



Tyler Economic Development Council

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Tyler TX 75702

Thomas G. Mullins
President/CEO

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September / October 2008

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
November 19, 2008, 3:30
TEDC Board Meeting
Genecov Room

GOODYEAR UPDATE
Goodyear EDA Grant:
On September 4, TEDC received a progress report from Michael West of the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) regarding meetings conducted the first week of August with business and community leaders in Tyler and Smith County. The meetings were held to help Mr. West identify the status and scope of ongoing economic and workforce development projects and strategies to ameliorate the impacts of the Goodyear job losses or prevent future job losses in the Smith County region.

Also in September, Goodyear notified TEDC of a potential sale of the Tyler plant to an investment group that would convert the facility for use by multiple tenants.

PROSPECT ACTIVITY
In September, TEDC responded to two requests for proposals from the Governor's Office: a railcar repair operation and a yarn manufacturing facility. Combined they would create 550 new jobs and \$140 million investment in plant and equipment.

LABOR MARKET SURVEY On August 26, Dr Marilyn Young from UT Tyler presented the results of the 2008 Labor Market Survey conducted by Tyler EDC and the Lindale Economic Development Council, with a media event in the Genecov Room. The individuals surveyed lived within a 30 mile radius of Tyler and included a 9 county region. The survey found that:

- The hidden unemployment (new entrants, discouraged workers and those no longer eligible for unemployment) rate is 13.3%
- 82% of the labor force was willing to train for a new job
- The average distance the available labor force was willing to drive is 17 miles.

The survey is available for download at: http://www.tedc.org/res_laborsurvey.php.

SMITH COUNTY SUPPORTS GOODYEAR EDA GRANT AND INCREASES TEDC CONTRACT

Smith County Commissioners have approved a \$20,000 match for the Goodyear EDA grant (see column on left). The Commissioners also increased the TEDC services contract for FY 2009 from \$35,000 to \$50,000.

CARRIER On August 22, Carrier announced that in January 2009 they would start moving 300 jobs (the plant's small package placement line) to Mexico, but that would be offset with 130 fabrication jobs from the Carrolton plant that will move to Tyler by the end of the September. The company hopes to minimize job losses in Tyler and maximize the plant's manufacturing floor space and efficiency for their commercial lines. Carrier currently employs 1,201 in Tyler.

TEDC SELECTS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2008-2009 The Tyler Economic Development Council Board met September 24 and selected the following executive committee and new board members for 2008/2009:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Felicity Reedy, The Genecov Group – Chairman
Rea Boudreaux, The C. T. Brannon Corporation – Vice Chairman
David Traff, Traff Asset Management – Secretary/Treasurer
Barham Fulmer, Southside Bank – Immediate Past-Chairman
Tom Ellis, John Soules Foods – Finance Committee Chair *
Taylor Burns, Burns Commercial Properties LLC – Real Estate Committee Chair
Rohn Boone, Boone & Boone Construction – Resource Committee Chair
Nathaniel Moran, Ramey & Flock – City of Tyler Representative
Joel Baker, Judge-Smith County – Smith County Representative
Charles Hill, Oncor – Executive Committee-at-Large *
Mike Metke, Tyler Junior College – Executive Committee-at-Large *
Robert Hancock, Austin Bank – Tyler Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman *
Tom Mullins, President/CEO, Tyler Economic Development Council
(* New on Executive Committee)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Kathy Comer, Tyler Area Builders Assoc. Jason Surratt, CenterPoint Energy
Doug Hunsley, Trane Clay Thompson, Franklin Bank
Stan Riley, Transit Mix Ed Wallace, E-Mar LLC