



Why Leander? Growth, opportunity, and a business-friendly climate. The tremendous growth and opportunity in Leander is driven by an award winning school system, low cost living and transportation options including the Cap Metro commuter rail and highway 183-A allowing less congested routes into the heart of Austin.

1 LIVING IN LEANDER

POPULATION

Leander's population just reached 50,000, and with a growth rate of over 11% (16 people a day) it is now the fastest growing city over 50,000 in the country.

With almost 1,600 single family housing starts last year and a number of new multifamily projects either open or under construction there seems to be no stopping the city's expansion.

COMMUNITY

Leander offers Texas Hill Country living near the Austin metropolitan area. Scenic landscapes, abundant wildlife and waterways are common sights enjoyed by Leander residents and visitors. Quality of life is very good in Leander and one of the many reasons people relocate here.

Leander is currently the 4th fastest growing city in the State, Recently awarded the 8th safest city in Texas, Leander is the highest ranked city for safety in the Austin Metro area. Access to the Hill Country and proximity to Austin creates many opportunities for artistic, entertainment and recreational pursuits.

2 EDUCATION

LISD Overview

Located northwest of Austin, Texas, the Leander Independent School District (LISD) is one of the fastest-growing school districts in Texas, maintaining its high standards as it grows.

Serving close to 40,000 students with 41 schools - Five high schools, eight middle schools, twenty-four elementary schools and two alternative schools - the district expects to continue to add approximately 1.5 schools annually in the foreseeable future.

LISD is a true destination district that welcomes about 1,000 new students each year and is the 10th fastest growing district in the nation.

Student engagement is strong in LISD, with 83 percent of students in 6th through 12th grades participating in school-related activities. The district is a powerhouse for extracurricular opportunities and is home to state champion athletic and fine arts programs.

The district is focused on student learning and

3 BUSINESS

BUSINESS OVERVIEW

As the fastest growing city in Central Texas, Leander has experienced tremendous development with major retail shopping hubs, expansion of residential developments, Transit Oriented Development (TOD) progress, population reaching over 50,000 as well as additional schools, restaurants and small businesses.

Leander is proud to:

- Be the final stop on the Capital Metro Rail.
- Have the third largest H-E-B store in Texas, the Leander H-E-B Plus, is part of a 225,000 square foot shopping center.
- Have Lowe's anchoring The Gateway at Leander; a 300,000 square foot retail center.
- Be home to Dennis Steel, Suncoast Post-Tension, and One Source Manufacturing.
- Soon to be home of St. David's HealthCare and the ACC San Gabriel campus.

In the coming year, roads will be widened, water and wastewater lines extended and overall power service and telecommunications will be improved throughout

1 LIVING IN LEANDER

The Leander Independent School District, the tenth fastest growing district in the U.S., has an excellent academic reputation.

The University of Texas and Austin Community College are the two largest (out of seven) institutions of higher education in the region, and in 2018 Leander will be the home of its very own Austin Community College.

Leander is also served by a growing number of medical centers including Cedar Park Regional Medical Center, Baylor Scott & White, St. David's Round Rock, Georgetown Medical Center, and North Austin Medical Center.

Capital MetroRail offers comfortable, friendly and reliable service Monday through Friday between Leander and downtown Austin.

Location, climate, population, strong government and economic development, excellent schools, transportation and low taxes, combined with sincere Texas hospitality, all contribute to the popularity Leander continues to enjoy in both residential and commercial growth.

Leander Takes #1 for Best Places to Raise a Family

In a new study, SmartAsset analyzed 87 Texas cities to find the best places to raise a family in the Lone Star State, and Leander takes the number one spot!

Leander continues to show very strong growth, including overall job growth. The Journal Times recently ran a story about the highest job growth City in every state, with the highest job growth in the State of Texas, Leander came in #7 overall.

- 12-month percent change in employment: 11.1%
- Net Change in total employment: 1,928
- Labor force population (Jan 2017): 19,950
- Unemployment rate (Jan 2017): 3.6%

Leander Ranked #3 in the Nation! "Best Small Cities for Families" – Forbes

Forbes magazine reported that Leander ranked #3 in the country in a recent study on the best small cities for families. The ranking cited Leander's connection to Austin via Capital Metro's commuter rail, the affordability of housing, the percentage of families with children and the City's growth rate.

Housing

The median home value in Leander is \$205,600. Leander home values have gone up 11.2% over the past year and Zillow predicts they will rise 3.4% within the next year. The median list price per square foot in Leander is \$127, which is lower than the Austin Metro average of \$151.

Medical

Leander is also served by a growing number of medical centers including Saint David's Leander (under development), Cedar Park Regional Hospital, St. David's Round Rock, Georgetown Medical Centers, North Austin Medical Center and Baylor Scott & White.

2 EDUCATION

strong student achievement. All LISD campuses and the district received a rating of Met Standard for the 2016 State Accountability Ratings.

Working closely with students, parents, staff and community partners, LISD is leading to a bright future.

LEANDER HIGH SCHOOLS

LISD high schools offer an array of rigorous courses and college and career planning support that build upon instruction presented in LISD's elementary and middle schools.

Robust Career and Technical Education classes allow students to learn industry skills and gain experience in leadership training in fields such as robotics, health care, cosmetology, automotive technology, engineering, culinary arts and more.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program is offered at every high school in the district to help prepare students for higher education, while the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program – currently at Leander High School and coming soon to Vandegrift High School (open to students who attend any LISD high school) – also supports college-bound students.

Leander offers some of the best education opportunities in the state. The city has a graduation rate of 96%, the seventh-highest rate in the study. And kids here aren't just graduating, they are excelling. About 33% of students take at least one AP exam, and over 73% of students who took an AP exam scored a 3 or greater.

3 BUSINESS

the city. This combination of private and public sector investment will improve Leander's competitive advantages, leading to the ultimate goal of increasing the community's appeal as a destination of choice to live, work and play.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

In addition to Leander's 25-plus square miles, there are almost 45+square miles of Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). The City and Chamber have documented 95 site locations within the community totaling almost 8,400 acres for residential, mixed-use and industrial development.

Texas continues to rank as one of the nation's most favorable business climates based on its low tax burden and competitive regulatory environment. Aggregate costs for real estate, energy and wages are below most states in the country. Historically, the two major reasons business and individuals move to Leander are the quality schools and affordable living. Texas has no personal or corporate income tax, and overall has one of the lowest state and local tax burdens in the nation.

"Old Town" Business Grant Program Provides Three Business Grants in First Year

In January of 2016 the Leander City Council initiated the "Old Town" Business Grant Program to entice small business development in the "Old Town" portion of the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) District, providing a \$250,000 for the grants that can be up to \$100,000. Based on the project incremental property tax and sales tax the projects are expected to generate in their first five years of operation, the program helps small business owners get a jump start on success.

To-date the program has approved participation funding of three projects: a bakery, a brew pub and an office machines company, with at least two additional projects expected to apply soon.