

Quarterly Newsletter

Refugio County COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

April 2017

www.refugiocounty.org

Volume I, Issue II

Greetings from the RCCDF

Thank you for reading the 2nd edition of the Refugio County Community Development Foundation (RCCDF) quarterly newsletter. This publication is intended to inform and engage the community regarding projects and issues with which the RCCDF is involved.

In this edition, we'll provide details about; an opportunity for small businesses & TxDOT projects, the Façade Grant program, a new series of workshops being administered next quarter, sales tax data for each community in the city, as well as give you all an update on the R.E.S.T.O.R.E. projects submitted and spotlight a new business in Refugio.

Thank you for your interest in creating and sustaining an economic environment for continued growth and prosperity for Refugio County.

Sincerely,

RCCDF Board of Directors

R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Update

Last quarter, we informed Refugio County of the potential R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Act projects that were submitted to receive funding.

The 1st list of recipients was released in February and did not include any of the Refugio County projects, however there is still an opportunity for our projects to receive consideration.

The RCCDF plans to meet with TCEQ and others to discuss how to make the project more in line with the use of the funds in order to help prepare for the next round.



Local Businesses & TxDOT Projects

There is an exciting opportunity for small businesses to become involved in upcoming TxDOT developments such as the Harbor Bridge Project. The first step a small business can take in order to make themselves eligible for a contract with a government agency such as TxDOT, is to obtain a **DBE certification**.

The RCCDF would like to help get eligible businesses DBE certified so they can bid on and secure contracts for TxDOT projects primarily available in the region. This project provides an opportunity for local businesses and jobs for our local workforce. Businesses interested in becoming certified can contact the Refugio County Community Development Foundation to help determine their eligibility.



Building a Brighter Future Together

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Have a Business?

Need to Improve the Exterior?

Attractive building facades support and encourage local businesses. They can have a significant effect on the attractiveness and marketability of the surrounding area. To encourage business owners to reinvest in the downtown and smaller, neighborhood business areas, the RCCDF is offering grants to assist in the renovations of these otherwise sound and vital properties.

The **Façade Improvement Grant Program** was implemented last year and offers to match up to \$2,500 to the Applicant for improvements.

The application and guidelines can be found on the RCCDF website. Contact (361) 526-2011 for more information.

Coming Soon...

Next quarter, the RCCDF, in partnership with the Small Business Development Center at UHV, will be rolling out *Business Over Breakfast*, a series of business development courses. The series will focus on helping Refugio County business owners gain the valuable tools they need to grow and maintain their business.

Stay tuned for more information!



NOW OPEN in Refugio

There's a new place to snag a sweet treat in Refugio County!

Sno Shack, off of S. Alamo St., opened its doors for business on March 3rd, 2017. Their menu includes a variety of sno-cone flavors, dessert concoctions and snacks. Sno Shack was also recently recognized by the Chamber of Commerce with a Beautification Award for the improvements made to the building. This new business is sure to catch the eye of a visitor driving through the town.

Local Sales Tax Revenue Data For Public Entities in Refugio County

Local Entity	Local Rate By Entity	Mar 2017	Mar 2016	% Change	YTD 2017	YTD 2016	% Change
Refugio County	0.00%	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Town of Refugio	2.00%	\$68,385.62	\$69,309.02	-1.33%	\$238,867.31	\$229,335.38	4.15%
Woodsboro	1.00%	\$5,744.01	\$6,410.48	-10.39%	\$18,465.89	\$22,883.23	-19.30%
Bayside	1.00%	\$914.05	\$1,061.29	-13.87%	\$3,577.87	\$3,012.17	18.78%
Austwell	1.00%	\$370.37	\$391.22	-5.32%	\$989.75	\$1,041.53	-4.97%
Total	NA	\$75,414.05	\$77,172.01	-2.28%	\$261,900.82	\$256,272.31	2.20%

Max Sales Tax in Texas is .825 (8.25 pennies for every dollar) or 8.25%.

State Sales Tax is .625 (6.25 pennies for every dollar) or 6.25% of the total 8.25% of sales tax charged.

Local Sales Tax is permitted to be up to .200 (2.00 pennies for every dollar) or 2.00% of the 8.25% of sales tax charge

* ALL DATA IN THIS SPREADSHEET IS SOURCED FROM THE TEXAS STATE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

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