



# ALVIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Alvin...The Best Location for Your Business Interest

Economic Newsletter

4th Quarter

December 2017

## 2017 Development: Year in Review

Through the leadership of Mayor Paul Horn and the entire City Council, staff continues to implement sound business principles and policies to meet current demand for services and future growth that is already being realized. Year 2017 saw continued adherence to the 2035 Comprehensive Plan which builds on Alvin's great quality of place that has much to offer in commercial, residential, recreational and entertainment. **Evidence of 1,515 total permits issued with a value of \$74.4 million proved Alvin was the place to invest in 2017.** Additional numbers to the right, in our Development Facts section, show the positive growth pattern continuing in Alvin into fiscal year 2018.

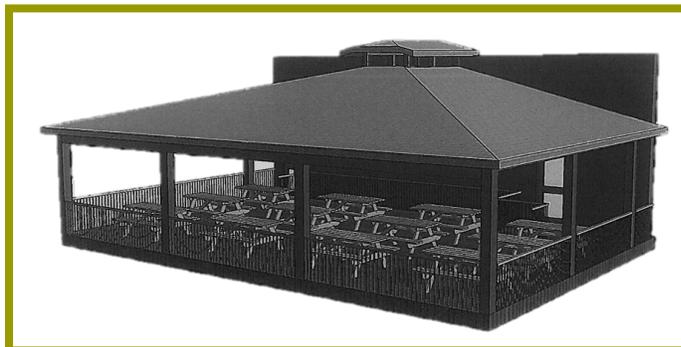
## Gordon Street Tavern Launches Alvin Grant



*Demolition of the old patio seating area at Gordon Street Tavern on January 10, 2018.*

Last year, the City of Alvin introduced a downtown business improvement grant program for new and existing businesses. The grant allows for businesses to apply for a 50% match on downtown business improvements, reimbursable following the completion of approved improvements. The City of Alvin allocated \$25,000 for the inaugural year of the grant program. Henry Dillmann, with the Gordon Street Tavern, applied and was approved for the first grant in September of 2017.

The improvements to Gordon Street Tavern began in January 2018 with the demolition of the outdoor patio seating area. Construction is now underway on the new outdoor seating area that will feature new



*A preliminary rendering of the completed outdoor seating area at Gordon Street Tavern.*

(See Tavern on Page 2)

## Development Facts Fiscal Year 2018 (Oct. 01, 2017 - Jan. 22, 2018)

### Building Permits & Values

New Commercial  
Permits  
\$46.1 Million

New Residential  
Permits  
\$4.8 Million

Commercial Remodels/Additions  
Permits  
\$6.4 Million

### Current Home Builders in Alvin

Brighton - Forest Heights  
Brighton - Mustang  
Crossing  
Brighton - Kendall Lakes  
D. R. Horton - Kendall Lakes  
Saratoga Homes - Kendall Lakes  
Brighton - Midtown Park

### Development Highlights Fiscal Year 2018

22 Planning Development  
Meetings  
36 New Housing Permits Issued  
Kendall Lakes - 14 Completed  
Forest Heights - 16 Completed

### Alvin's Largest Employers

Alvin ISD  
Empereon  
Alvin Community College  
Wal-Mart  
Ascend Performance Materials  
INEOS Olefins & Polymers  
RiceTec  
Ron Carter Automotive  
TEAM, Inc.

## Gordon Street Tavern Launches Alvin Grant

### Tavern

Continued from Page 1

amenities to better accommodate customers who wish to enjoy the outdoors. This will include a new deck, multiple ceiling fans, and new furniture. The outdoor seating area will be able to accommodate up to 48 people, as it will now feature 8 tables that can each seat 6 customers. The structure will model the clock tower that is across Depot Centre Boulevard from Gordon Street Tavern. However, instead of white stone columns, the new outdoor seating area will feature red brick columns. It will also have a composite roof with a similar red color as the roof on the clock tower. There are plans



*A picture taken on January 23, 2018 shows the continued framing and construction of the new outdoor seating area at Gordon Street Tavern.*



*A picture taken on January 30, 2018 shows the continued framing and construction of the new outdoor seating area at Gordon Street Tavern.*

to install lighting to the new outdoor seating area in the future, once the project is completed and the best lighting option can be determined. Completion of the project is anticipated for Spring of 2018. Gordon Street Tavern is also Brazoria County's first brewpub serving their own hand crafted brews, as well as local craft brews and Texas wines. They have an extensive menu, cater events, and even have a private dining room. You can learn more about Gordon Street Tavern at [www.gordonstreettavern.com](http://www.gordonstreettavern.com), by calling them at (281) 968-7402, or by stopping by 114 N. Gordon St., Alvin, Texas 77511.

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## 2018 Downtown Business Grant Funding Available

For the 2nd consecutive year, the City of Alvin is offering a matching grant program to new and existing businesses in the downtown Alvin area. The matching grant program began in 2017 under the direction of the Downtown Alvin Revitalization Team (D.A.R.T.) and City of Alvin staff. The downtown business improvement grant allows for businesses to apply for a 50% match on downtown business improvements, reimbursable following the completion of the approved improvements. The City of Alvin has allocated \$25,000 for the matching grant program, and the funds can be used towards projects that are approved by the downtown business improvement grant review committee. Applications that are filed with the City of Alvin on or before the first Monday of each month will be reviewed, considered, and responded to within 30 days. For complete guidelines, applications, and a map of the downtown Alvin area, please visit the City Secretary's office at 216 West Sealy Street, Alvin, Texas 77511, or by visiting the city's website at [www.Alvin-TX.gov](http://www.Alvin-TX.gov) and searching under the [Economic Development](#) section.



*A street sign highlights utilization of funds from the City of Alvin's downtown business improvement grant.*

## Entrepreneur Spotlight

Battle Cry Revival is a branding and marketing agency in Alvin that is owned by two longtime residents, Jake and Cindy Starkey. BCR provides graphic design, web design, award-winning video production and now, virtual tours. After 15 years of freelancing, Jake Starkey began Battle Cry Revival in 2014 to fulfill his entrepreneurial dream. In 2017 Cindy joined full time, shepherding in a new era. BCR has served clients in Brazoria County and across the nation. "Our hope is to continue to grow and help our clients reach their clients through innovative marketing," stated Jake Starkey, Co-Owner and Creative Director. As part of that growth, BCR is taking advantage of the numerous resources from the Small Business Development Center. "The SBDC workshops have been extremely helpful in taking our business to the next level," stated Cindy Starkey, Co-Owner and President. To learn more, visit [bcr.agency](http://bcr.agency) or [facebook.com/battlecryrevival](https://www.facebook.com/battlecryrevival). Contact them at (832) 802-8861 or [info@battlecryrevival.com](mailto:info@battlecryrevival.com).



*Battle Cry Revival (BCR) owners  
Jake and Cindy Starkey.*

## McCoy's Building Supply Now Open



McCoy's Building Supply officially opened to the public on December 18, 2017 and will be having their grand opening on Tuesday, February 27, 2018. McCoy's sells quality building products and features a full service lumber yard. Give McCoy's a call at (281) 485-8880 or visit the new location at 675 FM 517, Alvin, Texas 77511. For complete store hours and product offerings, visit [www.mccoys.com](http://www.mccoys.com).

## Infrastructure



*Construction has begun on new sidewalks in downtown Alvin along Willis Street that will connect South Gordon Street to 2nd Street.*



*Public parking signs have been installed throughout downtown Alvin in places such as City Hall, National Oak Park, and the city-owned parking lot at the Gordon Street and Sealy Street intersection. Parking is free at any time in a location where these signs are on display.*



*Repairs to the pedestrian bridge in National Oak Park along the Tom Blakeney Jr. Hike and Bike Trail are complete.*

## Skilled Workforce = Rewarding Careers

Alvin Community College recently held their community advisory meeting that included presentations from ACC and INEOS on process technology and the fulfilling career opportunities it offers. Collaboration with ACC, Alvin ISD, and industry was showcased. Advisory panels, plant tours for students and teachers, high school forums, along with equipment demonstrations bring many to study and enter this field. Process Technology (PTEC) is the second largest technical/workforce program at Alvin Community College, with a student enrollment of 340 for PTEC classes for spring 2018. The average annual pay in the chemical industry is \$94,000.



*A hands-on demonstrator of a distillation unit used in the classroom to prepare students for the workforce.*



*Students on tour are shown the advanced technology of a control room at one of the Chocolate Bayou plants.*

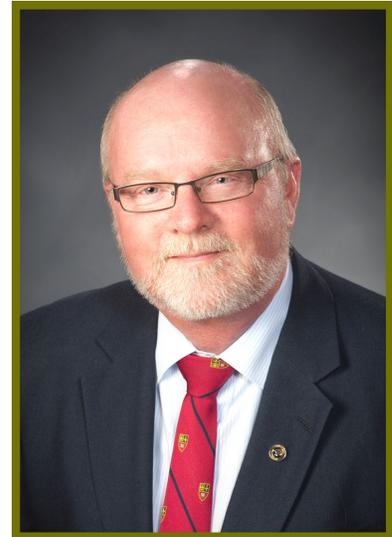
"The fate of empires depends on the education of youth."

— Aristotle, Greek philosopher

Takeaways for the future workforce are:

- **Industry is strong and expanding** on the gulf coast and other locations
- **Great careers are possible** in engineering, process technicians, and skilled crafts
- **Collaborations are happening to help students succeed** within schools, industry, government, and the community

With large expansions in the region and the aging workforce (retirement), this can be a rewarding career that will provide opportunities for many.



**Thinking about Moving Your Business?**

***Then Think Alvin!***

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**TxDOT Traffic Counts**  
W Hwy 6 @ Business 35  
32,000

S Bypass 35 @ E Hwy 6  
39,000

S Bypass 35 @ FM 1462  
22,000

S Bypass 35 @ FM 528  
27,000

S Gordon @ Hwy 6  
15,000

FM 528 @ Bypass 35  
20,000

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