

Board of Directors

The Development District of Central Texas is governed by a Board of Directors composed of twenty-seven representatives from local governments, chambers of commerce, businesses, economic development organizations, and minority interest.

Roberto Bailon – Bell County

Ira Brand – Bell County

Scott Cospser – Bell County

Jane Crouch – Hamilton County

George Dentry – Bell County

Denice Doss, Chairperson – Milam County

Marsha Dyer – San Saba County

Otis Evans – Bell County

Judge John Firth – Coryell County

Kathy Gilmore, Vice Chairperson – Bell County

Cynthia Hernandez – Bell County

Mayor Judith Hetherly – Lampasas County

Robert Lindsey – Mills County

Patsy Luna – Bell County

Dora Cisneroz Miller – San Saba County

Judge Randy Mills – Hamilton County

J. W. Perry – Bell County

Cindy Stafford – San Saba County

Merle Stalcup – Bell County

Elizabeth Taylor – Coryell County

Ernest Wilkerson, Treasurer – Bell County

Development District
OF CENTRAL TEXAS

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Development District OF CENTRAL TEXAS



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2008

*Providing economic development services to
the counties of Bell, Coryell, Hamilton,
Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba.*

Development District of Central Texas

The Development District of Central Texas serves as an ally to member entities and provides technical assistance for economic development purposes. The District's service area is comprised of the counties of Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba.

CEDS

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a plan used to guide the District in fostering an environment for sustainable economic development while balancing the available resources of the region. This document addresses the state of the region, vision, goals and objectives, and an action plan. The CEDS is a requirement for the establishment of all new Economic Development Districts.

Vision

Improve and promote economic growth while maintaining community character and quality of life in Central Texas.

Goals and Objectives

1. Provide, update, and maintain relevant economic and business data to support economic development activities and inform communities that this information is available.

- Develop data resources for local governments and economic development organizations to use for marketing.
- Develop information resources for promoting economic development within the region.
- Increase and maintain contact with academic and professional institutions

and agencies that collect and process pertinent information.

- Promote and increase the use of information via the internet.
- Provide the most recent statistics on available grants and contact information for various agencies via the DDCT website.

2. Promote coordination among local economic development efforts.

- Provide a forum for sharing information and discussing issues.
- Serve as a regional economic development information clearinghouse.
- Develop data services for identifying housing problems and solutions.
- Provide training to economic development entities and local officials on economic development topics.
- Develop/Strengthen/Support inter-community and inter-agency coalitions.

3. Encourage entrepreneurship through education and enhanced opportunities.

- Identify alternate educational opportunities and support to encourage self-employment.
- Promote existing resources (such as the Small Business Development Centers, etc.)

4. Focus on our existing businesses and identify their needs.

- Analyze employer needs and opportunities to conduct a labor market study.
- Develop programs to meet identified needs.
- Coordinate or adapt elements from current successful workforce and business expansion and retention programs.
- Encourage and acknowledge entrepreneurial efforts in established local industries and business.

- Encourage Commercial and Industrial development within Central Texas

5. Promote existing small business support.

- Provide literature to member communities on existing programs.
- Make information available on our website.
- Coordinate and expand with entities providing information to small business owners and financing programs.
- Research finance mechanisms to assist communities in the district and implement when necessary.
- Identify programs which target revitalization or redevelopment.

6. Support improvements of the capacity, condition, and efficiency of inter- and intra-regional transportation systems necessary for economic development in Central Texas.

- Identify, coordinate and support existing planning organization to improve the capacity, efficiency, and condition of the regional transportation network.
- Identify necessary road, rail, commuter and air transportation improvements and support increased capacity and utilization of existing facilities.

7. Balance the needs for environmental protection and economic development.

- Provide technical assistance to local governments when needed on their long range planning and coordination.
- Encourage the importance of land use planning in stimulating and directing economic development.

For a copy of the CEDS, or additional information on the Development District of Central Texas please contact the Central Texas Council of Governments at (254) 770-2376, or visit www.ddoct.org.