

Mesquite Business News

Quarter 4 (July - September) Fiscal Year 2021

2021 Manufacturing Day



Mesquite Virtual Manufacturing Day

Oct. 8, 2021 8:30 a.m.-noon

8:30 a.m. - Welcome: *Mayor Bruce Archer*

8:35 a.m. - Keynote: *SemiDigi President Darlena Kelly*

9:00 a.m. - Apprenticeships: *Cynthia Brinks, Dallas College*

9:20 a.m. - FAME & ISOW Grant: *Steven Bridges, Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas*

9:45 a.m. - Skills Development Fund Grants and Skills for Small Business: *Seth Green, Texas Workforce Commission*

10:15 a.m. - Collaboration Opportunities with MISD's new Vanguard High School: *Dean Clinton Elsasser*

10:30 a.m. - Customized Contract Training: *Janet Foreman, Dallas College*

10:45 a.m. - Manufacturing Panel/Q & A: *Kon Kelley, Dallas College, Steven Orsak, Rainstamp/Senox, and Eric Bowie, Benjamin Moore*

11:30 a.m. - Closing Remarks

FREE to attend
Registration encouraged at
<https://tinyurl.com/273wvpv2a>

Additional info: MesquiteEcoDev.com/Events

The Mesquite Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Task Force will host a free Virtual Manufacturing Day for the manufacturing and related business community on Friday, Oct. 8 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The keynote speaker for the event is Darlena Kelly, the President of SimiDigi, which is a full-service workforce training and development company that uses 3D technology to improve the way companies communicate and train their employees digitally.

The event will also include information on apprenticeships, how to collaborate with the new Mesquite ISD Vanguard High School, a manufacturing panel and more. Click [here](#) to register.

Mesquite breaks ground on two-million square feet Mesquite Airport Logistics Center. Read more [here!](#)



I-635E narrows near I-30 starting Sept. 30 for pavement resurfacing project

Drivers can expect various lane closures on east and westbound I-635E between the I-30 and I-20 junctions starting Thursday, Sept. 30 from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. nightly through fall 2022, weather permitting.

This is for an \$11.5 million pavement resurfacing project on an eight-mile section of I-635E in Mesquite. The project will impact traffic for the next year, and drivers are urged to plan ahead for slower traffic and delays in this corridor.

As a reminder, this project is adjacent to the ongoing I-635E improvement project between I-30 and US-75. For information on that project, visit the [Lane Closures Page](#).

[View the latest quarterly Economic Development Update Presentation to City Council](#)

Economic Development Website Resources

Click on the buttons below for in-depth information.

[Economic Development Newsroom](#)

[Demographics, Market, and Economic Data](#)

Business Marketing Panel



On July 20th, a BRE Business Marketing Panel event provided a free networking and learning opportunity for businesses and entrepreneurs to learn from their peers. Manager of Convention & Visitors Bureau Jessica McClellan moderated four panelists: Glenn Bradley of Big Hit Creative Group, Mike Garvey of Whataburger Mesquite, Juan Davila of Dos Panchas, and Victoria Lloveras of Citywide Building Services.

[Watch the event recording](#)



[Check out the new Community Profile and Development Map here.](#)

Downtown Farmers Market Showcases Local Entrepreneurs

The Downtown Mesquite Farmers Market is going strong at Front Street Station.

The Market, which operates every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., will be open through Nov. 27. Visitors will have the opportunity to purchase locally grown produce, artisan foods made from scratch by the vendors, artisan jewelry, home goods, bath and body products and more. And, did we mention there is live music from 10 a.m. to noon as well?

Start your weekend off in an enjoyable way by visiting the

Mesquite Public Library Resources

Job Seekers can "Book a Librarian" for a 30-minute session of personalized assistance with resumes, job applications, interview tips, industry research, or other information. This knowledge may improve their job and career development.

Call the Main Library at 972-216-6220 for more information.

Mobile hotspots are also available for Mesquite residents to check out.

In addition, the library's webpage provides access to helpful digital resources including JobView, Job & Career Accelerator, and LearningExpress Library.



Vanguard High School had its ribbon cutting and open house August 7 and opened for students shortly thereafter.

market at 100 W. Front St. in Downtown Mesquite.

Visit the [Downtown Mesquite Farmers Market](#) site for more info.



[Check out the Zoning Map here.](#)

There are many ways for your business to get involved with the Mesquite community. Check them out by clicking [here](#).

Mesquite Announces New Headquarters for Vehicle Accessories, Inc.



On September 20, the Mesquite City Council passed a series of resolutions for Vehicle Accessories, Inc. to relocate its corporate headquarters to Mesquite, Texas by the end of 2022. This includes 315 new manufacturing jobs with an annual payroll of \$13.5 million. Vehicle Accessories, Inc. is an integrated manufacturer of protective door edge guards, all-weather floor mats, splash guards, body side moldings, bumper protectors, and door sills for the automotive industry.

J. Person, Chairman and CEO of Vehicle Accessories, Inc., said at the September 20 City Council Meeting, "I can't thank Mesquite enough for making this project a reality. We are committed to Mesquite. This is home." Vehicle Accessories, Inc. will combine its current locations in Buffalo, NY; Toronto, Ontario; Sunnyvale, Texas; and Magog, Quebec to one Mesquite location. Proximity to the

Vanguard is a new school of choice serving students in Mesquite ISD who are interested in a non-traditional high school experience. Students can choose from 16 different programs of study and earn multiple industry certifications, as well as dual credit.

The 500 freshmen and 500 sophomores are organized into four schools based on their selected program of study. MISD students from any of our five high school attendance zones can attend Vanguard.

[Learn More](#)

**Special Offers
from Mesquite
Restaurants**

**Compare Your
Business to
Industry
Competitors**



Attend the Governor's Small Business Webinar - Identifying Your Target Market - October 7th. Register [here](#).

Mesquite approves Shadow Creek Crossing commercial project. Read more [here!](#)

Mesquite Metro Airport was a major factor in the decision to relocate to the new build-to-suit, 310,000 square foot building on 18-acres to the new Alcott Logistics Station to be located south of East Scyene Road and west of Faithon P. Lucas, Sr. Boulevard. This corporate relocation will feature a total of \$30 million in capital investment. Vehicle Accessories, Inc. is part of Kinderhook Industries, LLC, a private investment firm that manages over \$3.3 billion of committed capital.

In May 2021, the City Council approved Alcott Logistics Station, a 2.3 million square foot Class A industrial park with six buildings, a corporate campus design, innovative architecture, collaborative outdoor space, a walking trail and water feature as well as enhanced landscaping and a public park. Drew Feagin, a North Texas Division Director for master developer Urban Logistics Realty, said at the September 20 City Council Meeting, "I think back to the last five months to get to this point, and the help from the City staff has been second to none from any city that we operate in. It just makes us want to do more business in Mesquite."

Vehicle Accessories, Inc. has developed proprietary and patented manufacturing processes including specialized form rolling, stamping, bending, profile extrusions, and injection molding. They sell to Toyota, Lexus, Ford, Subaru, Nissan, Infiniti, Honda, General Motors, and Chrysler. Their products are installed post-production and are typically sold to end consumers as part of upgraded protection packages.



Dallas College Business Development Team provides customized training to business and industry. They connect you to Skills

Development Fund Grants, Internships, Apprenticeships, and Skills for Small Business. Recently, Orora Visual completed training under the Skills Development Fund COVID-19 grant which included classes for OSHA 10, Supervision, Principles in LEAN Manufacturing, and Excel. In addition, Future Infrastructure completed two cohorts of Excel training. Contact 214-883-0838 or janetforeman@dcccd.edu for more information.

Google My Business Training Video

Does your business need help with creating a Google My Business page? The Mesquite Convention & Visitors Bureau created a free video guide that covers everything from creating your listing to managing your services. Watch it [here!](#)

David Gill is Mesquite's new Police Chief. View the press release [here](#).

Helpful Links

[MISD Career & Technical
Education](#)

[Dallas College Corporate
Training](#)

[Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Economic Development](#)

[Downtown
Development](#)

[Workforce Solutions
Greater Dallas](#)

[Visit Mesquite](#)

