



State of the City

Mayor Tom Reid

February 23, 2012

Pearland – City of the Future



State of the City 2012

Pearland Today

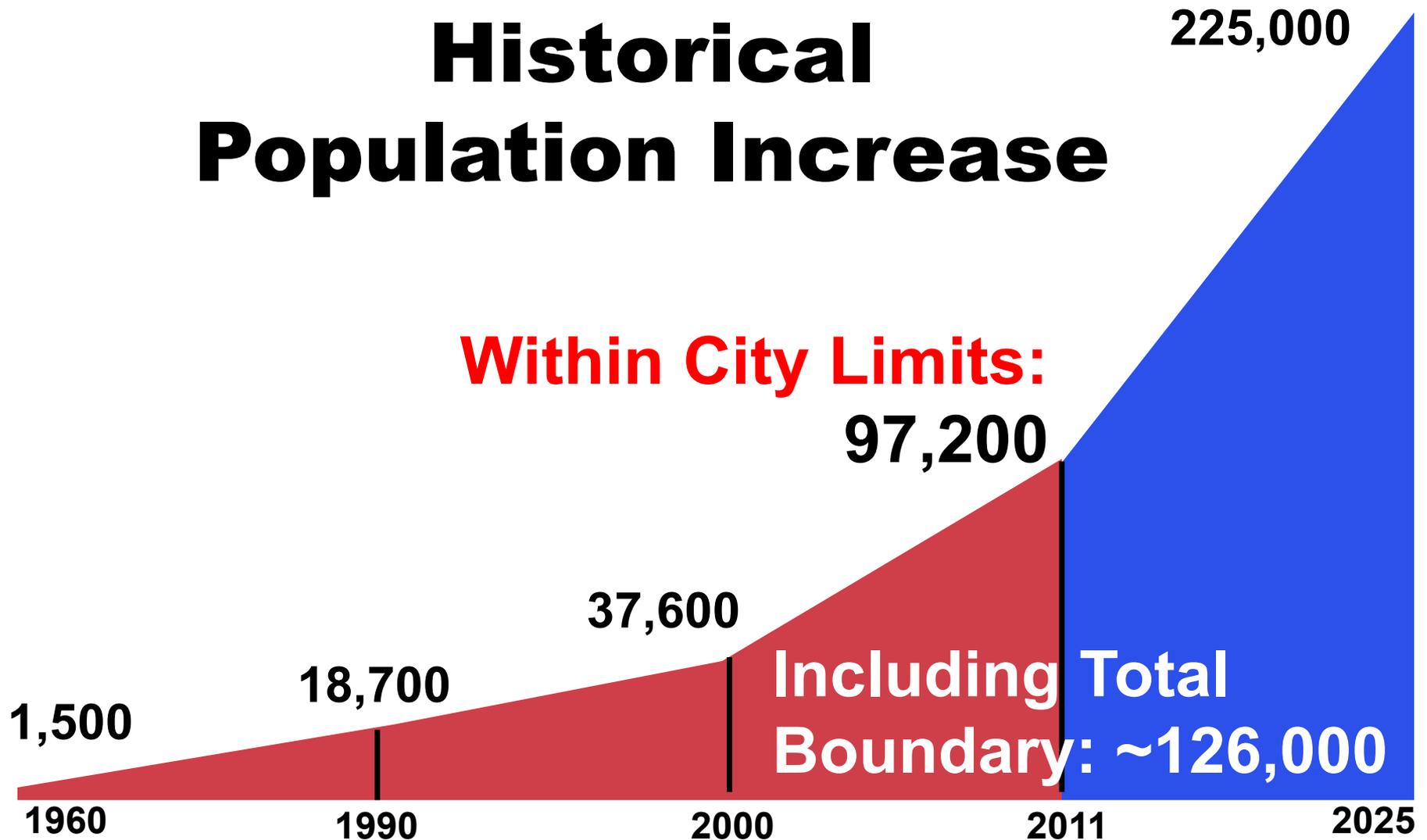
Pearland was founded as a town site 118 years ago and incorporated as a city 53 years ago

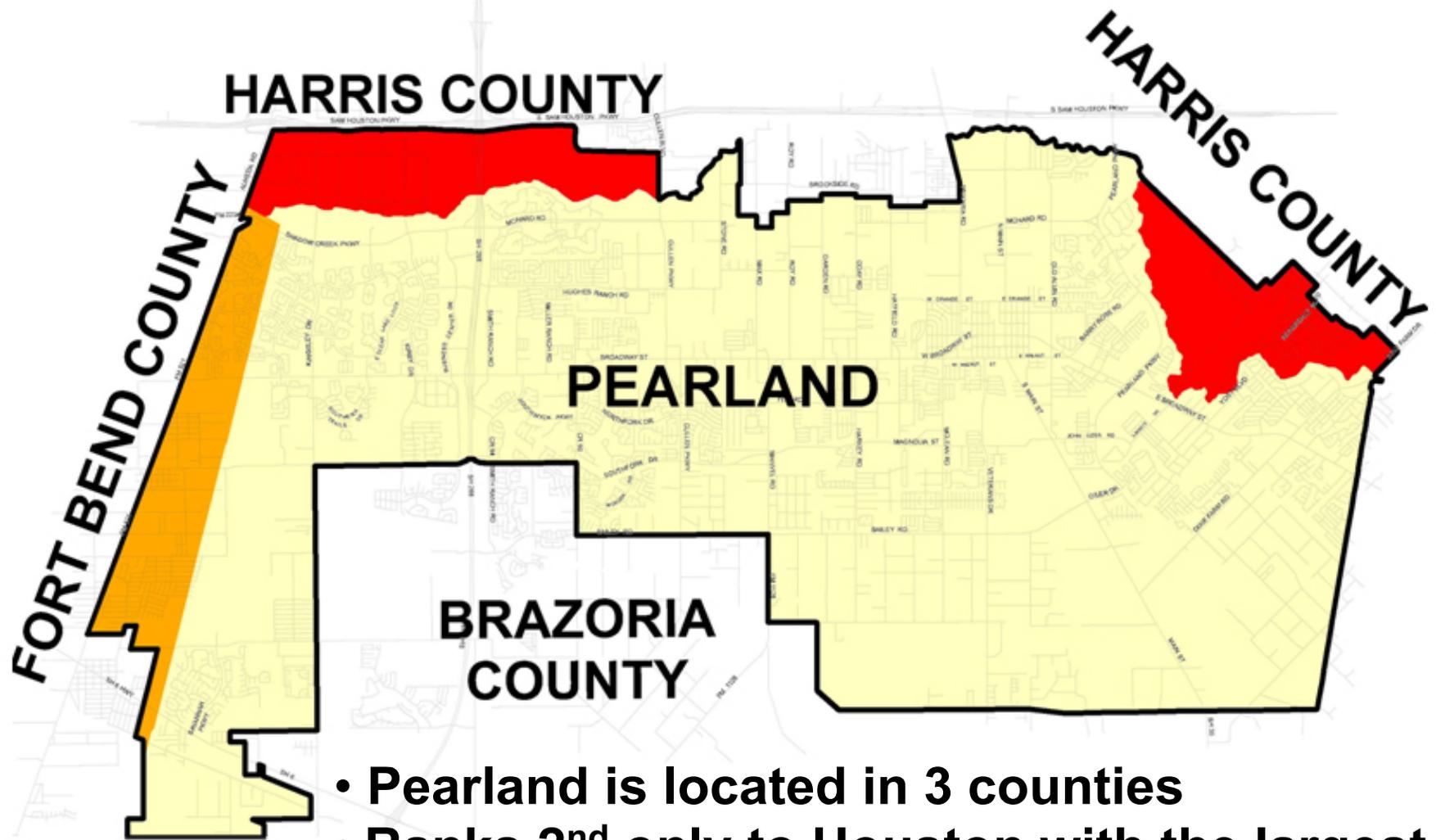
Pearland is the 3rd largest city (by population) in the Gulf Coast Area behind Houston and Pasadena

Pearland is 2nd fastest growing city in Texas and the 15th fastest growing city in the nation with a 10-year population growth rate of 142% (U.S. Census)



Historical Population Increase





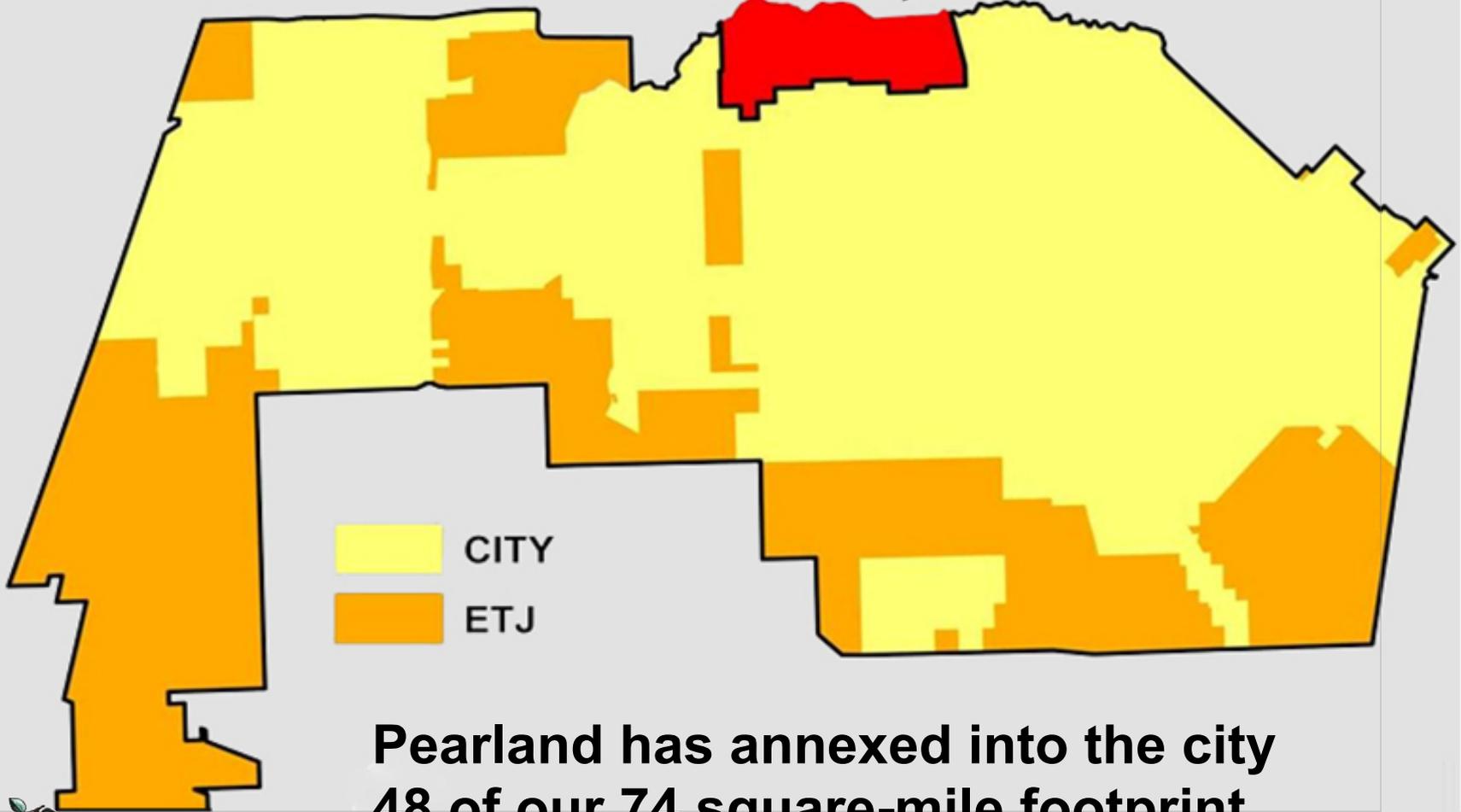
- Pearland is located in 3 counties
- Ranks 2nd only to Houston with the largest city footprint in the Gulf Coast area





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BROOKSIDE
VILLAGE



**Pearland has annexed into the city
48 of our 74 square-mile footprint.**



City Council



**Susan Sherrouse, Woody Owens, Felicia Harris
Greg Hill, Mayor Tom Reid, Scott Sherman**



Councilmembers on the Move



Susan Sherrouse was named Planning Commissioner of the Year by the Texas Chapter of The American Planning Association



Felicia Harris is a candidate for United States Congressional District 14



City Management



Mike Hodge
Asst. City Manager



Bill Eisen
City Manager



Jon Branson
Asst. City Manager



Key Staff Additions



Daniel Baum
EMS Director



Sparkle Anderson
*Public Affairs
Manager*



Vance Riley
Fire Chief



Pearland Trivia

- When was Pearland founded? **1894**
- When was Pearland incorporated? **1959**
- Who was the first Mayor? **E.T. Gibbons**
- How many Mayors have served Pearland? **7**
- When was the current City Hall dedicated? **1985**
- When was the Tom Reid Library dedicated? **1999**
- How many Fire Stations are there in Pearland? **6**
- How many Alvin ISD schools are located in our City and ETJ? **5**



Pearland's Financial Status



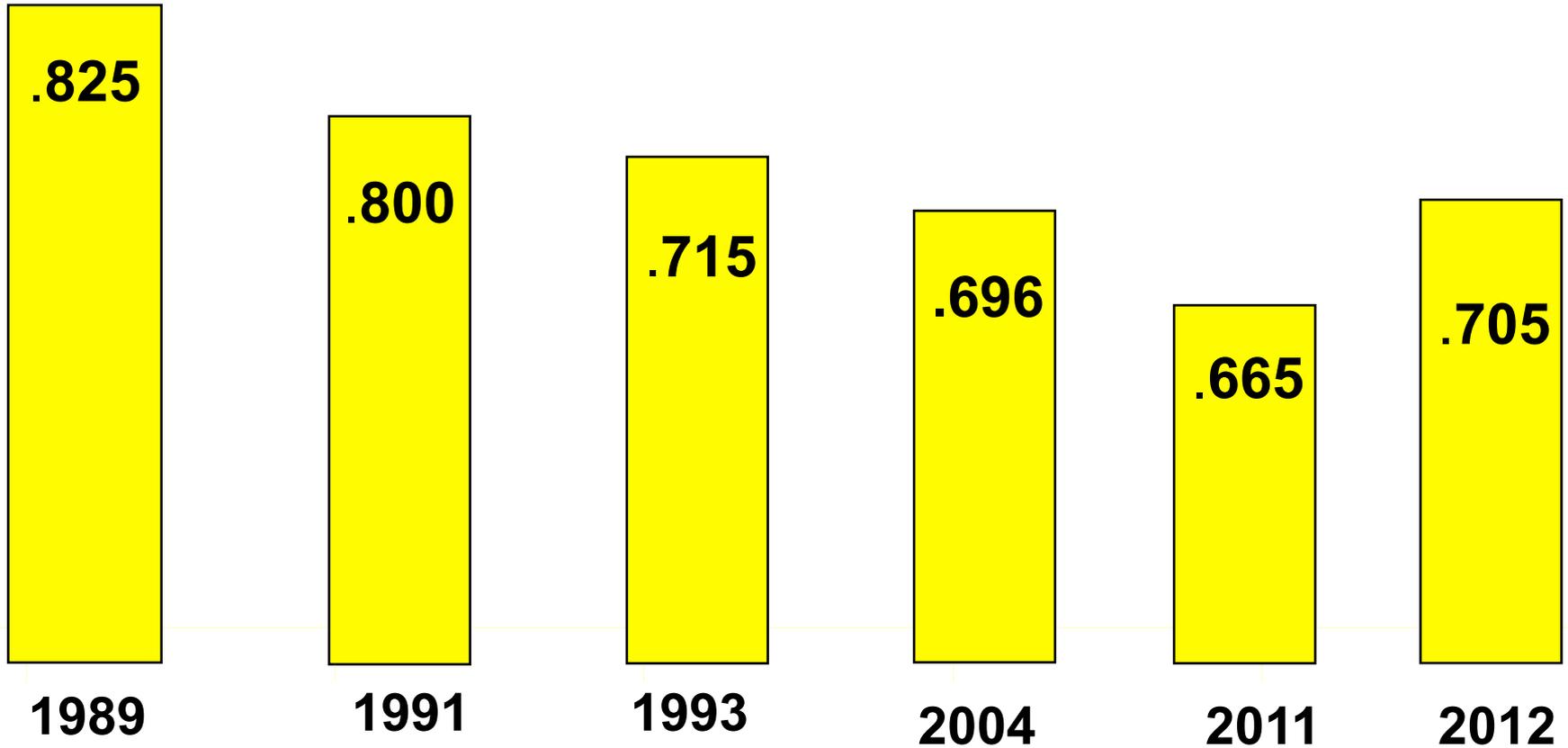
Managing Our Finances

Pearland is fortunate to be one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. It has been a challenge to provide for capital improvements and city services.

Council and staff have put in place strong financial management policies and controls to assure that Pearland maintains fiscal stability with the lowest possible tax rate as we continue to provide for growth as a city of the future.



Property Tax Rate History

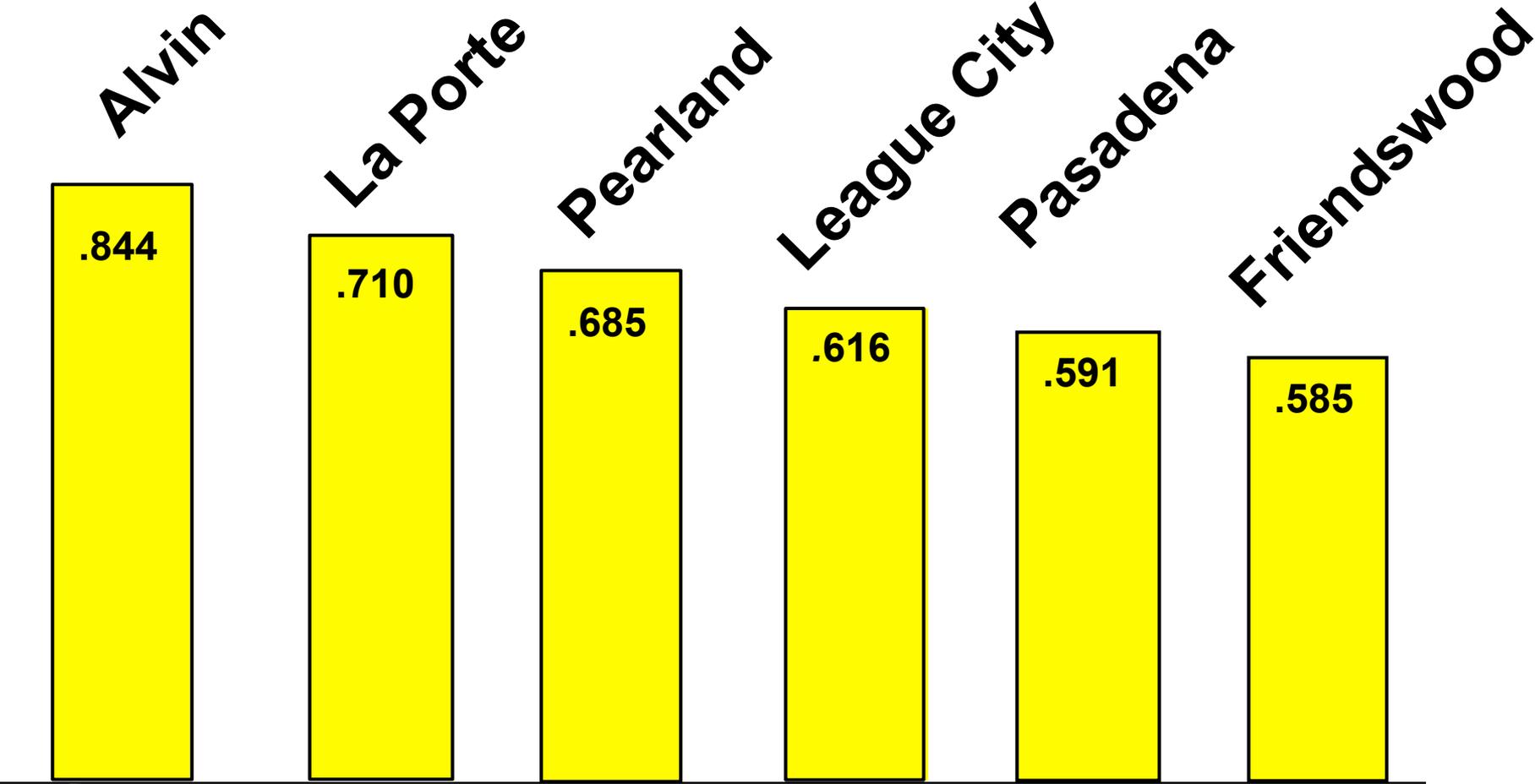


Future Debt Service Needs

- **To keep up with the rapid growth of our community, voters approved needed capital improvements bonds in 2001 and 2007**
- **The combined 2001 & 2007 Bond issues coupled with a downturn in the economy have resulted in a 2 cent increase in this year's debt service budget**
- **Moderate tax increases may be required in the future until the economy improves and our revenues stabilize**



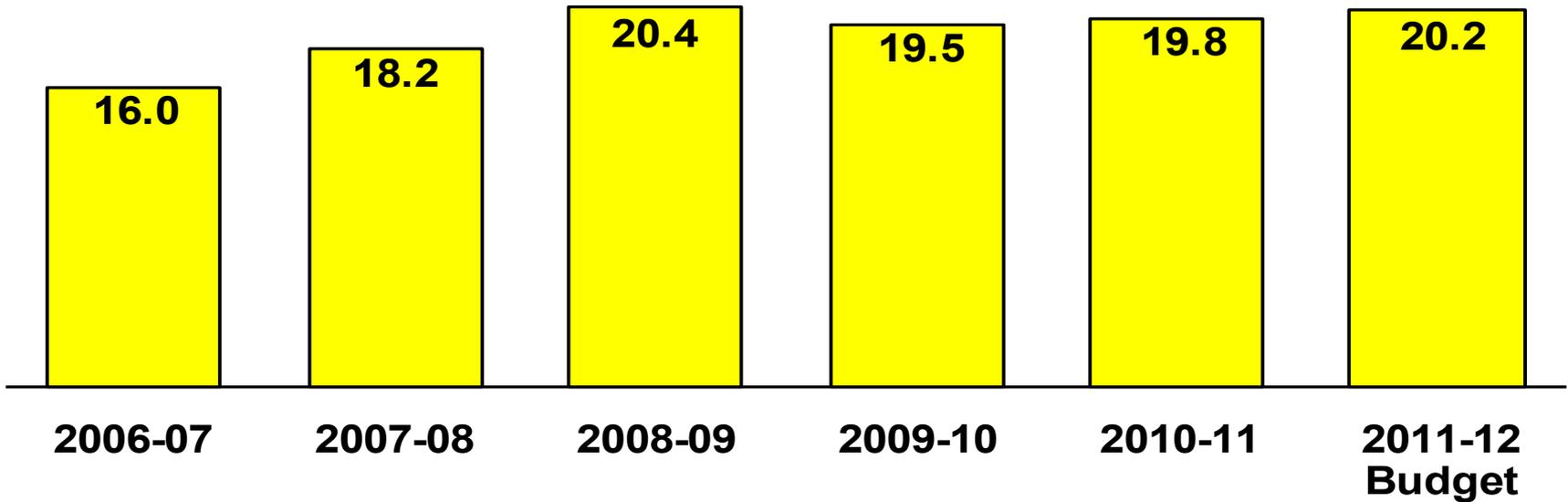
2012 Tax Rate Comparison



Total Sales Tax Revenue*

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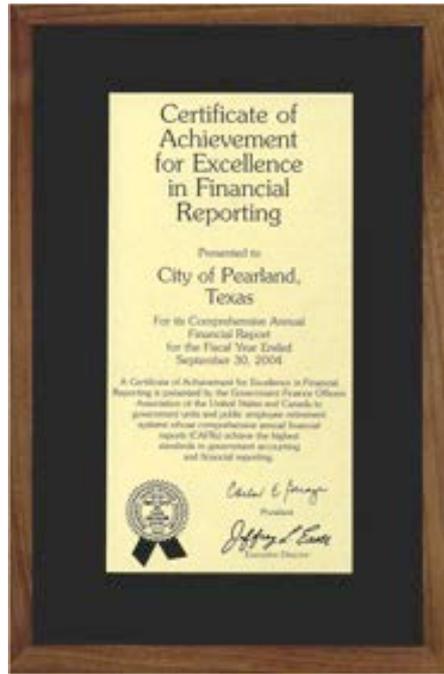
\$ Millions



***1/3 of the sales tax goes to PEDC for economic development**



GFOA Financial Awards



**Excellence in
Financial
Reporting -
34 consecutive
years**



Claire Bogard
Director of Finance



**Distinguished
Budget
Presentation -
24 consecutive
years**



City Bond Ratings

General Obligation Bonds:

Standard & Poor's: AA-

Fitch: AA

Water/Sewer Revenue Bonds:

Standard & Poor's: AA-

Fitch: AA-



What Makes Pearland Different?



State of the City 2012

Early Planning

In the early years, the City Council & staff made smart decisions that resulted in a positive difference in Pearland's ability to meet the challenges of a rapidly growing city

Pearland was the first community in the Gulf Coast area to implement many of these early decisions that have made Pearland different and prepared us to be a city of the future



Smart Growth Decisions

Developed Pearland as a Planned Community:

- Included Zoning Ordinance and citizen Planning & Zoning Commission in the City Charter

Established a Water/Sewer Impact Fee Ordinance:

- Fees for new connections to existing water and sewer lines will compensate for the impact to the system

Established 74 Square-Mile City Foot Print:

- Locked in boundaries for growth of the city for the future



Smart Growth Decisions

Emphasized Quality of Life:

- Provide a safe, stable community and quality of life amenities

Established Aggressive Capital Improvement Program:

- Prepared the city for projected growth

Planned Adequate Water Supply for Future Growth:

- Combined surface and ground water sources with a strong water conservation plan



What Makes Pearland Better?



We Are Making Progress

We know that the planning and development that we put in place today will have a major impact on the kind of city that we will have in the future.

A professional staff, strong council leadership, and an engaged community have focused on the kind of major capital improvements and quality development that will provide for the projected growth and quality of life for Pearland.

We should be proud of our progress.



Economic Development



Matt Buchanan
President
Economic Development
Corporation



Brask Inc., Neela

- The company is located on 9.45 acres within Pearland Industrial Park (SH 35 South) and will fabricate petrochemical heat transfer equipment
- It is a \$6 Million capital investment in the community with a current staff of 27 and a projected growth to 100 employees



Merit Medical Systems

- The building location is on Kirby Dr. with 220 employees (currently under construction)
- Merit Medical Systems is a worldwide manufacturer of disposable medical devices
- Focus on internal medicine & diagnostic devices and is the second major medical manufacturing facility recruited by PEDC



Kelsey-Seybold

- The administrative offices will be located on 18 acres in Shadow Creek Ranch as one of several medical-related facilities recently moving to Pearland
- A 170,000 sq. ft., 4-story office building will be located at Kirby Dr. & Shadow Creek Pkwy. (Initial employment of 750+)
- They have been a model for medicine since 1949 as Houston's largest and most renowned private, multi-specialty physician group



Pearland Surgery Center

- The Center is a 13,000 sq. ft., 3 story, state-of-the-art building on 5 acres located on Kirby Drive
- The Center will be the first 100% physician-owned ambulatory surgery center in Pearland
- The Center will focus on a number of medical and surgery disciplines



Public Safety

- Pearland has 138 sworn Peace Officers with a total of 87 on street patrol
- Police Chief Chris Doyle reports that in 2011:
“The crime rate was down 2% from 2010”
- FBI’s 2011 National Crime Statistical Report of 400 US cities over 100,000 population shows Pearland Crime Rate Ranking as:
 - The 6th safest of 25 listed cities in Texas
 - 45th safest of 400 listed cities nationally



*J.C. Doyle
Police Chief*



Public Safety

K-9 Nancy & Officer Eric Morton 'sniffed out' trouble, resulting in a \$800k 'drug bust' in Spotsylvania County, Virginia



K-9 Buddy & Deputy Fire Marshal Greg Bozdech received a national 2011 "Leader of the Pack" regional award for most efficient detection team



Pearland Fire Department

- The Department consists of 40 full-time employees, 24 part-time employees and 50 volunteer members
- Provides 24/7 around the clock fire services at 3 fire stations
- Responded to 2674 fire related incidents in 2011
- The Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1946 and is transitioning to a combination department of paid and volunteer staff



Emergency Medical Services

- Mobile Intensive Care units are staffed 24/7 by one paramedic and one EMT
- An EMS field supervisor is on duty 24/7
- EMS has 39 full-time and 18 part-time employees
- The department handled more than 7000 calls for service in 2011



Public Safety

Fire Station #6

- **The station is located in the Lakes of Savannah subdivision and is a joint venture between the subdivision & the City**
- **It will provide regional Fire & EMS service to the area and will be operational in early 2012**



Railroad 'Quiet Zones'

- A railroad 'Quiet Zone' is an area designated by a city to provide sound reduction when certain improvements are made at locations where railroad tracks cross public streets
- Sound reduction improvements were included in the design of the road widening projects on Orange, Walnut and FM 518 at SH 35
- Once this Zone is established, trains will not be required to sound their horns at those intersections



Transportation Projects

- McHard Road from Cullen Blvd. to SH 288 & from SH 288 to FM 521 (2234) - Completed
- HWY 35 (Main) from Beltway 8 to Walnut - Under construction & projected completion Spring 2013
- Adaptive Traffic Signal Improvements on FM 518 from Sunrise Blvd. to SH 288 - Ongoing
- Park & Ride Facility - METRO purchased 15.2 acre site on SH 288, operational in late 2013



Water for the Future

- **Quality water is becoming a world-wide concern and cities face serious challenges to future growth if adequate water sources have not been secured**
- **Pearland has prepared for the future by securing surface water to supplement ground water wells, and by establishing a strong conservation program**



Water for the Future

- **Pearland has acquired 54 MGD from diverse water sources to serve Pearland through 2055...**
 - **20 MGD Brazos River surface water from Gulf Coast Water Authority**
 - **10 MGD treated surface water from City of Houston Southeast Water Plant**
 - **6 MGD Houston City water**
 - **18 MGD ground water from City wells**



Water for the Future

- **The City will discontinue drilling ground water wells and will acquire future water supply from local water sources**
- **Pearland has plans to treat Brazos River water for future water needs**
- **The water line connecting the Houston Southeast Water Plant to the Alice Street Water Plant is complete**
- **The 5 MIL gal. ground storage tank at the Alice Street Water Plant is complete**



Water for the Future





Quality of Life



Pearland – A ‘People’ Place

Pearland has worked to make this a special community for citizens and businesses with an emphasis on quality of life.

Citizens find that Pearland has a small town atmosphere, quality schools, a university campus, a safe and stable community, and is a great place to raise a family.

People have a choice of where they live and more than 126,000 people have chosen the Pearland area to live which indicates that we are making progress as a city of the future.



Planning Excellence

- Lata Krishnarao, Planning Director, received the city's first internationally recognized LEED-ND Certification awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council
- The Planning Dept. was awarded the 2011 Certificate of Achievement for Planning Excellence for the 5th time since 2006 from the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association
- The Planning Department is to be commended for their work in achieving the nationally recognized "Scenic City - Gold Level Award"



**Lata
Krishnarao**
*Planning
Director*



Scenic City Certification

- The Certification Program recognizes cities that have established quality scenic standards for roadways and public spaces
- Pearland is 1 of 28 Texas cities to earn the “Scenic City” designation
- Pearland is 1 of 8 Texas cities awarded a Gold Level Certification (currently working to achieve Platinum Level)



Tree City USA

- One of only 72 Texas cities to receive the “Tree City USA” award by accomplishing the following:
 - Adopting a tree ordinance with an Advisory Tree Board
 - Providing an inventory and maintenance of the 6343 public trees in our city
 - Hiring an Urban Forester (John Walters)
 - Promoting National Arbor Day and tree planting events



TREE CITY USA®

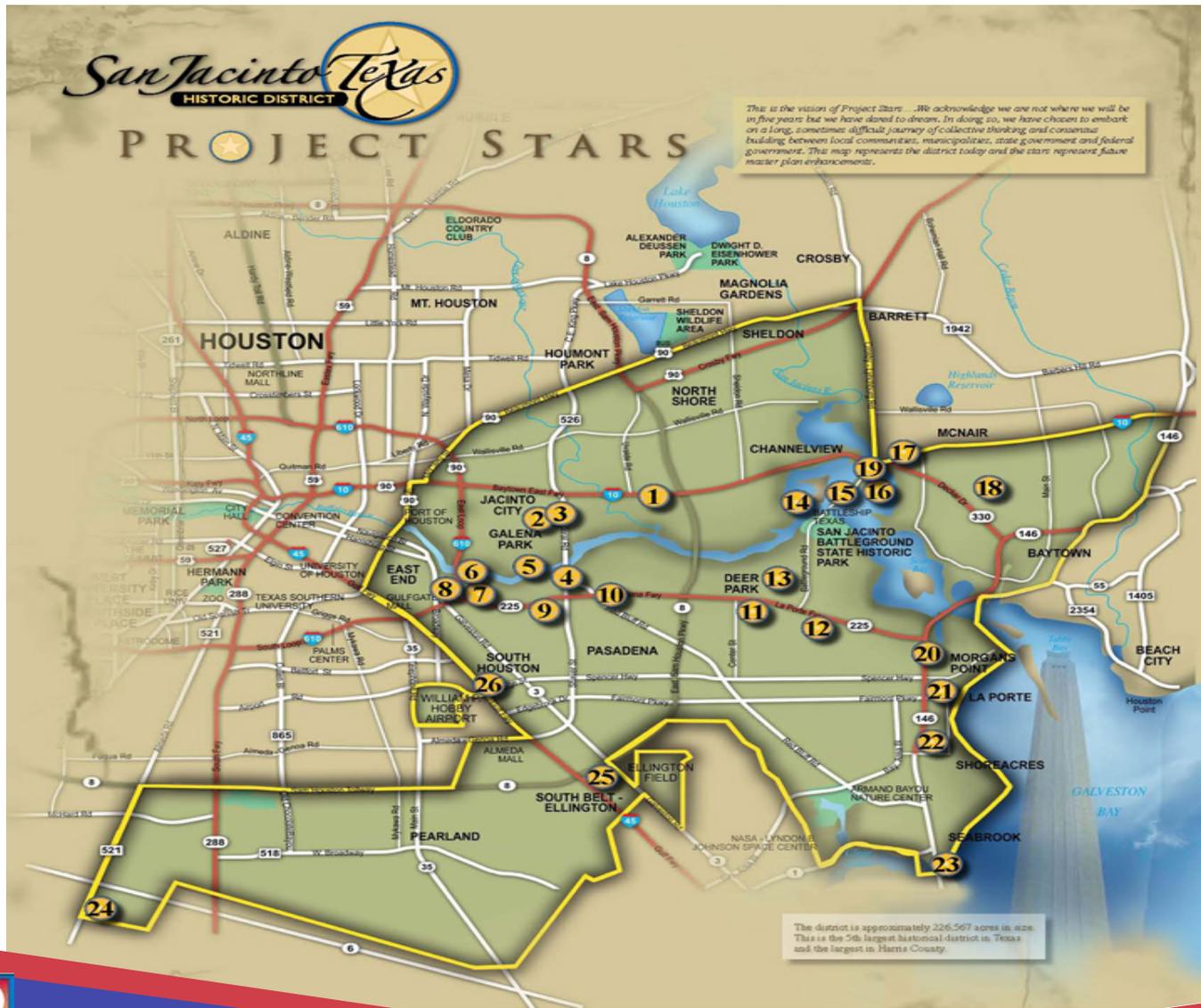


San Jacinto Texas Historical District

- **Created as the State's 2nd largest historical district to recognize and commemorate the Battle of San Jacinto**
- **The District includes Pearland as the major staging area of the Texas & Mexican armies in preparation for battle – Texas Revolutionary War veterans are buried in local cemeteries**
- **The Battle of San Jacinto established Texas as a nation and is recognized as one of the top 10 battles that changed the course of history**



San Jacinto Texas Historical District



Project STARS Monuments

- **Project Stars monuments are placed in member cities throughout the Historic District to commemorate the Battle of San Jacinto**
- **Pearland's monument is located on Pearland Parkway and the 9-point Star on the monument is copied from the San Jacinto Monument**
- **Funding for the project was paid for by grants from HGAC and the Economic Alliance of the Houston Port Region**
- **Pearland's Project STARS Monument will enhance our image as a city of the future by honoring its past**



Project STARS Monument



Keep Pearland Beautiful

- **Founded in 1982 to provide environmental education, litter prevention, beautification efforts, and promotion of recycling**
- **Received the Governor's Community Achievement award from Keep Texas Beautiful for the 6th time**
- **Received the Keep America Beautiful First Place Affiliate Award for the 4th time for cities with a population of over 50,000**



Linda Cowles
Exec. Director
KPB



Keep Pearland Beautiful



Pearland ISD

- Welcome to Dr. John P. Kelly, new PISD Supt. selected to continue and enhance the many successes of the District
- Texas Education Agency has recognized 21 of 23 PISD campuses as Exemplary and/or Recognized
- Newsweek Magazines ranked Dawson HS number 332 out of “America’s Top 500 Best High Schools”
- PISD received the State Comptroller’s “Five-Star Rating” for the 2nd time, as one of 46 out of 1000 ISDs in the state, for achieving the strongest academic progress with the lowest relative spending



Dr. John Kelly
PISD
Superintendent



Alvin ISD

- Welcome to Dr. Fred Brent, AISD's new superintendent
- 3,944 students attend AISD's 3 elementary & 1 Jr. High in Pearland, & 1 elementary in ETJ
- TEA lists all AISD schools in Pearland as Exemplary or Recognized
- AISD has purchased 72 acres at Kirby Dr. near Fire Station #5 for a new High School



Dr. Fred Brent
AISD
Superintendent



Alvin ISD



- **Alvin ISD's Glenn York Elementary School – located in Pearland - was dedicated Sept. 2011 and will serve 584 Pre-K to Grade 5 students**



Pearland Cultural Arts

- Pearland Theatre Guild - Live off-Broadway “type” theatre & the Pearland Idol Competition
- Back Porch Productions - Renowned plays utilizing young actors
- Pearland Arts League - Corks & Canvas events; encourages and supports the fine arts in all forms



“Kaleidoscope”
Margo Green



UHCL – Pearland Campus

- **Pearland has partnered with the University of Houston Clear Lake to build the first Building on the 40 acre campus site**
- **Classes began in the fall of 2010 with 530 students and 720 are now enrolled in Baccalaureate through Doctoral classes**
- **Pearland EDC offices are located on campus providing a close economic partnership with the University**
- **The Pearland Campus provides higher education opportunities for professionals and local Junior College students**





University of Houston Clear Lake

Pearland Campus

Photo Courtesy UHCL
© Beryl Striewski Photography



Hike & Bike Trails

- Phase I of the Trail Connectivity Project is under construction from Centennial Park west to Cullen
- Phase II future plan will connect Centennial Park east to Independence Park
- Phase III future plan will connect Independence Park east to FM 518



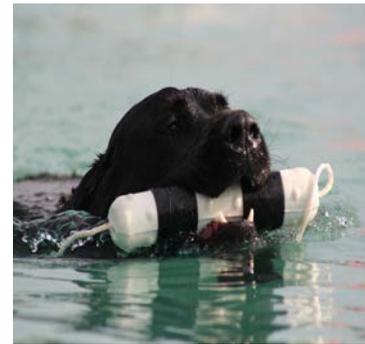
Award Winning Community Events



PEARLAND
Parks & Recreation

Learn. Play. Grow.

- Winterfest
- Paws in the Park
- Summer Concert Series
- July 4th Celebration of Freedom
- Trick or Treat Trail
- Kid Fish Fest
- Hometown Christmas Festival



For the Future



State of the City 2012

**The Future
belongs to those
who prepare for it**



A 'To Do' List

- **Continue working to make Pearland the city of the future with an emphasis on quality city services, quality of life and a small town atmosphere**
- **Continue a strong partnership with local, state, and national elected officials and organizations**
- **Continue planning for museums, arts & entertainment facilities and quality of life amenities that are expected of a destination city**
- **Continue to manage tax dollars with careful planning of infrastructure and services to maintain as low a tax rate as possible**



Challenges

- **Plan for the widening of the Panama Canal – the anticipated increase in cargo to regional ports will have an impact on traffic in Pearland and the region**
- **Continue working on multiple transportation solutions for Pearland commuters – Park & Ride, Van Pool, Light Rail & SH 288 Managed Lanes**
- **Recognize that we will get our fair share of the population increase projected for the Houston area and plan for the impact on city services**
- **Manage our growth, quality of life, and small town atmosphere as we continue as one of the fastest-growing cities in the State and the Nation**



My Job as Mayor

- Continue to build Pearland as the city of the future
- Continue our vision of Pearland as a city that provides quality educational, recreational, and leisure opportunities
- Remember, I work for you - the citizens of Pearland - and commit to maintaining a small town atmosphere while providing quality of life amenities and quality city services
- Maintain a positive relationship with local, state, and national elected officials and with valued community partners
- At the end of the day, make sure that you are always proud to say, “I live in Pearland”



*Special thanks for assistance in
putting together this presentation...*



**Mattie
Culver**



**Debbie
Schielke**



**Sparkle
Anderson**

And Numerous Other City Employees



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