

# Liberty: A Town Built Around History and Growing for the Future

Among the oldest settled areas of Texas, Several hundred Anglo-Americans established farms in the 1820s on Mexican Land Grants. The City of Liberty dates back to 1831 and the new municipality named Villa de la Santísima Trinidad de la Libertad, which was quickly shortened to Liberty by English-speaking residents. William B. Travis, Sam Houston, and David Burnet all practiced law here. A post office was established in 1836. Liberty became the county seat and was incorporated in 1837.

The town functioned as an important river port, taking an active role in the antebellum Trinity River steamboat trade. The City's Board of Trustees attracted the Houston & New Orleans Railroad during the 1850s, which extended its line through Liberty in 1858. The population at that time was approximately 650. The discovery of oil in the South Liberty field on January 1, 1925 brought on immense changes and population growth, which went from 865 in 1900 to 3,087 in 1940.

The Geraldine D. Humphreys Cultural Center was completed in 1970 and houses the municipal library and a community theatre. The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center, a branch of the Texas State Archives, is located on Farm Road 1011 and houses records from ten Southeast Texas counties. It was built on a 100-acre tract donated to the State of Texas by the late Texas Governor Price Daniel, Sr. and was completed in 1977. The site also features the Jean and Price Daniel Home, built by Governor and Mrs. Daniel in 1984 based on the original design plans for the Texas Governor's Mansion in Austin. Three restored buildings are located nearby.

Liberty, Texas, known as "The First City on the Trinity," is located today at the juncture of US Highway 90 and State Highway 146, Just 45 miles east of Downtown Houston and 45 miles west of Beaumont. Easy access to these metropolitan areas, a low cost of living, high quality of life, and a rich heritage make Liberty a great place to put down roots. The city has more than 8,000 residents with over 526 businesses operating here. The City of Liberty has about 45,000+ people traveling through town on a daily basis. Liberty offers residents and businesses a small town atmosphere while providing all the modern services one expects from larger cities. Newcomers will find a friendly, charming community with a progressive outlook on the future. Liberty is a great place to visit, a better place to live and to work.

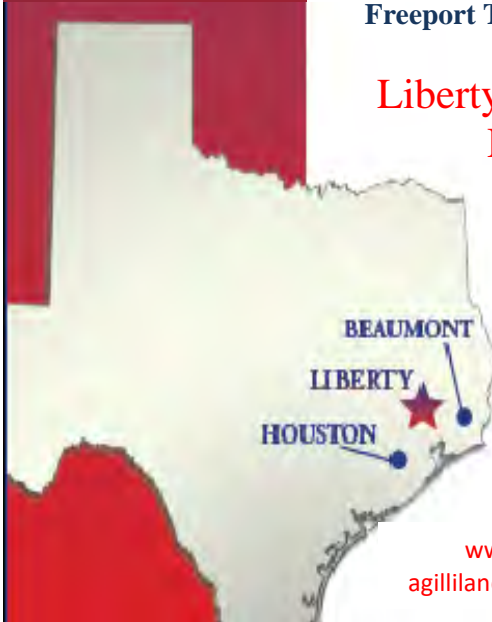
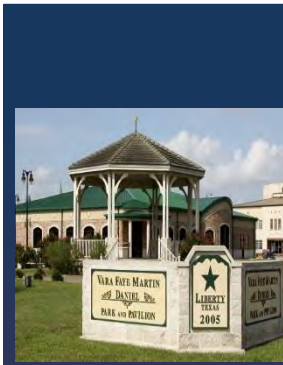
Just as important as our history is to us, so is our economic sustainability. Our mission is to implement resources that will enhance and expand our current tax base. The Liberty Community Development Corporation (LCDC) was established in 1995 to facilitate the expansion and retention of businesses in the City of Liberty by promoting quality development opportunities, supporting infrastructural improvements, and fostering a positive business climate through cooperation with the City and the community.

LCDC wants to be your business partner. Since May 6, 1995 we have been assisting businesses and enhancing community resources. LCDC has packages to promote the economic growth and vitality of Liberty, and give the Corporation flexibility to assist companies with public infrastructure, job training, and other resources important to the business and the community.

In addition to promoting the City through facilitating commercial and industrial business, the Liberty Community Development Corporation has worked on several projects since inception. Foremost is the construction of a five-mile embankment northwest of the City near the Trinity River. Constructed in 1995 and released from debt obligations in 2009, the \$5 million levee infrastructure development helps shield businesses, community neighborhoods, and public infrastructure including facilities, from rising waters. In 2007, LCDC was instrumental in the establishment of the Liberty County Workforce Academy which provides local job training. In addition, LCDC provides scholarships to eligible Liberty ISD students and adults residing within the district seeking to enter the workforce or improve existing skill sets. In 2008, the Liberty County Workforce Academy received the coveted Workforce Best Practices Award by the Texas Economic Development Council.

LCDC is currently assessing potential development opportunities. Projects under discussion include downtown facade and curb appeal, revitalization of blighted areas, airport improvements, commercial and industrial developments, tourism and preservation.

For more information contact April Gilliland, Administrative Assistant for the City of Liberty, at [agilliland@cityofliberty.org](mailto:agilliland@cityofliberty.org) or call 936-336-3684.



- ★ Available Land and Buildings
- ★ 45 Miles East of Houston
- ★ 45 Miles West of Beaumont
- ★ City Owned Utilities
- ★ Municipal Airport
- ★ Trinity Valley Exposition Rodeo Arena and Fairgrounds
- ★ Municipal Park with Sand Volleyball, Soccer, Softball/Baseball Fields, Playgrounds, and Water Park
- ★ Magnolia Ridge Golf Course
- ★ Cultural Center and Library
- ★ Expedited Permitting and Zoning
- ★ Foreign Trade Zone and Freeport Tax Exemption

## Liberty Community Development Corporation

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