



Hutto is a burgeoning Central Texas community offering a world of opportunity for both residents and businesses. Hutto is one of the fastest-growing cities in the state and is now home to more than 11,000 people. Well-known for its small-town charm and quality schools, the city is bracing itself for an exciting future with major projects, such as State Highway 130 construction, park and trail development and a variety of economic development endeavors, currently under way.

Regional Information

Located on US 79 between Round Rock and Taylor, Hutto is only twenty-five miles from the State Capitol.

Education

The Hutto community is focused on its strong community values and cohesiveness. There is a strong community involvement with Hutto ISD. The schools in Hutto ISD have earned gold recognition status from the State of Texas. The students of Hutto schools score well on both State and National tests, and are provided character education training.

"Moving forward, reaching potential" is the vision of the Hutto Independent School District. With more than 3,000 students, the district currently has four campuses including, Hutto Elementary (Grades PK - 5), Johnson Elementary (Grades PK - 5), Hutto Middle School (Grades 6 - 8) and Hutto High School (Grades 9 - 12).

Hippo Capital of Texas

Hutto is the only community in the United States to use the hippo as its mascot. There are several stories that explain how the hippopotamus became Hutto's official mascot. The most popular tells of a circus train that stopped at the depot in 1915 most likely to take on passengers, pick up mail and water and feed the animals. During this historic stop, it is said that a hippo escaped and made its way to nearby Cottonwood Creek. Farmers and merchants watched in amusement as unsuccessful efforts were made to extricate the troublesome hippo from the muddy waters. Soon after the incident, the Hutto School adopted the hippo as its mascot.

In 2003, the Texas Legislature recognized Hutto as the "Official Hippo Capital of Texas." The Hutto Chamber of Commerce arranged for a seven-ton concrete hippo named "Henrietta" to be placed along East Street in 1986. The fast-growing city of Hutto is also home to a herd of smaller concrete hippos which stand outside homes, businesses and public buildings as a symbol of community pride. Many are painted to reflect the unique character of the owner or business it represents.

Quality of Life

The residents of Hutto joke that Hutto is the "center of the universe." They are not far from the truth as all of Central Texas is easily accessible from Hutto. The Texas Department of Transportation, Williamson County, and the City of Hutto are spending millions of dollars on transportation infrastructure in the community to make life easier for those living and visiting Hutto.

In Hutto, they define "Quality of Life" simply as "Life is Good" and you know that when life is good, business is great! Hutto offers its residents quality education, low cost of living, excellent regional medical care, plenty of recreational opportunities and much more.

Business Overview

Less than 30 miles from downtown Austin and only 10 miles from Round Rock's high tech manufacturing and assembly center, Hutto is the ideal lower cost alternative for many small and mid-size companies. Hutto is where site selection consultants and their clients have already discovered affordable real estate, a dynamic workforce at the ready, safe neighborhoods, quality schools, abundant recreational opportunities and an overall family and business friendly environment. Based on a number of indicators, the Hutto Economic Development Commission chooses to focus its attraction efforts on light and clean manufacturing, food processors, distribution centers, back office operations and assemblers of electronic and automotive components. With assistance from the Hutto EDC and in just the last few years, Hutto has become home to quality companies such as A.R. Machining, a metal fabricator, Touch Systems, a manufacturer of touch screen devices and Trim Tech, a producer of fine cabinets and other wood products.



Hutto Attractions:

Olde Tyme Days 5K Fun Run

1st Annual Olde Tyme Days 5K Fun Run Stampede. The first 100 paid entrants will receive Stampede/Thunder Run T-shirts. Overall Male and Female winner names engraved on Mayor's Cup Trophy displayed in the City of Hutto City Hall. Beautiful medallions for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place in each age division. Following the race, visit the Hutto Olde Tyme Days celebration in downtown Hutto. All entrants are eligible to win door prizes following the race. Runners must have their official race number to win prize! After the race, visit the Olde Tyme Days celebration in downtown including a parade and vendor exhibits.

Arbor Day

Arbor Day 2008 will give the City of Hutto and its citizens the opportunity to beautify its local city park. Trees will be planted at Fritz Park and Country Estates Park. City staff, Council members, and other volunteers in community will be on hand to beautify their local public land. All kinds of trees, from Texas Ash to Mexican White oak, will be planted. Public land beautification is a big part of the community's growth and improves the quality of life. One of the main reasons people move to a new community is for the quality of life. We may not see it now, but our children will be able to enjoy the hard work that we put into in our parks. Along with the tree planting event, there will be breakfast and drinks provided for volunteers. With dedication and effort our children and their children will be able to enjoy the quality of life we know they deserve.

"Don't Mess With Texas" Trash Off

This year the City of Hutto Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting its 3rd Annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off event, Saturday, March 29th. This special event will be held to clean up public land within the city of Hutto. The event will kick off with breakfast and a pep-rally held in front of the Parks & Recreation office, located next to Fritz Park. Last year we had a great turn out from our volunteers who ranged from City staff and Council members to businesses and individuals and their families from the community. Volunteers were sent off with trash bags and trash pickers in hand to their designated cleaning areas, which included Fritz Park, city ball fields, the trail along Cottonwood Creek to the South Park, City Hall, along Hwy 79 and Front Street, Country Estates Park, the Duck Pond, and along Carl Stern Drive. Volunteers picked up about 1 1/2 tons of trash off of our public land! After the clean-up, lunch will be provided for volunteers, along with door prizes to go with the celebration. Hope to see you there. For more information, please contact the Hutto Parks & Recreation Department at 512-759-4000

Easter Egg Hunt

Egg Hunt 2008 is scheduled for March 22nd, RAIN OR SHINE!!

The City of Hutto Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting its 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Fritz Park, Saturday, April 7th. Last year's first ever mass egg hunt event was a complete success. It was kicked off with a grand entrance by the Easter Bunny and the Hutto Hippo being escorted by Police Chief Harold Thomas and the Williamson County Fire Department. Children of all ages from all over Hutto and neighboring communities came out to greet the Easter Bunny and Hutto Hippo and hunt for goodies on the hill at Fritz Park. All kinds of goodies for the egg hunters will be on hand, from candy to palm trees. Prize eggs will be hidden on the hill for hunters to find and turn in to claim a prize at the prize table. Hunts are split into age groups: 0-3, 4-6, 7-8, and 9-10. This year's event will be begin at 9am. We look forward to seeing you there. For more information, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 512-759-4000.

Kids All Day Summer Camp

Looking to put your children in a fun and exciting camp this summer? Then bring them on over to Park Kids Summer Camp with the City of Hutto Parks & Recreation Department. Our campers will be experiencing and participating in lots of fun and enriching activities. Our campers will have access to classrooms for arts and crafts projects, gymnasiums and a courtyard for fun and games, and quick access to Fritz Park and trails, Old Hippo Stadium, and the Old Hippo Baseball Field for outdoor fun and activities. Field trips include Chaparral Ice, Round Rock Roller Rink, the movies and more. Park Kids Summer Camp welcomes children who will be entering Kindergarten all the way through those who have completed the 5th grade. The program will be held M-F from 7am-6:30pm at the Old Middle School, located on College Street, next to the HISD Administration offices. For more information, please contact the Hutto Parks & Recreation Department at 512-759-4000.

Concerts in the Park

The Hutto Parks & Recreation Department is proud to announce first ever the Summer Concert Series presented by Covert Ford of Hutto. Families are welcome to visit Fritz Park all summer long but now there is the opportunity folks everyone to enjoy great music as well! Fritz Park Pavilion will play host to three concerts this summer, one each month in June, July and August.

Parkland Development

Last July the Hutto City Council approved a resolution to apply for grant funds totaling more than \$400,000 from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to develop city owned parkland known as Hutto Lake, a 36 acre tract of land. On Thursday, January 24 the Texas Parks & Wildlife Board of Commissioners approved the awarding of these grant funds to Hutto.

The \$400,000 grant will be used towards development of the parkland to be used as a passive use park with multiple activity locations, interpretive areas, wildflowers and bird watching areas and trail. The City will now match this with an additional \$400,000 towards the project.

The development of Hutto Lake will enable the Parks & Recreation department to expand its park system with amenities that are not in any of the current city parks. In addition to the grant application, local developer Rick Jenkins with HM456 Development has pledged to donate additional land for trails that will connect the Hutto Lake park site to both Park at Brushy Creek and the Riverwalk subdivisions.

Hutto Parks & Recreation Director Mike Hemker stated the development of the Hutto Lake property was a top priority item in the adopted Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Master Plan, which was adopted by City Council in January of 2007. The proposed project will expand the existing park and trail system by a total of more than an additional seventy acres.

Adult Softball League

Last year the City of Hutto Parks & Recreation Department is hosted its first ever Adult Softball League for Hutto and surrounding communities. Registration forms can be picked up at City Hall or the Parks & Recreation office located at 306 E. Live Oak.