

EMC STRATEGY GROUP, LLC

EXPERIENCED EFFICIENT ALTERNATIVES

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Freer, TX, Government Relations Newsletter, Volume 1/ Issue 4, September 1, 2016

City Leadership:

Mayor Fabian Bazan

Mayor Pro-Tem Martin Martinez, Jr.

Alderman Place 1 Carlos Salinas

Alderman Place 2 Kenneth Sharber

Alderman Place 4 Fernando Carballeira

Alderman Place 5 Lando Hinojosa

SOUTH TEXAS ECONOMIC FORUM



Mayor Fabian Bazan, Mayor Pro-Tem Martin Martinez, Carlos Salinas, Kenneth Sharber, Fernando Carballeira and Lando Hinojosa with representatives of Governor Abbott's Office, SBA and Liftfund.

TAKING ACTION

- South Texas Economic Forum
- Small Business Administration
- Governor's Office Assistance
- PeopleFund Workshop

CALENDAR

September 12 – City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

September 20 – PeopleFund workshop, 3-5 pm

October 10 – City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

October 24 – Early Voting

October 26 – SBA workshop, 3-5 pm

November 4 – Early Voting Ends

November 8 – Election Day

November 14 – City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

The City of Freer held its first Business & Economic Development Forum on Wednesday, August 10. The forum included presentations from Leticia Flores of Governor Abbott's Office, SBA District Director Angela Burton and Laura Estrada with Liftfund. This forum is the launch of many planned Business & Economic Development initiatives that will be organized by EMC Strategy Group, LLC and its Owner & Founder Janice M. Gonzalez who previously served as the Business & Economic Development Director for the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce. EMC Strategy Group has scheduled several training opportunities for local business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs. These opportunities will include training sessions and workshops from state and federal agencies as well as nonprofit organizations geared towards helping local businesses grow. More information and dates for these opportunities can be found at www.freer.tx.org. For more information, contact janice.gonzalez@emcstrategygroup.com.

Business & Economic Development Workshops

September 20, 3 – 5 p.m. – PeopleFund, Location TBD

October 26, 3 – 5 p.m. – SBA, Location TBD

November 15, 3 – 5 p.m. – USDA, Location TBD



FREER SBA PARTNERSHIP

Freer City Officials with SBA District Director Angela Burton.



The City of Freer officially entered into a partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in its “Start Up in A Day Program.”

This program provides aspiring business owners a one-stop-shop opportunity to file for: business IRS EIN numbers, State Comptroller filing, simple business plan and financial assistance for business start-ups. By entering into this partnership with the SBA the City of Freer will be listed on the SBA’s official website as a participating community and will have access to many SBA resources. EMC Strategy Group, LLC will coordinate future Start Up in A Day Program days with the City of Freer and schedule several local business opportunities throughout the year. More information about this new program will be added to the Economic Development section of the city’s website www.freer.tx.org.

GOVERNOR ABBOTT’S OFFICE



Leticia Flores, Community Relations Director for the Office of Economic Development and Tourism Division of the Office of the Governor has pledged support for Freer’s business community. She will work with the City of Freer through EMC on future workshops that will be separate from the SBA’s resources. The city has already added the Governor’s Business online resource to the city website. Current and prospective business owners should visit the state’s official business website www.texaswideopenforbusiness.com for more information how to grow business and start from the ground up. There are many free resources available to the general public.

“We need to grow our local business community and provide business owners access to resources to help hem” -

Leticia Flores, Office of the Governor



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Municipal Judge Rachel De Los Santos

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BUSINESS WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

The City of Freer will hold a business funding workshop on September 20, from 3 – 5 p.m. in conjunction with PeopleFund. PeopleFund is a great funding resource for struggling business owners and a featured partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Many clients of PeopleFund are unable to secure loans from a traditional financial institution, so PeopleFund is a second chance for some small businesses. EMC is coordinating this workshop for the city. Business owners interested in applying for business loans will be able to do so at this event. Interested applicants should visit the Economic Development section of the city's website www.freer.tx.org for the funding requirements, workshop information and a list of what to bring to the workshop. Workshop participants are encouraged to bring a laptop.

EMC will schedule several funding workshops with other financial institutions throughout the year. Information about all future workshops will be added to the city's website. For more information, contact janice.gonzalez@emcstrategygroup.com or call 210.960.4340, ext. 102.

FREER REPRESENTED WITH EDA



*EMC Owner & Founder
Janice Gonzalez with EDA
Regional Director in
Austin.*

EMC Strategy Group, LLC met with Jorge Ayala, Regional Director for the Economic Development Administration (EDA), on August 4, in Austin. The EDA is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce and is charged with helping struggling communities with local Economic Development projects through training and funding resources. EMC will be seeking grants for the City of Freer through qualifying EDA initiatives for Fiscal Year 2017, which begins on October 1, 2016.