

04/25/17

Strategic Plan #4: Improve County Website: We have partnered with the Grimes County-Navasota Chamber of Commerce and Sam Houston State University to utilize interns for this project. The two main goals are to develop an Economic Development Website for the County as well as revamp the entire general website for the county.

Economic Development Website: With the goal being to attract better paying jobs and sizeable entities to Grimes County for our citizens, the Chamber of Commerce will spend this first year making good on 8 specific deliverables, as outlined in our contract. This will be a long-term, multi-year effort. The primary goal for this first year is to enable a business to go to one location to determine if the location is a fit for their needs. A few of the most important ones in my mind are:

A new website page dedicated to Economic Development focused on all of Grimes County. This does not currently exist, but the Chamber has a website under construction. We have held several working meetings in 2016 as well as 2017 to review progress and identify additional requirements.

Where permission has been granted by the landowner, we will be maintaining a list of developable properties that includes a series of overlaying GIS maps showing water, septic, 3 phase electricity, internet access, road quality, future road quality, flood plain, etc. This information can then be packaged and marketed to specific types of businesses. Currently, Grimes County does not even enter the mind of the business community as a place to potentially locate their business. With state highway 249, high speed internet and all of the other actions we are taking, we can change that perception in order to attract desirable businesses. It is important to note that growth will happen with or without good paying jobs and sizeable entities. It is our job to make sure that these benefits come with it.

A guide to doing business in Grimes County to tell potential businesses how to go about navigating our regulations.

They will also accomplish many other deliverables over this next year that are important to the success of our economic development plan.

General Website: Our Current website is poorly organized and lacks a lot of useful information for our citizens. Utilizing the Sam Houston State University interns along with our staff, we are in the process of identifying the ways to reorganize the information on the website to make it easier to navigate as well as include much more useful information. We held our kick-off meeting with Sam Houston in late January 2017.