



WALKER COUNTY EDC

Rooted in Texas, Built for Opportunity

Vision

To be the driving force for a thriving, resilient, and innovative Walker County, where opportunity, enterprise, and collaboration uplift every resident and shape a prosperous future for generations to come.

Mission

To drive sustainable economic growth and enhance the quality of life in Huntsville and Walker County by leading strategic initiatives, fostering business development, securing innovative funding, advocating for supportive policies, and building collaborative partnerships across public, private, and academic sectors.

Leadership

The Walker County Economic Development Corporation (WCEDC) officially launched in September 2025, with the appointment of Stephanie Smith as its first Executive Director.

The WCEDC was founded through a groundbreaking collaboration between Huntsville, Mayor, Russell Humphrey, County Judge, Colt Christian, Sam Houston State University President, Dr. Alisa White, and community leader Chris deMilliano; collectively known as the "core four."



Walker County Demographics

Population 81,598

- Huntsville
- New Waverly
- Riverside
- Unincorporated

Median Age: 36.4

Median Home Value: \$187,200

Business

- Total Businesses: 1,156
- Total Employees: 28,203

Education

- 40.8% High School Grad
- 23.6% Post Secondary Degree

Investor Levels

- Community Impact: Ideal for nonprofit organizations, churches and small business (under 5 employees)
- Associate Member: Ideal for Small businesses, startups
- Trustee Member: Ideal for growing firms, developers
- Leadership Member: Ideal for regional leaders, mid-to-large businesses and community banks
- Founding Member: Ideal for major corporations and anchor institutions



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Investor Benefits

Network

Grow beyond your current circle and connect with influential peers, partners, and leaders across the region. Membership opens doors to relationships that matter—whether you're seeking collaboration, operational support, or strategic resources. Our members, staff, and partners are here to help you succeed and expand your reach.

Visibility

Gain recognition as a proactive business leader within Walker County's dynamic economic landscape. Walker County's location and infrastructure make it a magnet for growth and investment—position your business at the forefront where opportunity thrives.

Impact

Join forces with transformative initiatives that are shaping Walker County's future. As a member, you'll actively contribute to key efforts in economic development, public policy, transportation and infrastructure, workforce advancement, and community well-being. Your involvement helps drive sustainable growth and improves the quality of life for residents across the region.



Insight

Tap into a powerful network of industry leaders and stay informed on the trends shaping Walker County's economy. Through exclusive events, task forces, and collaborative forums, you'll share your expertise and gain valuable perspectives from fellow members. It's a two-way street for learning, visibility, and strategic growth. Gain access to economic development reports, grants and tools.

Voice

Make your concerns count by tapping into trusted relationships and established communication channels. As a member, your input helps shape regional priorities through the Walker County EDC. Our organization is a recognized advocate with direct access to key decision-makers—ensuring your business interests are heard where it matters most.

Dr. Alisa White, SHSU

"Walker County leaders have always wanted good things for our community, but each entity could only go so far on its own. We now have a mechanism to work together and leverage our strengths and influence to do more than we ever could in silos. Walker County is important to Sam Houston State University, and we're happy to be involved", White said.