

Future Fest Kicks-Off with Mayor Tom Reid of Pearland and Jeff Taebel of Houston-Galveston Area Council

April 20, 2009—Tomball is busy preparing for its comprehensive planning milestone event, its Future Fest, a collaborative planning process to harnesses the talents and energies of all interested parties to create and support a buildable smart growth plan. Events held on May 5, 6, and 7 will explore Tomball's future possibilities, develop a community vision, set future goals, and identify potential land use, transportation, recreation, and economic opportunities. At the end of the three days, results will be presented back to the community and a report will follow summarizing the findings. The information gathered during the event will be used to develop planning scenarios that ultimately provide the foundation for the Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Tom Reid of Pearland and the Director of Community and Environmental Planning, Jeff Taebel, of the Houston-Galveston Area Council are scheduled as speakers at Future Fest's opening event, the Futures Forum. Mayor Reid will share his experience leading a successful comprehensive planning effort in Pearland and discuss the importance of comprehensive planning to create a stronger, more economically viable community. American Institute of Certified Planners Fellow Jeff Taebel will discuss regional growth and quality community planning to manage growth. "We are delighted to have Mayor Reid and Mr. Taebel joining us," remarked Tomball Mayor Gretchen Fagan. "These gentlemen will provide great context to the importance of good community planning." Tomball's Futures Forum is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 5 at Tomball Junior High School.

The complete line-up of Future Fest activities include:

Tuesday, May 5

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Urban Design Studio, Community Center

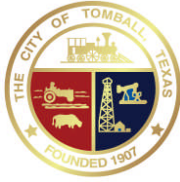
Stop by anytime and work with the planning team on design concepts for Tomball.

Noon to 1 p.m.: Economic Development Brown Bag Lunch, Community Center

Bring your lunch and join the planning team for a discussion on economic development opportunities in Tomball.

6 to 8 p.m.: Futures Forum, Tomball Junior High School

Join Mayor Tom Reid of Pearland and Jeff Taebel of the Houston-Galveston Area Council to discuss the importance of effective community planning.



TOMBALL

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Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Wednesday, May 6

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Urban Design Studio, Community Center

Stop by anytime and work with the planning team on design concepts for Tomball.

Noon to 1 p.m.: Recreational Opportunities Brown Bag Lunch, Community Center

Bring your lunch and join the planning team for a discussion on recreational opportunities in Tomball.

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Town Hall, Tomball Junior High School

Join us as a "planner for a day" and create land use and transportation alternatives with your friends and neighbors.

Thursday, May 7

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Urban Design Studio, Community Center

Stop by anytime and work with the planning team on design concepts for Tomball.

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.: Futures Forum Results Presentation, Tomball Junior High School

Join the planning team to hear the results of the weeks events.

"We're encouraging folks to attend as many Future Fest events as their schedules allow," said City Planner Kelly Violette. Participants will use a Future Fest Passport that will be stamped at each event they attend; those attending at least three events will be recognized by City Council as *Tomball Master Planners*. "This project is just as much an educational process as it is a planning process," explained Mayor Fagan. "Encouraging our residents to become Master Planners acknowledges their contributions to this important process and their commitment to implementing their Comprehensive Plan."

To expedite event check-in, individuals interested in participating in Future Fest activities are encouraged to register online at www.PlanTomball.com or to contact Kelly Violette at 281.290.1491.

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