In accordance with the contract dated January 13, 2016, the Baytown-West Chambers County Economic Development Foundation (EDF) submits this quarterly report for the period **January 1, 2016 through March 31, 2016** and warrants that City of Baytown Municipal Development District funds have been utilized exclusively in efforts to create and preserve primary jobs.

**Primary Activities – Economic Development**

**Stimulate, Encourage, Market, & Develop Business & Commercial Activity**

During this reporting period, the EDF continued its efforts in this primary activity. **Prospect Responses:** Staff responded to prospect RFI’s and/or provided information and assistance to 68 prospects interested in locating in the Baytown-West Chambers County service area. Assistance included, but was not limited to: site and infrastructure availability, identification and explication of incentive programs, filing procedures, and state and local permitting.

**Site Visits:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prospect Name</th>
<th>Industry Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Gunther</td>
<td>Logistics &amp; Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Yida*</td>
<td>OCTG Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Centurion*</td>
<td>Petrochemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Oleander</td>
<td>Logistics &amp; Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Golden Steel</td>
<td>Steel Coil Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Sandia*</td>
<td>Specialty Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Emery*</td>
<td>Residential Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Internal Designation

**Retail Development**

A critical component of the City of Baytown’s economic development strategy is retail development and infill revitalization. **Activities undertaken:**

- **2/11 – 2/13/16:** EDF staff recruited prospects at the Franchise Expo South, Reliant Arena: [http://www.franchiseexposouth.com/](http://www.franchiseexposouth.com/)


*Continued on next page*
Primary Activities – Economic Development, Continued

**Incubator Without Walls:** The EDF continued to undertake initiatives designed to expand the economic base in the Baytown service area. An integrated approach referred to as an “incubator without walls” provides a number of business assistance programs, namely Entrepreneur Development, Small Business Financing and Business Education.

- Entrepreneur Development Initiative (EDI): The EDF continues its efforts to engender entrepreneurial growth through collaborative efforts, specifically:
  1. 2 - Lee College SBDC referrals
  2. 1 - GCEDD EDA RLF referral
  3. 1 - USDA Business & Industry referral

- SBA: Continued collaboration with the Small Business Administration and the Lee College Small Business Development Center.

- Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Continued relationship with TEEX to provide business development services in the EDF service area.

**BR&E / Redevelopment:** The EDF continued its efforts to support development and redevelopment in the service area:

- Participated in City of Baytown CDBG project planning session on 1/20/16.


- Continued development efforts for the Bayland Island Hotel & Conference Center: [www.baylandmarina.com](http://www.baylandmarina.com)


- Continued work with City of Baytown, Chambers County, TxDOT and other stakeholders related to transportation, regional drainage/detention and rail.

- Continued efforts to enhance cellular phone service, GPS service, broadband and fiber optics infrastructure to industry and residences in and around the Baytown-West Chambers County service area.

*Continued on next page*
Primary Activities – Economic Development, Continued

**Public Policy:** Coincident with efforts to expand regional inter-modal capacity, provide continuity for the local petrochemical and refining cluster and grow the local economy, the EDF has undertaken the following:

1. **Inter-Modal Transportation:** The EDF continues its efforts to facilitate, coordinate and mediate agreements between governmental principals and private sector entities pursuing inter-modal projects in the area.
   - Continued transportation planning with stakeholders related to heavy haul OS/OW permitting via Heavy-Haul Road Advisory Committee (HHAC). Held HHAC meetings on 2/19 & 2/25/16.
   - Continued multimodal transportation planning with regional stakeholders related to the Cedar Bayou M-146 Marine Highway Connector and TIGER grant funding for intermodal projects. Facilitated meetings with Cedar Bayou Navigation District, TGS Cedar Port and Chambers County representatives.

2. **Environmental Strategy:** The EDF continues its environmental strategy to ensure sustainability of existing industry. Participated in the AERCO board meeting on 2/10/16. Staff serves on AERCO board through 2016.

3. **Infrastructure:** Participated in meetings of the Chambers County Capital Improvements Advisory Committee which stewards sub-regional drainage for projects in the City of Baytown ETJ/west Chambers County.

**Workforce Development & Analysis (WDA)**

Workforce Development and Education are critical components of economic development. As such, the EDF continued its efforts to enhance the area’s capacity to train, educate, develop and deploy the labor force:

**Collaboration with Workforce Development Allies:** A viable workforce development strategy requires a strong partnership of employers, economic development organizations, workforce organizations, educational institutions, philanthropic organizations, government and non-governmental entities. Consistent with this, the EDF participated / supported the following activities focused on the continued growth and development of our regional workforce:

- **Baytown Workforce Preparedness Partnership (BWPP):** The EDF is facilitating the BWPP to address workforce challenges associated with significant petrochemical expansions in the area.
Primary Activities – Economic Development, Continued

Workforce Development & Analysis (WDA) (Continued)

- Provided research support for GC-PIN consortium grant proposals. EDF staff continues to serve in advisory capacity for the Gulf Coast Petrochemical Information Network (GC-PIN).

- EDF staff continues to serve in advisory capacity for the GCCISD Career & Technical Education Program Development Steering Committee.

- Provided continued research & development assistance to the United Way of Baytown’s Early Childhood Education IMPACT effort. The initiative seeks to improve school readiness systemically at the Pre-K level in the GCCISD & BHISD. Participated in strategic planning meeting on 1/19/16.

Facilitate Tax Abatement & Incentive Programs

EDF conducted the following activities related to Incentive Programs:

- Provided tax abatement / incentives assistance to: Gray, Reed & McGraw, Ernst& Young, Tidal Tank, Stone Bridge Energy Partners, PBP Logistics LLC, Amerjin Tube & Pipe, Air Products LLC, Lone Star NGL, InSite Real Estate LLC, ExxonMobil, Transwestern, Thompson 10 Industrial Park, Covestro/Bayer, TGS Cedar Port, Ravago Americas and AmeriPort LLC.

- Provided City of Baytown, Harris County, Chambers County, and State of Texas incentive information with prospect lead responses.

- Continued New Market Tax Credits & EB-5 support work with the City of Baytown and Chambers County Industrial Development Corporation for IRB funding.

Conduct Educational Seminars, Lectures, Public Hearings

- **1/25/16**: Provided annual economic development update to the EDF Board and guests.

- **2/25/16**: Presented an economic development update to the Baytown Kiwanis Club.

- **3/21/16**: Hosted Texas RESTORE Act briefing.
Primary Activities – Economic Development, Continued

Support the Creation and Expansion of Local Foreign Trade Zones

EDF conducted the following activities related to Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ):

- Continued support for the federal FTZ Alternative Site Framework (ASF) process and related FTZ applications.

Compilation & Dissemination of Economic & Business-Related Data

The EDF maintains and catalogues the various socio-economic studies relative to the Baytown area performed by different entities to reduce duplication and confounding of effort. The EDF acts as a clearinghouse for statistical, economic, government, education, and labor/workforce information and continues to update economic and population benchmarks by which to judge changes in our service area, including: monthly reports on sites/buildings, housing/construction, employment and sales tax collections; comparative tax studies.

The EDF continues to compile data for its statistical clearinghouse in the following categories:

1. Texas and local unemployment rates, employment structure and labor force statistics.

2. Tax rates for City of Baytown, Harris County, Chambers County, Goose Creek Schools, Lee College and other taxing entities.

3. Customized demographics analyses via Sites on Texas 2.0, CoStar and other platforms.

4. Regional metrics from the Gulf Coast Economic Development District (GCEDD), an organization sponsored by the H-GAC.
Secondary Activities – Economic Development

Coordination with Regional Allies: During this reporting period, the Economic Development Foundation continued its partnerships with neighboring economic development organizations and regional allies:

- Participated in Gulf Coast Economic Development District (GCEDD) Executive Committee meetings on 2/9/16 and 3/8/16.
- Staff attended 1Q16 HREDA meeting on 2/11/16.
- Attended RILA Conference with Port of Houston (PHA) and GHP officials, 2/29 – 3/4/16: [www.rila.org](http://www.rila.org)
- Held meetings, attended meetings and/or coordinated projects with City of Baytown, H-GAC, Harris County Community & Economic Development Department, Chambers County, Greater Houston Partnership, Gulf Coast Economic Development District, CenterPoint Energy, Port of Houston Authority and CCID #1, #2 and #3.

Collaboration with Site Selection Consultants and Academia:

The EDF continued its liaison with EDO Allies, CenterPoint Energy, academia and site selection consulting firms to explore research, knowledge building and benchmarking opportunities.

Promote Baytown-West Chambers Area to Attract Conventions, Visitors, and Business

During this reporting period, the EDF promoted Baytown and its vicinity by participating in the following activities:

- Bayou Bowl High School All-star Football Game and Golf Tournament: The EDF continued its support for the 2016 Bayou Bowl.
- Staff continued to provide regional quality of life information with prospect RFI responses.

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Secondary Activities – Economic Development, Continued

- During this reporting period, the EDF worked closely with the Governor’s office (EDT) to coordinate site selection visits, incentive applications and prospect lead responses.