



AUGUST 2022 EDITION

The Voice of Business

The Chamber continues to monitor infrastructure projects throughout the community. The Chamber sent a letter to TxDOT in June to support the construction of Grand Parkway Segment B and will attend the TxDOT Commissioners Meeting on August 30 to advocate for the project. We are also continuing our efforts to seek input from businesses on the expansion of FM 518/Broadway from Cullen to McLean and our communications were picked up by Community Impact Newspaper. Recently, the Chamber provided feedback to City Council on proposed fees in the 2023 City of Pearland budget. The proposed fees would be required for businesses for inspections done by the Fire Marshall's Office. In a follow-up with the Fire Department, we were informed that the fees were withdrawn from the FY23 budget.

[Click Here for the Chamber's Comments to City Council](#)

[Click Here for letter to TxDOT on Grand Parkway](#)

[Click Here for Community Impact Newspaper Article](#)

Development in Pearland

The City of Pearland's Community Development released their quarterly update for April – June. The report indicated that permits were issued for 12 new commercial projects, 30 for additions, alterations, or accessory, and 17 for tenant finish / build outs. There were also 122 single-family home permits for this quarter. The PEDC Summer Newsletter featured some great information on the redevelopment in the Rice Drier area and the Sullivan Brothers residential development in Old Townsite. In Pearland's Lower Kirby District, Millar, Inc.'s new headquarters, R&D, and manufacturing facility is under construction and the walls on the building have been installed.

[Click Here for full report from Community Development](#)

[Click Here for the PEDC Summer Newsletter](#)

[Click Here for PEDC Press Release on Millar, Inc.](#)

[Click Here for Millar's LinkedIn Post on Construction](#)

Employment Situation – Pearland has lowest unemployment in region

The July 2022 Houston Area Employment Situation that was released by Workforce Solutions – Gulf Coast shows Pearland with the lowest unemployment percentage in the region (3.8%). Additionally, across the region construction jobs had their largest-ever gain in the month of July since records began in 1990.

[Click Here for full report](#)

*Internal – July 2022 Houston Unemployment Situation *

Sales Tax Update

The City of Pearland receives updates on sales tax collection from the state. The report is always from two months prior, so in August, the City receives June numbers. The total net collections increased compared to August 2021 by \$253,041 or 6.7%. Sales tax collection is indicator of the City's economic health. The Chamber encourages businesses to Shop Local and save the date of Saturday, November 26 for Small Business Saturday.

[Click here for the full report](#)

Internal – FYU22 August for June Sales

Pearland Innovation HUB

Brandy Guidry was hired earlier this year to be the Navigator for the Pearland Innovation HUB. The HUB is a home for innovation, entrepreneurship and small business growth. She recently launched the Pro-Active Coaching Program focused on helping members complete a specific milestone and/or deadline on their business journey. Programming and events for the HUB help to address the needs of members and allow for opportunities to engage the community, partners, and sponsors.

[Click Here to Learn More about the Pearland Innovation HUB](#)

Chamber Report

The Pearland Chamber of Commerce and Pearland Economic Development Corporation have been working closely together to introduce a Pearland Young Professionals organization. This organization will focus on a mission to foster and empower the greater Pearland's Young Professionals and leverage the special diversity that exists in the community by providing networking, career development, leadership, and civic engagement opportunities. Interested individuals can contact Jennifer Berti at Jennifer.Berti@PearlandChamber.org for more information. The HUB Certification process with the Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber was a success and led to 20+ businesses being certified by the State of Texas.