

Sabine County Economic Development Progress Report
October 1 – October 31, 2017
Prepared by Charlie Dromgoole

- Attended the SCEDAC meeting on October 19 in Hemphill.
- Updated the Sabine County Economic Development Strategic Plan status report and distributed it at the meeting. I will communicate with the team leader each month to revise the brief status of each activity item.
- Attended a briefing meeting on CLT with State Senator Robert Nichols at his office in Lufkin on October 6 since Don Iles was out of town and could not attend. Also met with Brant Cobb who is trying to build the first CLT plant in East Texas.
- Submitted a response to an RFI from the Governor's Office of Economic Development for Project Cardinal. Received a response from the consultant concerning the Circle Y Enterprises site submitted and worked with Josh Neal to identify additional sites that met the company criteria. After numerous contacts with the site consultant and additional demographic information developed, we were informed that the company need to have a city of 10,000 population as a minimum threshold. Attempts were made to show our area population but the company was not willing to pursue our location at this time.
- Continue to stay in touch with Don Iles concerning Project Polymer. Had several conversations with one of the principals, Paul Grillo, about information that he needs to develop to complete the Texas Capital Fund application. Also spent time in person and had numerous phone calls with Randy Blanks to prepare for the completion of the Texas Capital Fund application. We are hopeful to have the application completed and hand delivered to the Texas Department of Agriculture on November 20. Have continued to follow-up so that we can get the application submitted in a timely manner.
- Contacted Todd Walker of Source Strategies to get his help in contacting the hotels chains on our behalf. Received responses from both Choice Hotels and Best Western. Have provided additional information requested to Best Western. Will continue to follow-up with them.
- Also visited extensively with a hotel developer in College Station who provided a lot of insight into attracting a hotel to Sabine County. Have been following up on insight that was obtained such as establishing a firm package of what can be offered to a prospective hotelier.
- Making preparations for attending ICSC on November 9 & 10 in Dallas.



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