



Taylor history is tied to the lucrative cotton industry from the late-1800s to the mid-1900s when cotton was king and agriculture still plays a strong role in our culture. Taylor straddles an advantageous north/south railway line and many an enterprising soul made their home here to partake of the wealth and opportunity. The stately homes and buildings found around town are indicative of that era of big money and influence. Taylor Texas is a thriving, progressive community nestled in Williamson County, the fastest growing area in the country.

## 1 LIVING IN TAYLOR

Taylor is a community of diverse ethnic heritage and is home to a diverse, entrepreneurial population that embraces family values, hard work, and community involvement. Over the past decade, the influx of new residents aged 25-35 years old has had an invigorating effect on our City. From community investments in recreation and advanced technologies to a wide variety of youth programs, Taylor promotes an active contemporary lifestyle.

### Recreation

The City provides public parks, swimming pools, tennis courts, a public library, the historical Moody Museum, and grandeur home sites.

Taylor abounds with eclectic shopping opportunities as well as relaxing spots for dining and sipping. Our historic downtown area boasts antique and novelty shops, Latin dining, and coffee shops, as well as an assortment of service businesses. The historic 100 year-old Howard Theater rounds out the experience.

## 2 EDUCATION

The Taylor ISD is a place without limits, full of rich traditions and a proud heritage. With approximately 3,000 students, our ISD is small enough to recognize the needs of each individual student and large enough to address them in creative and effective ways. Taylor is home to three elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school.

Taylor is also home to two private schools, St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School and St. Mary's Catholic School. East Williamson County Higher Education Center, a multi-institutional teaching center, brings together partners Temple College, Texas State Technical College, Texas Tech University, Concordia University Texas, and Legacy Early College High School to provides employers and residents with access to higher education and workforce training.

Greater Austin is well known for its colleges and

## 3 BUSINESS

The City of Taylor has worked to create an environment where businesses know that they are welcome here. We have streamlined our plan review, permitting and inspections processes and have a progressive City Council that understands and encourages the city's need to partner with developers.

The Taylor Economic Development Corporation is the primary contact for developers and/or businesses seeking to select sites for lodging, restaurants, retail and subdivisions. City Manager Isaac Turner, Assistant City Manager Noel Bernal, and Director of Planning and Development Ashley Lumpkin are also available to assist with planning and developing the future of Taylor with your business or development project.

### Incentives

The City of Taylor, in partnership with the Taylor Economic Development Corporation and the Taylor Chamber of Commerce, offers varying incentive packages to encourage businesses to locate in Taylor.

## 1 LIVING IN TAYLOR

One of our downtown highlights is a monthly 3rd Thursday late-night shopping and gallery experience.

Taylor is in the heart of the "Texas BBQ Trail" and boasts award-winning cooks with decades of national acclaim and exposure. In addition, there are more than 40 restaurants serving a variety of cuisine from Tex-Mex and Italian to home cooking.

The Taylor Artist Guild is dedicated to the unbridled pursuit of creative expression. It is a dynamic collective of local artists whose specialties encompass all disciplines. It offers a full annual schedule of exhibitions, retreats, classes, sketch and photo clubs.

The Art Guild is actively working to change the face of downtown. Two new galleries - ART120 and Atelier 95 - have opened their doors to an enthusiastic reception. As an integral part of Taylor's Third Thursday downtown night out, the new galleries have offered an eclectic array of art including themed shows, art classes, and gallery receptions.

If you enjoy fishing, camping, swimming, or boating, you will appreciate the convenient location of Granger Lake, located only eight miles from Taylor.

The community offers opportunities to have fun with family and friends at annual events. Highlighting these events are the Taylor Rodeo, International Barbecue Cook-Off, Downtown Fest, Fourth of July Fireworks, Tex Avery Day and the Parade of Lights and Christmas displays.

The century-old Howard Theatre at 308 N. Main shows first-run movies and hosts special events. Originally located across the street, the owners of the city's two theaters combined them, dropping the 1925 Rita Theater name. The Rita location became the new venue for the Howard. The theater was modernized in 2001 and split into upper and lower sections providing dual screens.

And no place in Texas would be complete without good food and music. The Old Coupland Inn and Dance Hall offers dinner, music and two-steppin' every weekend. The SPJST Lodge 29, organized in 1899, hosts special events that include free dances twice a week. They also offer a fundraiser hamburger dinner every Friday night.

## 2 EDUCATION

universities. More than 115,000 college students are enrolled in the MSA's eight universities and colleges. The main campus of The University of Texas is 35 miles from Taylor. The University is the 2nd largest in the nation with more than 50,000 students and is consistently ranked among the top 10 in the country for science and engineering degrees awarded. The University plays an important role in the region's flourishing high tech industry.

### Attendance:

High School	94.92%
Middle School	95.89%
T.H. Johnson	94.94%
Naomi Pasemann	96.21%
Main Street Intermediate	97.39%
Districtwide:	95.89%

### Campus

Taylor High School - 835 Students
Taylor Middle School - 679 Students
Main Street Intermediate - 452 Students
Naomi Pasemann Elementary - 671 Students
TH Johnson Elem. - 377 Students
Legacy Early College HS- 189 Students

## 3 BUSINESS

If offered, these packages can include cash grants, land grants, forgivable loans, property tax rebates and/or sales tax rebates, TIF grants and downtown rental assistance. The City will also consider partnering with businesses on asbestos abatement.

Retail developers continue to look to Taylor for new growth and the outlook is encouraging as new businesses continue to scout the area looking for promising locations. Recent new businesses include a variety of retail and food chains, banking, as well as several new family owned restaurants.

Identifying all primary businesses in a community is always a work in progress but current data proves Taylor is a vibrant and growing city.

There are more than 2,000 Primary Industry related jobs in Taylor and over 30 national retailer chains located within the city. We also have multiple work force training centers available in the immediate area.

Recently, there has been a lot of media buzz about the opportunities in Taylor, Texas. So, what's the buzz all about? Since 2009, almost 20 companies have expanded or relocated to Taylor, announcing and creating almost 250 jobs along the way... during one of the worst national economies on record. Why? It's our small-business-friendly attitude and low-costs in the Austin region that welcomes the drivers or our federal, state and local economies.

New families are migrating to Taylor for our affordable housing and progressive attitude. These individuals are highly educated and entrepreneurial, seeking jobs in Greater Austin but hoping for a shorter commute time. Although we announced more than 200 new jobs in Taylor in 2011, we have more talent than jobs - one more reason this is an opportune time to invest in Taylor. Our Taylor Economic Development Corporation has multiple possibilities for that next business to take off right here in Taylor.