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Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (BAHEP) is a member-driven organization that provides leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in a range of industries such as aerospace engineering, biotechnology/bioscience, specialty chemicals and plastics, and information technology and communications. BAHEP partners with 13 cities and Galveston and Harris counties, in southeast Texas, to foster economic vitality through regional collaboration.

Commercial / Office / Industrial Development

Done Deal! IDEV Technologies Inc., an innovator and developer of next generation medical devices, has pre-leased a 48,000 SF building at 253 Medical Center Boulevard in **Webster**. The building will be LEED certified, Gold standard, just like the developer's first building at 251 Medical Center Boulevard. Construction will begin this month with completion scheduled for August 2009. IDEV Technologies' portfolio contains over 30 technologies exclusively licensed from the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center; their end users are in the areas of interventional radiology, gastroenterology, vascular surgery and cardiology devices. Tim Gregory / Transwestern represented the building owner/developer. BAHEP began working on this project in 2002.

University of Texas Medical Branch – **Galveston** has purchased more land in **League City**. The new 29-acre tract is near the Gulf Freeway and FM 646 next to the 35 acres it now owns in the Victory Lakes subdivision. Already planned is the UTMB Specialty Care Center, 110,000 SF, \$61 million project on part of the 35-acre tract. There are no specific plans for the newly-acquired land although it's a possibility that a park & ride could be built to benefit the UTMB-Galveston workers who live on the mainland. We'll wait and see what plans evolve!

Bayshore Medical Center in **Pasadena** on Spencer Highway and East Houston Regional Medical Center on **Houston's** East Freeway have merged! Now operating under one hospital license, both communities will experience improved efficiencies, reduced overhead and increased referrals between the two campuses. Collectively, they have a total of 500 beds and more than 2,000 employees.

CHRISTUS St. John Hospital in **Nassau Bay** recently completed its new 20,000 SF expansion -- Emergency Center, Diagnostic Imaging & Women's Pavilion. The advanced women's imaging services and expanded emergency capabilities will also help to enhance the hospital's collaboration with the M. D. Anderson Clinical Cancer Center for a cutting edge continuum of care. The expansion boasts a new HDx1.5 Tesla MRI, VCT 64 Slice Scanner and full-field digital mammography in the new Women's Pavilion. The Emergency and Chest Pain Center is nationally accredited by the Society of Chest Pain Centers.

The 186,267SF **Galveston** National Laboratory is over 98% complete; move-in date is late September or early October. Built on the **University of Texas Medical Branch** campus, this very special new laboratory is one of two national containment laboratories to be constructed in the United States. It will provide much needed research space to develop therapies, vaccines and diagnostic tests for naturally occurring emerging diseases. Total project cost reached \$174 million using \$115 million in federal grants and \$59 million from the State of Texas. The projected economic impact of this new facility is \$1.4 billion over 20 years statewide. UTMB will own and operate it; the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) will support the research projects inside the lab. The public is invited to attend a dedication ceremony on November 11th near the facility on UTMB's Galveston campus. Read more at: www.utmb.edu/GNL

Nassau Bay Town Square update – Demolition of the 12 buildings is complete and permits for the Saturn Lane extension and rebuilding of Space Park Drive have been issued. The city expects to issue permits for the first office building and some retail buildings by October 1st. Anticipated move-in for retail and office tenants is July 2009.

Park Plaza, 20,400 SF, will be coming out of the ground across from the **Friendswood** city hall soon. The building will be home to Crystal Creek Developers, PE Square Engineering and Everist Design Group; some retail and office space will be available for lease. This business retention/expansion project was awarded a \$30,000 grant by the city council.

*Update on **Ellington***

- **Houston's Ellington Field** has an official name change – now **Ellington Airport**. Part of the Houston Airport System, the name change will better reflect the primary function of the property as a multi-purpose commercial and general aviation center. Ellington Airport is less than one mile from I-45 South, eight miles from Hobby Airport and 16 miles to Houston's central business district.
- Approximately 380 acres are available for commercial and industrial build-to-suit or design-build - starting at five acres - at **Ellington** Commerce + Aviation Center, a deed-restricted development. Access is direct from Space Center Boulevard. Additionally, over 100 acres are available, starting at one-acre sites; these are developed pad sites with runway access. Full information is available at www.LandatEllington.com.
- More than 151 acres are now for sale at Hwy. 3 and Beltway 8 East in **Houston**, just north of **Ellington Airport**. With a close, strategic position to the Port of Houston, Hobby Airport and Johnson Space Center, it will serve a variety of users. This site is six miles to Hobby Airport, eight miles to NASA-JSC, 10 miles to the Port of Houston, 31 miles to the Port of Galveston and 37 miles to Bush Intercontinental Airport.
- Recently completed at **Ellington** is a \$23 million joint reserve center. Already approved is a \$7.2 million fire station to support commercial and military facilities. Included in the master plan for the military are four more facilities and a mid-size commissary.

Two office/warehouses will be built at 14221 and 14251 Gulfstream Park in **Houston** near **Ellington** Airport. One is 8,000 SF, one dock high door and two grade level doors; the other is 10,000 SF, one dock high door and three grade level doors. Both will be 20' clear height with the building front at 23 feet and will have a truck well and side doors. They will be for sale or lease. Anticipated delivery is March 2009.

B-Ventura Corporation will move into a new 15,000 SF facility at **Bayport** North Industrial Park in **La Porte**. The company, headquartered in Spain, makes automotive brake parts. BAHEP worked with the Greater Houston Partnership and CenterPoint Energy on this project. The build-to-suit is being constructed by an affiliate of GSLWelcome. At least 10 new jobs are associated with this project.

Packwell will be expanding by another 200,000 SF at Underwood Business Park in **La Porte** on Porter Road. In August 2006, they leased 450,000 SF at the same location. The company provides logistics in an extensive rail car packaging center. Underwood Business Park expects completion of a 710,000 SF spec building this month. Available now for lease is 450,000 SF and a free-standing 225,000 SF.

Huish Detergents, 12400 Bay Area Blvd. in **Pasadena**, will be expanding its production facility and building a training facility at the Bayport plant as a result from buying Lever Brothers North American detergent business which includes the brands *All*, *Wisk*, *Sunlight*, *Surf* and the *Snuggle* line of fabric softeners. The company will be changing its name to The Sun Products Corporation.

A new 48,000 SF facility is being built for Hagemeyer North America on SH 225 and Beltway Green in **Pasadena**. They are a business-to-business distributor of services and products focusing on industrial maintenance repair and operations and safety and electrical markets. Capital Commercial Investments Inc. is the developer for this project.

Tyco Flow Control opened a new 42,000 SF service and repair center in **Pasadena** – Bayport North Industrial Park. This expansion will allow new jobs (valve mechanics and technician staff) to be created over the next few months. The company is a major manufacturer and solutions provider for flow control, heat management, water management and environmental services for energy and processing industries.

Bayport Logistics Center will be built on 14.88 acres on Hwy. 146 between Port Road and Red Bluff Road ... on the border of **Pasadena** and **Seabrook**. Granite Properties plans a warehouse distribution center, 226,000 SF, tilt-wall construction, ESFR sprinkler system, 45 dock-high loading doors, and a 180' truck court. A lay-down yard of 1.5 acres will be available for outside storage. Completion is set for April 2009. Built to service the Port of Houston's Bayport terminal, this facility will be home to Gulf Winds International Inc., a leader in port-related transportation. Stephen and Charles Whynot represented the seller.

The second phase of the Bay Area Business Park has been announced - build-to-suit on 68 acres. Completion is nearly complete on the first phase – two buildings of 480,480 SF and one at 219,000 SF – all LEED certified. Location is the corner of Bay Area Blvd. and Red Bluff Road in **Pasadena** on 137 acres. Phase two build-out could reach 1.1 million SF.

Construction is underway at Lawrence Business Park, a five-acre development in **League City** at 820-880 Lawrence Road. Planned are five office buildings ranging from 4,800 to 6,000 SF and two light industrial buildings, both 6,000 SF. These are built with a new concrete and foam technology; 10' ceilings and high speed data, too.

The South Street Industrial Park, a 53-acre development, has broken ground at 601 N. South Street in **Pasadena**. On the north side of SH 225 near Preston Road, the industrial park will be constructed after a 46-acre pond is drained and filled with select materials. The site is about ½ mile from the Ship Channel. Total build-out for speculative and build-to-suit space is approximately one million SF.

Did you know **NASA** will celebrate 50 years of scientific and technological excellence this year? Please visit this site to see how NASA has evolved over the last five decades. It's sure to bring back memories! (Be sure to click on all the places in the room.) Please send along to others -- children will enjoy this, too! <http://www.nasa.gov/externalflash/50th/index.html>

NOTE: Please feel free to pass this e-newsletter along to others who would enjoy it, and, whenever possible, remember to credit Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership for this information.

Friendswood City Council recently approved several new development incentive programs for downtown property and business owners in order to stimulate reinvestment and encourage development, renovation and expansion in the downtown district. The incentives are:

- Waive 100% of all fees related to construction and development, including zoning, platting, site plan review, building, plumbing, mechanical, electrical and gas permits.
- Waive 100% of water and waste water impact fees.
- Potentially abate real property taxes in accordance with the city's tax abatement policies.

The city also has a Chapter 380 Municipal Grant Program that includes special considerations for downtown projects including:

- Minimum investment requirement of increased real and personal property was lowered to \$250,000 to qualify for a grant.
- In addition to the uses already approved by council, grant funds may be utilized for paved sidewalks, facades, street lighting, signage and benches.

The city will host a Broker/Developer Day on Thursday, November 6th at 9 a.m. Please call 281-996-3250 if you would like to attend.

La Porte has two projects that were recently adopted by its economic development board. One is the Gateway Enhancement Project, an entryway to the city's Main Street District. The location of the gateway is the corner of Main Street and SH 146 along with the building at 912 Main Street. The other project is a town plaza for the 'five points' area of Main Street – the new 'heart' of **La Porte**. This is intended to be a gathering and meeting spot for the community and will feature benches, a pavilion/stage area, green space, fountains and public art. The town plaza might include a 10-story office building.

What's new? Now available on the BAHEP web site is a new Real Estate page. Helpful tools are being added every week; so, check often! <http://www.bayareahouston.com/Home/RealEstate3/>

Transactions

- 140,782 SF – Eugene B. Smith & Co. leased an industrial building at 404 N. Witter in **Pasadena**.
- 129,375 SF – St. George Trucking & Warehouse of Texas Inc. leased space at **Bayport** North Industrial Park II. David Kim / Studley Inc. represented the tenant.
- 59,797 SF – Lockheed Martin leased office space at 2100 Space Park in **Nassau Bay**. It will occupy two floors to begin work on the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle for NASA. Doug Little, Wade Bowlin and Erik Haugen / PMRG represented the landlord. Derrell Curry / Studley represented Lockheed Martin.
- 18,884 SF – Northern Safety Company leased additional space at East Belt Business Park in **Pasadena**.
- 6,500 SF – Orr Safety Corporation leased space at Fairmont Business Park on Fairmont Parkway and Bay Area Boulevard in **La Porte**. Ed Frantz / CB Richard Ellis represented the tenant.
- 2,604 SF – Hope Rehab Physical Therapy leased space at the 42,000 SF Bay Colony Professional Building at Gulf Freeway and FM 646 in **League City**.

NEED FREE TECHNOLOGY TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?? Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program (SATOP) has an available team of NASA engineers and scientists from more than 20 aerospace companies, colleges and universities throughout the state that utilize their aerospace expertise to solve technical / engineering challenges for businesses. In 2006, SATOP assisted 125 Texas companies. To learn more about this free program and view SATOP success stories, visit www.spacetechnologiesolutions.com/bahep.

As an example Technical assistance was provided by Hugh Rogers, professor of Electrical Technology at San Jacinto College North, in the development of a device to prevent drive-off theft at gas stations. Florida entrepreneur, Jim McCommons, became aware of the problem when convenience stores reported hundreds of millions of dollars in gasoline theft since 2004. McCommons invented the No-Go Nozzle, a fuel nozzle that would lock in place into the filler pipe of a vehicle until the customer paid for the gas. Finding a flaw that caused the nozzle to unlock prematurely, he contacted SATOP in Florida who matched up the technical request with Rogers. The problem was solved by his Electrical Designing class. Since achieving desired results, McCommons is in discussions with the world's largest manufacturer of gas pump nozzles in order to reach a cooperative agreement to take his product to market.

BAY AREA HOUSTON OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE			
10,000+ SF CONTIGUOUS			
Address	City	Building Size (SF)	Contiguous SF Available
455 E. Medical Center Blvd. - Galaxy II opening - September, 2008	Webster	110,000	110,000
16969 Texas Ave - Corporate Center	Webster	50,100	25,100
555 Forge River Rd	Webster	108,578	23,214
201 Flint Ridge Rd	Webster	45,000	19,000
251 Medical Center Blvd	Webster	48,000	16,000
500 N Kobayashi	Webster	15,545	15,545
333 N Texas Ave	Webster	88,000	11,476
906 Southmore Ave	Pasadena	147,290	147,000
524 Pasadena Blvd	Pasadena	30,082	30,082
3222 Burke Rd	Pasadena	43,800	20,000
3333 Bayshore Blvd	Pasadena	62,693	18,454
4949 Fairmont Pkwy	Pasadena	52,362	17,675
4949 Fairmont Pkwy	Pasadena	52,362	15,180
213 W Southmore Ave	Pasadena	54,611	13,652
817 E Southmore Ave	Pasadena	40,000	11,340
2525 South Shore Blvd - Marina View	League City	119,249	20,767
11920 S Astoria Blvd	Houston	100,000	47,888
1300 Bay Area Blvd	Houston	35,690	35,690
2100 Space Park Dr	Houston	115,878	31,657
16055 Space Center Blvd	Houston	147,000	22,400
1275 Space Park Dr	Houston	43,222	21,611
12301 Kurland Dr	Houston	222,400	16,000
17000 El Camino Real - Bldg. 2	Houston	22,000	10,000
17000 El Camino Real - Bldg. 1	Houston	22,000	10,000

Now open

Friendswood - Memorial Hermann Medical clinic at 1650 E. Winding Way; The Goddard School at 1650 Friendswood Lakes Blvd.; UTMB University Eye Clinic, ISB Capital and Pinnacle Construction Industries at 400 W. Parkwood Groundbreaking

Friendswood - Jacob White Construction Company's 10,000 SF headquarters at 2000 W. Parkwood; Barras Office Park

Retail / Hospitality Development

Hospitality News!

- Announced is a 120-room, seven-story Best Western on NASA Parkway near Repsdorph in **Seabrook** on a five-acre site. Also planned there is a restaurant and retail center, possibly lofts over the retail. Plans are to have this project underway soon with completion early in 2009. This site is directly across the street from the proposed project, Endeavour Marina on Clear Lake – Westin hotel, condominiums, and retail.
- Work has also begun on **Webster's** Spring Hill Suites on Kobayashi and the full-service Holiday Inn on Bay Area Boulevard.
- Hampton Inn, a 90-room project, and a 94-room Holiday Inn Express will be built on the east side of Crenshaw and Beltway 8 in **Pasadena**. Both are planned to open 4th quarter of 2009.

Retail tidbits

Two new beauty retailers have opened at **Baybrook Mall**. Bare Escentuals, one of the nation's hottest cosmetic retailers, opened in the Grand Court next to the Apple store. Their specialty is healthy products – no additives and zero irritants. Lush, specializing in fresh, handmade bath and beauty products, has opened in the Dillard's wing across from Express. They have locations throughout the world. And, now they're here! www.baybrookmall.com

Lehigh Outfitters leased 3,925 SF in **La Porte** at 9001 Spencer Highway. This is the first work and weekend gear store in the Houston area for Lehigh Safety Shoe company.

Work has started on a new building at Clearpoint Crossing -- 15,000 SF spec retail space with 65% already committed. The site is on Space Center Boulevard in Houston. Macy's Table has opened in Cullen's Upscale American Grille. This posh new dining room will accommodate 10 – 12 people in luxury – it's suspended above Cullen's main dining room.

Charming Charlie will open a store soon at 19056 Gulf Freeway – in front of **Baybrook Mall**.

Reported to open this fall at Victory Lakes Town Center: J C Penney's, Hobby Lobby, Ashley Furniture, Sports Authority and Dollar Tree. At League City Town Center – under construction is New York Pizzeria, Chick-Fil-A, Ross and T J Maxx. Logan's Roadhouse is in the permitting process. FYI: **League City's** growth rate is about 44% since the 2000 census. In 2000, the population was 45,444 and it's estimated today at 67,000.

Brittany Plaza, a 24,000 SF professional and retail center, is underway at 1600 West **League City** Parkway and Butler Road. One pending lease is a pediatric clinic; two pad sites are available. Construction should be finished by November. A hotel is proposed on land behind the center.

Coming Soon

Webster - Marble Slab Creamery at the Webster Town Center (I-45 and NASA Pkwy); Staybridge Suites opening by November

League City - Silver Cache (jewelry store) at Bay Colony; La Brisa (Mexican food) on Wesley Drive; Three Oaks Fine Wines & Exquisite Foods at 601 E. Main Street

Friendswood - ACE Hardware at Captain's Corner

Now open

Webster - Vegas Grill at 20931 Gulf Freeway; The Salon at Remington on Magnolia; Baba's Mediterranean Grill, Firehouse Subs and Thai Lemon Grass at Shops at the Bay

Friendswood - Lenny's Subs at 140 W. Parkwood Drive; Main Street Grill and Café at 108 E. Edgewood

Residential Development

- Stone Creek Estates – formerly the Diamond G Ranch on Grissom Road off NASA Parkway in **League City** -- developers propose an exclusive community of 89 homes on this 70-acre site. The development will feature huge oak trees, fishing ponds, large lots, views of Clear Creek and a five to 10 acre park along the creek. One section of approximately 40 acres will include custom and estate lots from 1/3 to three acres. The northern section will have 49 lots, 90 x 140. Groundbreaking is expected late this year with the first homes likely to be available late next summer. Home prices would range from \$350,000 to \$2 million.
- **Galveston County** has issued permits for the construction of an 18-unit apartment complex at 1225 Lawrence Road – part of a 28-acre multi-use development. The unincorporated site is between **League City, Clear Lake Shores** and **Kemah**.
- Villas at Edgewater – 386 apartments are close to completion in **Webster** – 200 Water Street, just off NASA Parkway near Hwy. 3.
- New apartments at Southdown Trace – 220 apartments are underway near the southeast corner of the Gulf Freeway and Beltway 8 (**Houston**). Southdown Trace Boulevard, the main thoroughfare, will run from Beltway 8 to Scarsdale Boulevard linking this 370-home community with Clearview Village, a new 800-home community. The **Pasadena** I.S.D. has purchased approximately 10 acres adjoining Southdown Trace. Fourteen acres remain on the frontage for commercial projects.
- Peninsula Clear Lake – 35 single-family homes, Tuscan, Mediterranean and Spanish Revival architecture, will be built on Davis Road in **League City**. The 'village' of homes will be in a gated, waterfront community and include private boat docks or boathouses. Four family compounds are also planned. The homes will range from 3,400 to 8,500 SF and will start at \$1 million.
- West Ranch update – The first recreation complex is now open including a resort-style swimming pool and children's splash area. A second swimming pool, junior Olympic-sized, is proposed for future development. Through August 24th, 173 homes have been sold in this **Friendswood** subdivision, a 48% increase over last year. Later this year, construction will begin on the south side of FM 518; estimated homes/lots will be under way on this side in early summer 2009.
- Beacon Island update – Infrastructure and street paving are complete; the bridge connecting the island to Lighthouse Boulevard is in the beginning stages set to be complete in October. The front gate Pilot's House and the Commander's Club are the next projects to be started. Custom home builders are readying plans for reserved lots. (**League City**)

Now open

Amalfi at Tuscan Lakes at 1450 E. League Parkway, a 328 multi-family project in League City

Infrastructure News and Everything Else!

The **Seabrook** Economic Development Corporation has commissioned a feasibility study of a water taxi service on Clear Lake and the nearby waters of Galveston Bay. The study is intended to be the first step towards the creation of a regional waterborne transportation system serving both residents and visitors. When complete, regional partners will be invited to participate in development of an implementation plan and the initiation of a demonstration service. The draft report was presented to the EDC on August 20 and may be viewed at <http://www.bayareawaterbornestudy.com/>. Please visit the website, learn more about the study and submit your comments. The final report will be presented and released in October.

Dickinson's new city hall and library complex is underway with expectation of a spring completion. A one-story 22,754 SF building will serve as city hall and the library will occupy a separate 12,299 SF building. Both will be at the old city hall location: 2716 FM 517 East.

Harris County has added a new green commercial building tax abatement. The actual benefit does not begin until construction is completed and the certification has been granted. Applications are available on the website and must be filed before breaking ground. The value of the tax abatement is calculated based upon the appraised value of the facility after it is LEED certified. Minimum value increase attributable to LEED certification must be at least \$100,000. LEED certification is available in four levels: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Applications must be submitted before construction begins. Abatement applications are available on the Harris County website: <http://www.csd.hctx.net>. (Click on Office of Economic Development, then Tax Abatement, followed by Green Building Tax Abatement Application.) LEED is an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Read more at: <http://www.guidrynews.com/story.aspx?id=1000011083>

League City is looking to rejuvenate Main Street from the Gulf Freeway east to the intersection of FM 270 and FM 2094. Once meeting dates have been set, the city plans to hear public input. Ideas will become reality when the projects are funded.

Public transportation may come to **Pasadena!** City officials and **Harris County** economic development staff have been meeting with the idea of establishing a park & ride in the North Pasadena area. Location would be the Town Square Mall, northeast corner near Sears. Southmore Avenue, Pasadena Boulevard and Harris Street border the mall. Proposed are four buses in the morning and five in the afternoon travelling to the Monroe park & ride, Eastwood transit center and then downtown Houston. More details as they come!

Academic news

- *New facilities –*
 - **Dickinson I.S.D.** approved a site for a new elementary school – Calder Road and Cross colony in the Bay Colony area.
 - **Clear Creek I.S.D.** will build a new 15-acre agriculture science facility on Delesandri Lane, just east of FM 1266 in **League City**. The project is three to five years out. This will benefit students on the east side of the district; the west side has an ag science facility behind Challenger 7 Park.
 - **Friendswood I.S.D.** has announced a new junior high. The site is adjacent to West Ranch and Centennial Park. Construction is proposed to begin this year with an estimated opening date of spring 2010.
- *New programs –*
 - **University of Houston-Clear Lake** has announced a new degree program – Bachelor of Science in Public Service Leadership. Graduates of the program will be prepared for careers in politics, government, law and the civil service arena. (The largest employer in the U.S. is the government!)
 - **College of the Mainland's** Health Information Management program has received national accreditation. Students can now sit for the national exam to become a Registered Health Information Technician. The program prepares students for jobs as health data analysts, insurance claim analysts, records

- technicians, clinical coding specialists, physician practice managers and patient information coordinators.
 - **San Jacinto College** is expanding course options in Information Technology to help students prepare for industry certification. Certificates supported include A+, Certified Internet Webmaster, Cisco Certified Network Associate, Cisco Certified Network Professional, Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, Certified Novell Engineer and Oracle Internet Application Developer.
 - *New options for taking classes!*
 - Weekend College is available at all three **San Jacinto College** campuses; the greatest number of both core and technical courses are at the central campus in **Pasadena**. Students can earn a two-year degree in two years on the weekend – great for people who work during the week or have transportation or childcare issues.
 - Full-time Friday classes will start in the fall at **San Jacinto College**. Students can take up to four classes, once a week, in one day – save money on gas by going once a week! Available classes: history or government, English or speech, drama or psychology and two different math courses. Time: 8:30 a.m. to almost 10 p.m.
 - **Pasadena I.S.D.** now offers the Pasadena Virtual School, established to enable students to take high school courses online, on their own time, wherever access is available to the Internet and a computer. Online learning helps students to master course content, as well as develop communication, collaboration, and creative problem-solving skills. Courses have been developed with the same requirements as traditional high school courses. Students have the opportunity to interact with experienced and well-trained teachers as they work through the curriculum independently.
 - Good report card for TAKS scores
 - **Friendswood I.S.D.** – all six campuses are Exemplary!
 - **Pasadena I.S.D.**—Nine schools earned Exemplary ratings and 24 have Recognized status. Overall, the district received an Academically Acceptable rating.
 - **Clear Creek I.S.D.** – Eighteen campuses have earned the Exemplary rating and 13 have Recognized status. Overall, the district has a Recognized rating for the 11th time in 12 years.

Road News

---League City

- Environmental studies are underway so that the city can plan and proceed with the building of a bypass around the intersection of FM 518 at FM 270 – a very busy place!

---La Porte

- Early completion! Barbours Cut Boulevard received a \$16 million reconstruction from Hwy. 146 to the road's end near Galveston Bay and north of Morgan's Point. This is a joint project of Harris County Pct. 2, the Port of Houston Authority and TxDOT.

---Clear Lake Shores

- Proposed project: Extension of Hanson Road to the light at FM 518 and Kemah Oaks. A cost share with Galveston County was discussed.

---Big Stuff

- The new NASA Bypass is partially open. The east entrance to the bypass in **Nassau Bay** should be open in the next couple of weeks. Work east of Sarah Deel in **Webster** on NASA Parkway should be complete within three months. The direct connection to the Gulf Freeway won't be complete until sometime in 2009 for southbound and 2010 for northbound.
- The Highway 146 expansion project is 'on' again. TxDOT is back at work on the design.

Economic development doesn't happen by itself! If you would like to know more about how you can support our economic development initiatives and have the opportunity to work with the region's business leaders, please contact our Membership Services Representative, Harriet Lukee, at 281.486.5535 or Harriet@bayareahouston.com.

[Clear Lake Shores](#) • [Dickinson](#) • [El Lago](#) • [Friendswood](#) • [Houston](#) • [Kemah](#) • [La Porte](#)
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