events promoting both small and big businesses. I was honored to serve on the planning committee for the recently enacted Level Up Initiatives. The Chamber’s “Level Up Your Business” offers a series of classes ideal for helping small businesses owners grow to become successful businesses. Finally, I know the importance of supporting and spending my money locally with our small businesses.

**What would you do to help ensure that the local economy continues to have positive growth?**

Serving on both the Zoning Commission and Planning Board, I perform required and discretionary functions related to land use matters critical to Texas City’s growth. As a member of the Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce, I am in total alignment with the Chamber’s shared goals of economic prosperity and diversity. It is important the collaboration between the city, College of the Mainland, and the chamber, continues to maintain a business-friendly environment encouraging positive growth for Texas City.

**Any other comments you would like to make?**

Community Matters 2030 identified a novel opportunity to promote a collaboration between the city, TCISD and COM; this collaboration is in the planning phase of creating a magnet school program for future fire fighters and paramedics to fill our vacancies and provide good paying salaries to the students of our own TCISD, everybody wins! Texas City Cannot Wait for 2023 – the best is yet to come!