



KEEP LA PORTE BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Keep La Porte Beautiful Committee to be held on April 21, 2026, at 5:30PM in the City Hall Council Chamber, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items. All agenda items are subject to action.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **CITIZEN COMMENT**
State law provides that members of the public may speak before the Committee considers an item of business. Complete a sign up sheet before speaking. (Generally limited to five minutes per person; the time may be reduced if there is a high number of speakers or for other considerations.) Members of the Committee may ask questions or make statements of fact in response to comments but are not obligated to respond and will not participate in debate or take action during this portion of the agenda. Items may be requested for future agendas.
3. **APPROVE THE MINUTES**
4. **COMMITTEE CHARGE, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - 4.a **Presentation and discussion regarding updates on landscape plans and plant palette from DDG. [Assistant City Manager Matt Daeumer]**
 - 4.b **Presentation and discussion regarding updates on commercial enforcement items. [Planning & Development Director Ryan Hvitlok]**
 - 4.c **Presentation and discussion regarding the SCUP Landscape Project, including conceptual images and recommended approach.[Planning & Development Director Ryan Hvitlok]**
 - 4.d **Presentation and discussion regarding recent community events, including Spring Fest and the Recycling Open House. [Vice Chairperson Erika Mendez-Gutierrez]**
 - 4.e **Presentation and discussion regarding upcoming events, including the Great American Cleanup (May) and potential Adopt-a-Beach event on September 19, 2026. [Vice Chairperson Erika Mendez-Gutierrez]**
 - 4.f **Presentation and discussion regarding an update on the Sylvan Beach Depot,**

including a report on the recent inspection and coordination meeting with Museum Docent, City Manager, and Parks Superintendent. [Committee Member Travis Barnett]

- 4.g Presentation and discussion on updates from Keep La Porte Beautiful subcommittees.[Chairperson Virginia Pierson-Turner]
 - Parks
 - Main Street / Facade Enhancement
 - Monuments and Special Projects
- 4.h Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Keep La Porte Beautiful Business of the Month program, including designated areas of recognition and program updates[Committee Member Martha Gillet]
- 4.i Presentation and discussion regarding the Keep Texas Beautiful Annual Virtual Conference, including participation details for May 12–14 and coordination of meeting logistics.[Vice Chairperson Erika Mendez-Gutierrez]

5. REPORTS

6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Per Texas Gov't. Code Sec. 551.0415, the Committee may receive from staff and/or may make a report about items of community interest during a meeting without having given notice of the subject of the report, if no action is taken and, except as provided by Section 551.042, possible action is not discussed regarding the information provided in the report. Hear announcements concerning matters appearing on the agenda; items of community interest; and/or inquiries of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policy from the Committee members, for which no formal action will be discussed.

7. ADJOURN

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact the City Manager's Office (281-470-5013), three working days prior to the meeting for appropriate arrangements.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 551.127, on a regular, non-emergency basis, members may attend and participate in the meeting remotely by video conference. Should that occur, a quorum of the members will be physically present at the location noted above on this agenda.

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that a copy of the April 21, 2026, Keep La Porte Beautiful Advisory Committee agenda was posted on the City Hall bulletin board, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times, and to the City's website, www.LaPorteTX.gov, in compliance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

DATE:

TIME:

TAKEN DOWN:

SIGN UP FOR CITY ALERTS AT *AlertLP.com!*

Sherry Rodriguez - CMO Department Coordinator



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
KEEP LA PORTE BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE**

Members Present: Virginia Pierson-Turner, Chairperson; Erika Mendez-Gutierrez, Vice Chairperson; Members Peggy Antone, Travis Barnett, Leticia Thralls, Allison Vickery-Fowle, Tom Green, Brady Nance and prospective member Darrell Herrin.

Members Attending Remotely: None.

Members Absent: Martha Gillett (excused), Susie Burgess (excused), Michael Hanks (excused), Justin Gorashko (unexcused) and Joshua Lege (excused).

Staff Present: Johnny Morales, Emergency Management Coordinator; Shaun Lundy, Parks Superintendent; Andrew Brady, Assistant Public Works Director; Kayla O'Bryan, Special Events and Marketing Coordinator and other City staff as applicable.

**The Keep La Porte Beautiful Committee of the City of La Porte met on
March 17, 2026, at the City Hall Council Chambers,
604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at 5:30PM**

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairperson Pierson-Turner called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
 - 2. CITIZEN COMMENT** – None.
 - 3. APPROVE THE MINUTES** – Member Barnett moved and Member Vickery-Fowle seconded to approve the February 17, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion was adopted unanimously. The Committee noted that Member Justin Gorashko's absence from the previous meeting should be recorded as excused due to an incorrect email address, which has since been updated.
 - 4. COMMITTEE CHARGE, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - 4.a Presentation and discussion regarding an update on the Wayfinding Signage Project scheduled for consideration by City Council. [Special Events & Marketing Coordinator Kayla O'Bryan]**

Kayla O'Brien presented an update on the City's wayfinding signage project funded through hotel-motel tax grants. The project focuses on directional signage for visitors and key attractions. Committee members discussed potential future additions, including smaller intersection signage and signage for City facilities such as City Hall and public safety buildings. Additional comments included opportunities to enhance visibility and usability for both residents and visitors.

4.b Presentation and discussion regarding upcoming events [Chairperson Virginia Pierson-Turner]

Vice Chairperson Mendez-Gutierrez provided updates on upcoming events: Spring Fest is scheduled for April 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Five Points Plaza. The Recycling Open House is scheduled for April 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Recycling Center. The Great American Cleanup is scheduled for May 9 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at multiple locations including Sens Road and Pelican Park. Committee members were encouraged to volunteer and assist with outreach efforts. Discussion included engaging the public, recruiting volunteers, and coordinating logistics for each event. The Committee emphasized the importance of community interaction and building a volunteer base.

4.c Presentation, discussion and possible action on updates from KLPB subcommittees [Chairperson Virginia Pierson-Turner]

Members provided updates regarding subcommittee activities. The Main Street Facade Enhancement Subcommittee discussed facade grants, business recognition programs, and coordination with ongoing Main Street revitalization efforts. Members expressed interest in aligning with broader City plans and expanding recognition programs in the future. The Parks and Natural Areas Subcommittee discussed opportunities to enhance green space, including potential environmental initiatives such as wetland conversion projects. The Monuments and Special Projects Subcommittee reported on beautification efforts along Fairmont Parkway and future plans for storm drain marker installations.

4.d Presentation, discussion, and possible action on updates from the Keep Texas Beautiful Research Ad Hoc Subcommittee. [Vice Chairperson Erika Mendez-Gutierrez]

Vice Chairperson Mendez-Gutierrez provided updates on Keep Texas Beautiful initiatives, including a pending Keep Texas Beautiful affiliate plaque, an upcoming educational webinar of the Keep Texas Beautiful Conference scheduled for May 12th-14th. A motion was made and approved to allocate funds for conference participation.

4.e Presentation and Discussion on Committee Updates: Potential Realignment and FYE 26-27 Budget Considerations [Chairperson Virginia Pierson-Turner]

The Committee discussed organizational and budget-related updates, including the proposed realignment of Keep La Porte Beautiful under the Parks Department for FY

2026–2027. Discussion included a proposed beautification budget of approximately \$500,000 and an operational budget of \$15,000, as well as the addition of a new parks staff position that will serve as the primary liaison for KLPB while providing critical capacity support to the Parks Marketing and Special Events division. The Committee also discussed considerations for a tree replacement policy in relation to future construction and beautification efforts.

5. COMMITTEE COMMENTS – Committee members discussed community concerns related to litter, ongoing cleanup efforts, and coordination with City departments. Staff noted that routine litter pickup is conducted regularly across major roadways and public areas through coordinated efforts between Public Works and Parks Departments.

6. ADJOURN – Without objection, Chairperson Pierson-Turner adjourned the meeting at 6:42PM.

Matt Daeumer, Assistant City Manager

PORT CROSSING COLD STORAGE LANDSCAPING



On March 23, 2025, City Council approved SCUP-2025-0031 to allow for a warehouse use (cold storage facility) of no more than 65-feet in height with enhanced architecture at the southeast corner of West M Street and SH 146.

The SCUP included a condition for the developer to consult with staff and KLPB in the review and approval of their landscape plan to ensure the number and density of plantings are sufficient to provide a minimum of a 25-foot high solid vegetated screen at the time of planting,



Port Crossing Development Agreement:

- 50-foot landscape buffer along SH 146

Port Crossing SCUP:

- Truck-bay parking on the north or south side shall be screened, consisting of a masonry wall or landscaping at a sufficient height to screen trucks.
- A solid vegetated screen along SH 146, at least 25-foot in height at time of planting

COLD STORAGE CONCEPT PLAN



Building Calculations

FREEZER = 119,014 S.G.0000 S.F.
 GOLF DOCK = 11,876 S.G.0000 S.F.
 OFFICE = 1,620 S.G.0000 S.F.
 MAINTENANCE = 2,542 S.G.0000 S.F.
TOTAL GROUND FLOOR = 135,052 S.G.0000 S.F.
Total Footprint Area = 127,489 g.s.f.
 OFFICE MEZZANINE = 4,556 S.G.0000 S.F.
 EQUIPMENT MEZZANINE = 3,342 S.G.0000 S.F.
 DOCK MEZZANINE = 8,251 S.G.0000 S.F.
TOTAL MEZZANINE = 16,149 S.G.0000 S.F.
Total Building Area = 142,565 g.s.f.

Pallet Counts
 50 PALLETS ON AISLE X 2 = 84 PALETTE PER AISLE
 84 PALLETS X 8 AISLES = 2,352 PALLETS PER LEVEL
 104 PALLETS X 8 FLOORS = 23,552 PALLETS
23,552 PALLETS

Car Parking
 23 MIN CAR PARKING REQUIRED
 11 PROVIDED
 ALLOWS FOR 40 EMPLOYEES IN THE FREEZER/DOCK

14 Combined Dock Positions

FINAL MAX BUILDING HEIGHT T.B.D. NOT TO EXCEED 65' FROM AVERAGE GRADE.

La Porte, Texas
 Rendered Site Plan

COLD STORAGE CONCEPT PLAN



View from Entrance

LA Porte, Texas
Building Rendering

COLD STORAGE CONCEPT PLAN



View from S Highway 146 - Looking North

LA Porte, Texas

Building Rendering



QUESTIONS?

Keep La Porte Beautiful Committee (KLPB)

Summary - Parks Review ▶ for 2026 Tree Planting

Prepared by Susie Burgess; April 11, 2026

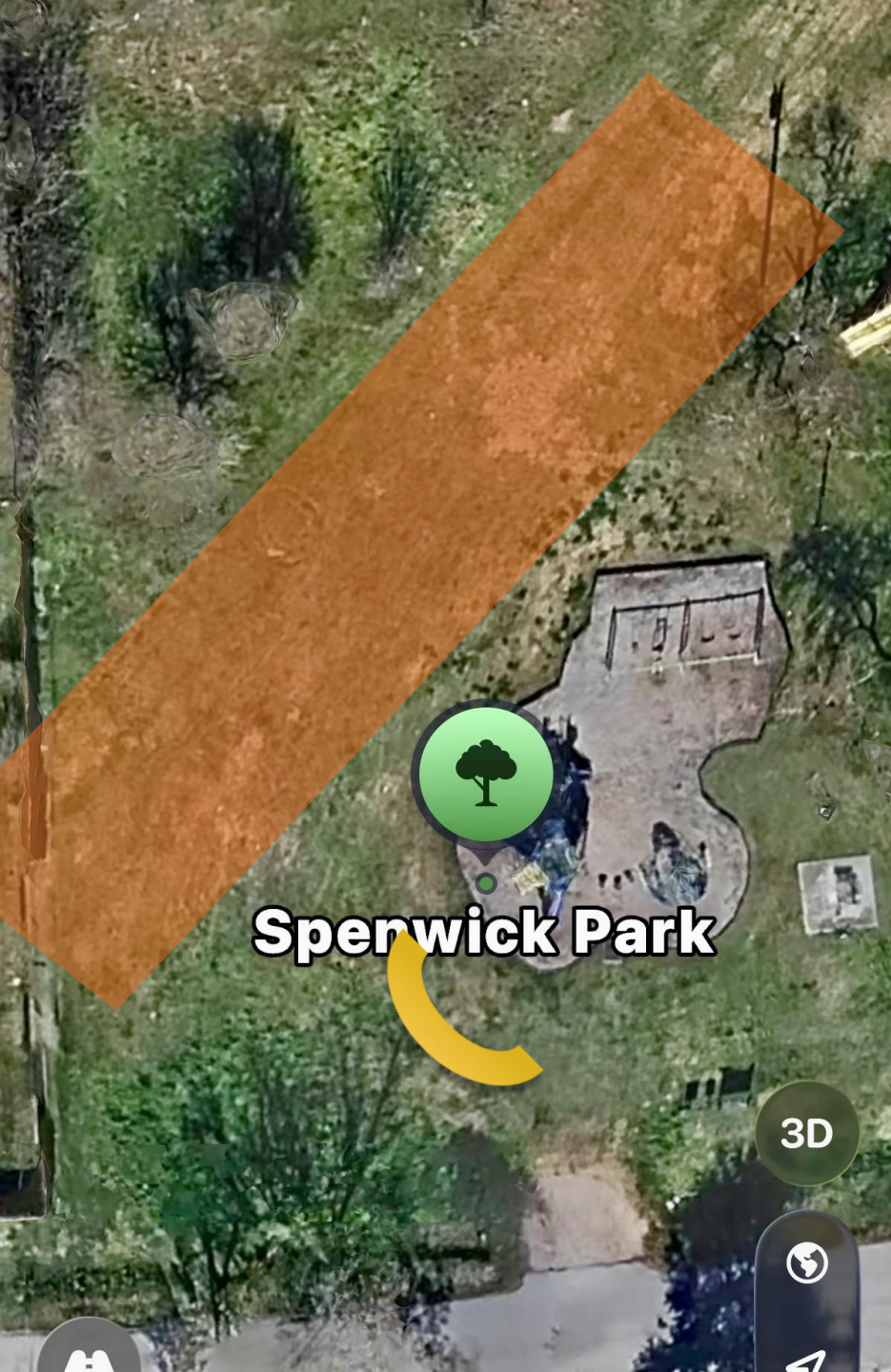
City Parks Walkthrough

- ❖ Susie Burgess (KLPB), Chris Saucedo (Parks) met with Barry Ward, Certified Arborist and Executive Director of Trees for Houston
- ❖ Overall Considerations/Goals:
 - ❖ Long term survival
 - ❖ Esthetics
 - ❖ Shade where needed
 - ❖ Fall color if possible
 - ❖ Include native species when feasible
 - ❖ Keep 20 feet from playgrounds



More to Consider...

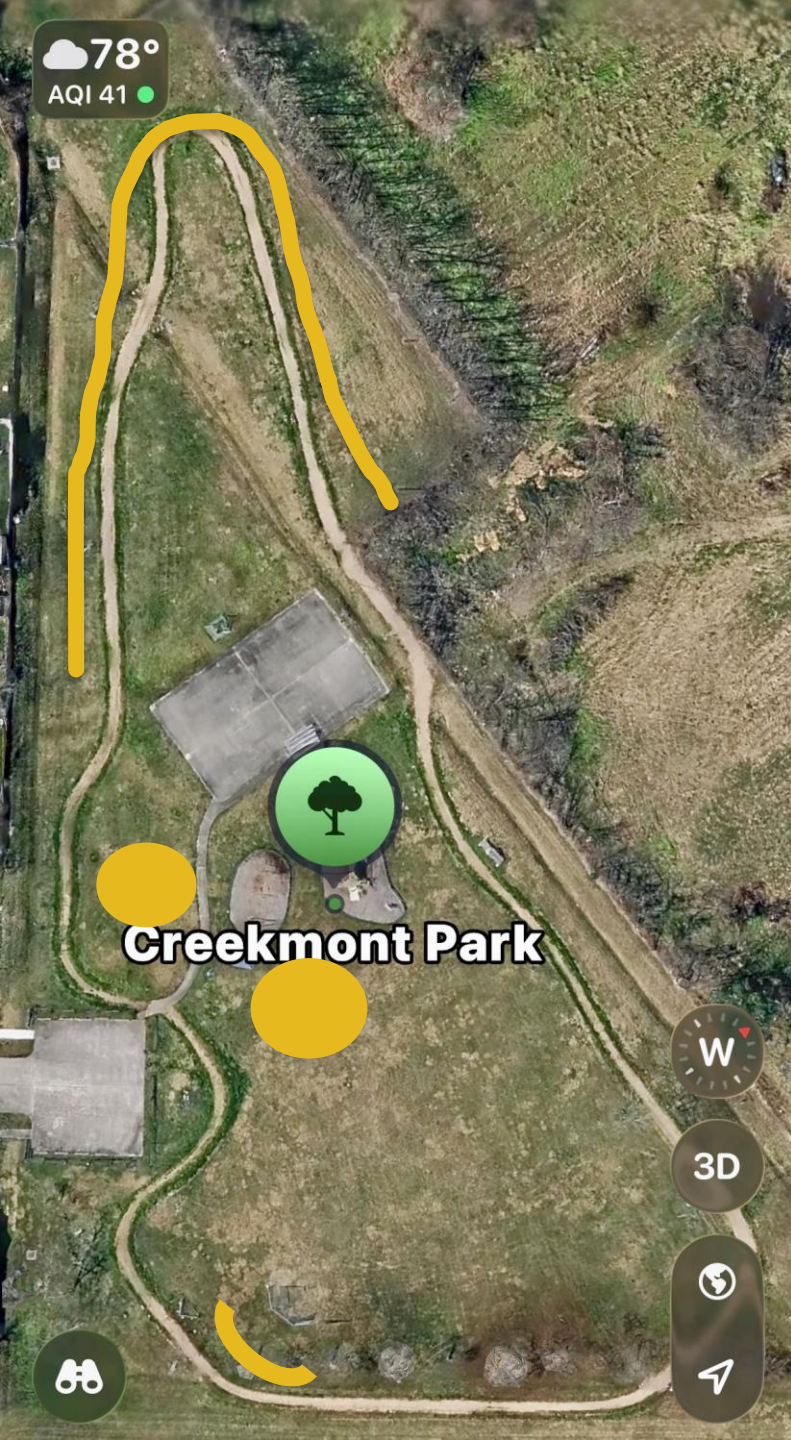
- ❖ We agreed that rather than determine a set number of trees to plant city-wide, we should focus on what works best for a few parks
- ❖ This will help us aim for success and ensure approval for continued annual tree projects
- ❖ It's essential to consider access for watering and ongoing maintenance



Yellow areas = general tree placement

Spenwick Park

- ❖ 3 upright trees in a southwest arc near the playground, possibly pine or sycamore
- ❖ Avoid the pipeline corridor behind, and to the north of, the playground (shown in red)
- ❖ Leave space for equipment to access pipeline for future maintenance needs



Yellow areas = general tree placement

Creekmont Park

- ❖ Possibly 15-20 trees at this location
- ❖ Most trees to follow in alternating patterns along the trail
- ❖ 2-3 trees west & south of playground - deciduous preferred
- ❖ 1-2 trees behind home plate bleachers
- ❖ Plant a variety of trees, including Fall color if possible
- ❖ Question: Can we get San Carlos Red Oak trees planted at this location?



Yellow areas = general tree placement

Seabreeze Park

- ❖ Harsh environment; only select species will survive; Live Oak & Hackberries do well up and down the coast
- ❖ On south/west of pathway leading down to pier - alternate Live Oaks with smaller flowering trees; spaced at 5-6 ft to allow for mower deck passage
- ❖ 2-3 trees west of the table/bbq shelters; Keep center green space open for activities

Next Steps

- ❖ Barry's team will review notes and provide google maps with dots indicating recommended placement and tree varieties
- ❖ Trees will be reserved now for planting in the Fall, giving them their best chance for survival
- ❖ Recommendations only: plans may be adjusted
- ❖ Park & Recreation makes the final decision on placement of trees

Thank you!

- ❖ Thank you Barry and Chris!
- ❖ It was so helpful to have a tree expert and a "boots on the ground" parks person there to do this walk-through and discussion
- ❖ Nothing like being there in person to get an accurate assessment of what will or won't work

CITY LOGO

Keep La Porte Beautiful – Business of the Month Award Policy

WHAT IS THE CITY BEAUTIFICATION AWARD?

The City of La Porte – Keep La Porte Beautiful Award recognizes businesses who have made recent efforts to clean, repair, improve, and enhance the overall aesthetics of their building(s), property, and/or space, thereby maintaining the beauty of their neighborhood and surroundings. It is presented to encourage community improvements, therefore enhancing our city's image and economic vitality.

The award will occur quarterly. The Main Street and Enhancement Grant subcommittee will meet quarterly to determine the recipient for that quarter. Each committee member will tour the area on their own and submit their recommendation to be voted on by the entire committee. (see attached recommendation form)

WHAT DOES THE COMMITTEE LOOK FOR?

The Committee seeks to recognize commercial/industrial site improvements, commercial/industrial upgrades, landscapes, exterior renovations, restorations, and new structures that are architecturally noteworthy and well maintained.

A major criterion is how the project visually enhances the surrounding neighborhood and community. How the business incorporates design, maintenance, color, organization, and creativity within the existing community. Improvements to structures, exterior spaces, and landscaping are important elements for consideration,

Award will be evaluated on the overall visual appearance.

ELIGIBILITY

The business must be an operational business located within the Main Street District/City of La Porte.

Public projects are not eligible.

For new construction or renovations, a certificate of occupancy must have been issued.

Previous recipients of the Beautification Award are ineligible to receive the award in the succeeding two years at the same location.

JUDGING RUBRIC

This award recognizes businesses whose building(s), property and/or spaces that contribute to the beautification of the city through landscaping and architecture.

Each committee member will visit the Main area and complete this form by mid month prior to the next quarter. Forms will be returned to Committee Co-Chairs. The business that receives the highest score will be the winner for that quarter,

Each business need to score a minimum of 10 points to be eligible to win.

Scoring Rubric	0	1	2	3	Total
	Does not meet Criteria	Neutral	Meets the Criteria	Exceeds the Criteria	
The business building(s) property/space visually enhances the surrounding neighborhood					
The business building(s)/property/space is well maintained					
The business building(s)/property/space incorporates a visually pleasing color scheme					
The business building(s)/property/space incorporates creativity and design.					
The business made substantial improvements to their building(s)/property/space					
				Grand Total	

Submitted by:

Date:

S



La Porte Beautiful Business Award

Purpose/Mission: To promote a clean and vibrant City through litter cleanups and beautification.

Overview: Four times a year, the City of La Porte will work in cooperation with volunteer judges to award the La Porte Beautiful Business Award to a business on in the Main Street District who has done an exemplary job keeping their property clean, maintaining building exterior standards i.e. signage, paint, clean windows, etc. and has enhanced the area with beautification efforts.

Qualification:

- Businesses zoned as Main Street District in the City's Code of Ordinances will qualify to participate.
- Business must be in good standing with all City codes and ordinances.
- A business is eligible to win semi-annually.

Judging:

- Time commitment 1-2 hours quarterly
- Commit to 4 months of judging.
- Judges will review businesses the second to last week of the month, prior to the First Friday event.

Scoring:

- Judges will rate each business on a scale of 1-3 for each category.
- The final score will be calculated with the average score from all judges.
- Score sheets from each judge will be turned in to City of La Porte staff to calculate the final score.
- Merit points may be added to a businesses score in future years based on upkeep from the previous year.

Recognition: Provided the Wednesday of the last week of the month

- Traveling La Porte Beautiful Business Award
- Window cling for storefront
- Yard sign for storefront
- Social media post on City of La Porte and Visit La Porte TX social media platforms
- Picture in the La Porte Quarterly newsletter
- Bragging rights

Judge:	
Business Name:	
Address:	
Building Standards, Front and Back	Points (Scale 1-3)
Building and parking lot (if applicable) free of litter	
Signage in good condition	
Windows clean/no broken windows	
Dumpsters and trash areas are clean and tidy	
Paint on building/murals are well maintained and not chipped/graffitied	
Old, unused items are not stored behind the store i.e. equipment, furniture, or supplies	
Landscaping: upkeep of greenery, grass (if applicable), trees, shrubs/flowers along with benches or any seating	
Lighting/fixtures in good condition and cleared of debris	
3 bonus points for any business that has decorated their storefront for the upcoming holiday and/or City event	
Total	

Grading scale:

- 1: Needs immediate attention and support
- 2: Needs minimal improvements
- 3: Needs no improvements, perfect!