



Economic Development Council Features Panel of Economic Development Experts from Around the Region

The Partnership held its Economic Development Council on July 12 featuring a panel discussion of area economic development experts including:

- Chad Burke, President and CEO of the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region
- John Isom, Director of City of Waller Economic Development Corporation
- Randall Malick, Economic Development Director for the City of Rosenberg
- Gwen Tillotson, Deputy Director of Economic Development for the City of Houston

The Economic Alliance Houston Port Region works to market and grow the Port region's vibrant economy. This region is home to the largest petrochemical complex in the U.S. According to Burke, it has the potential to surpass Rotterdam, the world's largest, in two to three years. Eighty percent of the region's capital investment is concentrated in manufacturing and petrochemical sectors, with Chevron Phillips and ExxonMobil being the largest projects.

Goodman Daikin Industries is currently developing a 4-million square-foot manufacturing and distribution facility near the City of Waller. "The facility is the Texas' largest warehouse building under one roof, twice the size of NRG Stadium," said Isom. It will bring approximately 6,000 jobs to the greater Houston region by 2018.

"The City of Houston is targeting top industries for our economic development efforts including energy, medical, manufacturing, aviation/aerospace, and distribution/warehouse," said Tillotson. The City recently extended Park Row infrastructure in the energy corridor, allowing for new multifamily and office development.

The City of Rosenberg is currently developing Rosenberg Business Park to attract companies to the area. Recent announcements include Croft Production System, Century A/C Supply, Superior Tank Company, and Aldi. "The Aldi distribution center and divisional headquarters will service the Aldi grocery stores throughout the Houston area," said Malick.

The next Economic Development Council is September 27.