# MESQUITE CHAMBER

The **VOICE** of Business











# Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) Task Force

Lexie Woodward, Manager of Economic Development, City of Mesquite

Chamber Luncheon

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Sponsored by Dallas Regional Medical Center

# The 'Big 5' Organizations

## Provide different but complimentary services

<u>City of Mesquite</u> -Real estate/location information, development partnership opportunities, development process liaison, promotional opportunities, referrals.

**Dallas College** - Customized training, student workers, career building, employee and business development, access to funding and facilities.

<u>Mesquite Chamber of Commerce</u> - Business to business networking, referrals, community history and knowledge, promotional opportunities.

<u>Mesquite Independent School District</u> - Young skilled workers, workforce pipeline, training, and internship partnership opportunities.

Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas - Active job seekers, workforce assessment, business consulting, skills training, job fairs, access to funding.

# Why Have a BRE Task Force?

<u>Complement and leverage</u> each others' resources in order to provide <u>comprehensive business services</u> – from <u>start-up to expansion</u>

Integrate companies, workforce and students to create, maintain and improve the business ecosystem

Coordinate on business retention, expansion, and/or workforce development efforts

Promote Mesquite as a great place to do business and to locate their business here

# Development Timeline

Sept. 2016 – Task Force introductory/visioning
Oct. 2016 – Task Force goal setting
Nov. 2016 – Mesquite SWOT (Strengths,
Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) and event planning
Jan. 2017

- First event *Industry Collaborative* and Live Survey
- New Year New Network

Entrepreneur

Mar. 2017 - Power Up Your Workforce

Dec. 2017 – 2017 program evaluation and
2018 planning

May 2018 – Turbo Boost Your Workforce

Nov. 2018 – Envision Your Future as an

#### May 2019

- Industry Breakfast
- Restaurants & Attractions Roundtable

Sept. 2019 – Human Resources Luncheon Oct. 2019

- Small Business/Entrepreneurship Workshop Series
- Manufacturing Day
- Hospitality Brunch

Nov. 2019 – *Entrepreneurs Day* March 2021 – 2021 Kick-Off mtg.

2020 - COVID-19...Roadmap to Resources

April 2021 – Local Market Data & Trends

June 2021 – Job Fair

## Task Force Members

Janet Foreman, Business Development Coordinator, Ascend Institute, Dallas College

Steven Bridges, Account Executive, Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas

Terry McCullar, President, Mesquite Chamber of Commerce

Clint Elsasser, Dean of Schools of Vanguard High School, MISD Kristi Krajca, Director of Career & Technical Education, MISD

Karissa Samuel, Career & Technical Education Facilitator, MISD (Sheldon Stoker assumes role July 12<sup>th</sup>)

Lexie Woodward, Manager of Economic Development, City of Mesquite

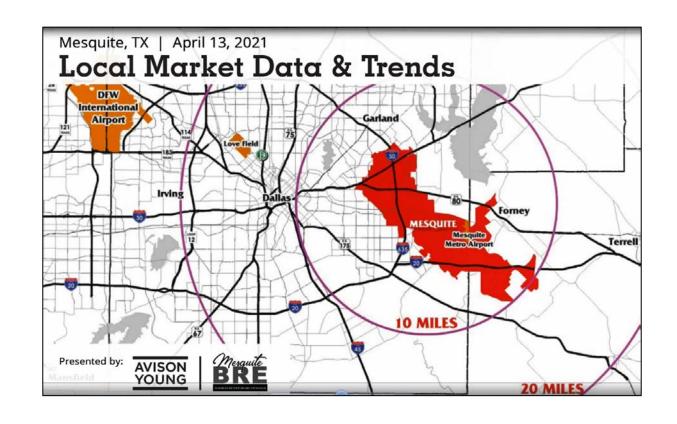
Committee Members

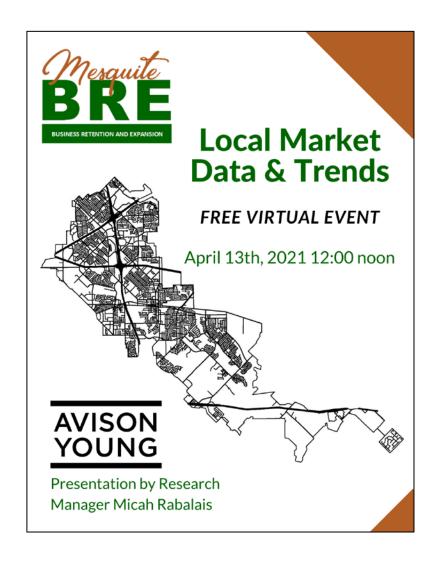
Jessica McClellan, Convention & Visitors Bureau Manager, City of Mesquite Beverly Abell,
Downtown
Development Manager,
City of Mesquite

Glenn Bradley, Owner, Big Hit Creative

# Examples of BRE Task Force Programming – Data Event

Connecting entrepreneurs, business owners, and commercial real estate brokers with the data they need to move forward and/or market the City





# Business Survey

In the 2021 Business Survey, respondents were asked to check any BRE event they or their team members were most likely to attend. Out of twelve possible responses, the below were selected the most frequently.

- 1. Marketing (51%)
- 2. Networking (49%) Talk to the Chamber!
- 3. Continuity planning (36%)
- 4. Entrepreneurship support/resources (30%)
- 5. Legislation that may affect businesses (30%)
- 6. Industry specific events such as Manufacturer's Day, Restaurants, etc. (28%)

As a result, a Marketing event is scheduled for next month, Manufacturing Day in October, Entrepreneurs Day in November, and a Human Resources event February 2022.





# Example of BRE Task Force Programming – Job Fair









# Connecting Businesses to Job Seekers



# Business Survey

As a result of the Jan.
2017 survey, the Power
Up Your Workforce event
was created



## Future BRE Events

□ July 20: Business Marketing Panel

☐ October: Manufacturing Day

■ November: Entrepreneurs Day

☐ February 2022: Human Resources

event







#### Eastfield College

Mesquite and Sunnyvale partnership

#### Manufacturing Day 2019

Thursday, October 3, 2019 • 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Eastfield College • S-Building, S100/101

Breakfast, Forum and Panel Discussion

Join us in showcasing modern manufacturing jobs and technologies. Initiate business relationships and inspire a new generation of manufacturers.

#### Agenda

7:30 a.m. Breakfast and Networking

8:15 a.m. Welcome

8:30 a.m. Keynote Mike Kinder of Veryable

9:10 a.m. Best Practices in Manufacturing Panel

9:55 a.m. Apprenticeship Opportunities 10:15 a.m. Wrap-up

## Future BRE Partner Events

☐ August 7th: Vanguard High School (MISD)
Ribbon Cutting and Open House

☐ December: Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet

# BRE Task Force Quarterly E-Newsletters



## **Mesquite Business News**

Quarter 2 (Jan. - Mar.) Fiscal Year 2021

#### **Business Activity**

- Locke Supply Company - Moving into 4414 Gus Thomasson (former Minyard Foods)
- Elements International
   Building a new 175k
   SF facility
- Conor Commercial -Completed 198k SF industrial project "Skyline Commerce Center"
- Plumbers Local 100 -New construction of a two-story office building
- Clay Cooley Hyundai -Renovation
- <u>LeTronics</u> Certificate of Occupancy (CO)
- Mr. Electric CO
- Golden Chick (4525 Gus Thomasson Rd.)
   CO
- Creek Crossing
   Dynamic Nutrition -

## Need Employees, Training, and/or Room to Grow?



Mesquite's big five business resources teamed up to serve YOU.

Known as the Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) task force, we are taxpayer- and

member-supported entities who work for your success.

Click here for more information. #MesquiteBRE

#### Local Market Data, Trends Presentation Set for April 13

Avison Young (Dallas) Research Manager Micah Rabalais will provide a Local Market Data and Trends presentation at noon on April 13, 2021.



Real. Texas. Business.

### **Mesquite Business News**

Quarter 3 (April - June) Fiscal Year 2021

ATTENTION MESQUITE BUSINESSES - Economic Development would like to thank you for having your business in Mesquite by offering one to three comped suites (valued at \$1,000 each/night) at the Mesquite Championship Rodeo. Each suite comes with ten (free) tickets and three (free) parking passes. If your business is interested in any of the dates and suites below, please email <a href="Moodward@cityofmesquite.com">Moodward@cityofmesquite.com</a>.

June 19 - 1 Suite; July 3 - 3 Suites; July 10 - 2 Suites; August 14 - 1 Suite

#### Business Survey Results

The Business Retention & Expansion Task Force created a 2021 Business Survey from May 1 to June 1

The survey solicited current and projected business challenges, feedback on the benefits of doing business in Mesquite, as well as any areas for discussion or improvement.

View the responses here.

View the latest quarterly Economic Development Update Presentation to City Council

#### 2021 Business Marketing Panel

Join the <u>Business Retention & Expansion</u> Task Force for their 2021 Business Marketing Panel July 20. The event will be from 6 to 8p.m. in Training Rooms A & B at the Mesquite City Hall, 757 N Galloway Ave.

### Local Market Data & Trends Presentation





## Get Involved!

- □Volunteer at and/or sponsor an event
- □ Join an event committee for an existing planned event
- □Volunteer to be the/a speaker and/or head up putting together a program/seminar on *Business Continuity* and/or *Legislation* that may affect business per the 2021 Business Survey results
- □ Sign up to receive, and share, the BRE e-newsletter
- □Submit content for the BRE e-newsletter
- ☐ Fill out, and encourage others to fill out, any business surveys that are released

# Comments, Questions, Suggestions?

### Links of Interest

- BRE Events
- 2021 Business Survey Results
- Sign up to receive BRE news
- June 2021 BRE e-newsletter
- March 2021 BRE e-newsletter

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