

La Marque, Texas, “Gateway to the Gulf,” is the geographic center of Galveston County, the hub of the Mainland, and the hometown of United States Senator, Kay Bailey-Hutchison. The City is ideally located on Interstate 45, just minutes from metropolitan Houston and the sandy beaches of Galveston. La Marque offers a family and business friendly atmosphere.

The City of La Marque provides the ideal location for families in this fast-paced technological world. Beautiful homes, parks, churches and award-winning schools make La Marque the place called home for over 14,500 people. Our steady growth will continue as four new subdivisions boasting 2,400 new home sites are now under construction. Between Borrondo Pines, Saltgrass Crossing, Delany Cove, and Painted Meadows your housing needs are covered. If waterfront living is what your heart desires make sure to visit the beautiful Omega Bay subdivision. La Marque, the options are here, the choice is yours!

Recreation

Highland Bayou Park offers 230 acres of family fun activities such as birding, basketball, volleyball, horseshoes, and tennis. Fishing and picnicking are also favorites among the locals and travelers alike. Families and companies hold events at the park or in the pavilion year round. To schedule an event simply call 409-938-9204 for availability. Each year La Marque holds “Bayou Fest” at the park in October. This prime time event includes a world-class barbeque cook-off, live entertainment, food and arts and crafts booths. A fishing tournament, pumpkin carving contest, petting zoo and other events for the kids are always main attractions.

Besides fishing and water sports, La Marque is near several 9 and 18 hole golf courses.

Education

With four school districts and several private schools within the City of La Marque it is easy to see that education is of the utmost importance. The educational opportunities don’t stop there; La Marque is also in close proximity to several colleges.

Shopping

La Marque has many local shopping opportunities and the options are continuing to grow. The proposed redevelopment of the downtown area is sure to spark interest.

Gulfway Plaza is located on Interstate 45 and has a variety of local and national businesses.

One of La Marque’s prime commercial corners is home to a 24-acre retail development anchored by a Wal-Mart Supercenter along with over 20 other businesses.

Significant retail development projects are in the works that will help promote La Marque’s growth, such as the still under construction Galveston Premium Outlets mall that is scheduled to open during the summer of 2012. Additionally, a new state of the art Sam’s Club is set to open during the fall of 2012. These developments will be tremendous assets to the Texas City-La Marque area for many years to come.

Off To The Races

Gulf Greyhound Park is the largest greyhound race track in the United States and houses the world's largest greyhound racing operation. The park is open 365 days a year with live racing and simulcasts of dog and horse racing from around the country. Since opening in November of 1992, over 10 million fans have attended Gulf Greyhound Park. Event planning is one of their specialties. Whether you are looking for a place to host a business meeting, team building event, trade show, class reunion, birthday or holiday party, Gulf Greyhound Park makes event planning easy.

Lodging

We have name brand motels and restaurants serving race fans and the general public for lodging and conference needs. Since La Marque is the "Gateway to the Gulf" and in the center of Galveston County, there is an easy commute to Galveston Island, the Kemah Boardwalk, the NASA Space Center, and all Houston has to offer. The Oasis Resort RV Park and the Lil' Thicket travel Park offer more than 500 spaces with swimming pools, washateria, and play areas. Highland Bayou Park is within walking distance.

Looking Ahead

The City of La Marque continues to diligently plan and utilize technological advancements to make La Marque the place to be! After completion of the roughly \$3.5 million dollar Cedar Drive street project that improved one of the major thoroughfares, La Marque didn't stop there; a new street program began. More than 50 streets are being updated and / or reconstructed. Infrastructure improvements are also being made. Recently completed sewer expansion projects have opened up a significant amount of acreage for future commercial development.

The La Marque Police and Fire Departments have worked tirelessly to keep citizens safe. Early in 2010 the La Marque Police Department launched a highly effective Community-Oriented Policing effort that is successfully preventing, reducing, and controlling crime and the fear of crime within the city. Now with 14 active Community Watch groups throughout the city (with each group/neighborhood assigned to a highly motivated Community Policing Officer) the city is emerging to be a public safety "pace setter" for Galveston County relating to "personalized policing": where Officers work in a partnership with residents to jointly solve contemporary community problems.

The La Marque Public Library is very progressive and has made significant improvements during the last year. Recent updates have made for a more user friendly environment that appeals to all ages, including a new children's area, periodicals section, and landscaping provided by the Clean City Commission. Children's programs have been expanded and will include a summer reading program for 12-14-year-olds. The Library's collection is being updated to focus on more relevant, high-demand titles, with emphasis placed on large-print materials and audio books. The library continues to offer internet access, Wi-Fi, Microsoft Office, printing, copying, and faxing services, along with professional assistance to meet any information needs.

The City of La Marque's Development Services Department, formally known as the Building and Inspections Department gladly assists customers throughout the development process. These processes include reviewing, permitting, inspecting and granting authority to develop land and occupy buildings within the City. More

specifically, the department is responsible for subdivision mapping / parcel addressing, zoning administration, subdivision administration, building code administration, landscaping, sign regulation, code compliance, and development review of drainage.

In addition to protecting the health, safety, and public welfare through city ordinances, regulations of land development and construction, the Department seeks to provide an efficient and effective development process that supports City growth and economic development.

The Development Services Department's number one focus is to continue to be responsive to the needs of our customers. Together we can continue to make La Marque the place to be! So come see us, we are here to help!

Boards like the Clean City Commission and the Parks Board work to improve the appearance of the City and its parks for residents and visitors. These dedicated individuals collectively make a positive impact, one project at a time. Whether it is a program like "Adopt-A-Spot" or new playground equipment, the improvements made through these volunteers are appreciated by all.

The City of La Marque's proactive approach incorporates the vision of City Council and its many residents. The ultimate goal is to continue to improve quality of life!