



City, Partnership Lead Business Delegation to India

The Partnership led a successful trade and investment mission alongside Mayor Annise Parker to New Delhi and Mumbai, India from Monday, April 20 to Friday, April 24. The Houston delegates included representatives from the IACC of Greater Houston (IACCGH), the Port of Houston Authority and Houston-based businesses.

“The timing of a Houston business delegation traveling to India aligns well with that country’s efforts to open trade and investment opportunities with the U.S. and to establish greater economic ties between the two nations,” said Bob Pertierra, Partnership Chief Economic Development Officer. “As the fourth largest city in America, Houston offers a diversified and dynamic economy; a port that is the leader in foreign tonnage; and growth industries that positively mirror India’s sectors including an energy industry that leads the world.”

The Houston visit to Mumbai included a briefing by the U.S. Consulate General, followed by meetings with the mayor of Mumbai and key business leaders in energy and engineering. In New Delhi, the Houston delegation met with several high-level officials, including the ministers of Civil Aviation and Petroleum and Natural Gas. The New Delhi program also included an “Invest in Houston” seminar and meetings with U.S. Ambassador Richard Verma and other key officials. The delegation met on April 24 at the IACC Delhi offices to sign an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on trade and investment and held an open discussion about opportunities in energy, medical, engineering and construction.

“I want to thank the Greater Houston Partnership and the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce for their help in putting this trade mission together,” said Mayor Parker. “We will continue to reap the benefits well into the future as the relationships initiated this week develop further. We accomplished our goal of strengthening the already strong ties that exist between Houston and India.”

Houston is India’s third largest U.S. gateway for international trade. India is sixth among Houston’s Asian trading partners and 16th among Houston’s trading partners worldwide. Houston, ranked the most diverse city in the United States, is home to more than 100,000 people of Indian-origin, and has more than 700 companies that do business with India.