

## **Ad hoc committee for the investigation of retail opportunities within the city limits of La Porte, Texas**

### **Purpose:**

To establish an ad hoc committee to investigate and report back to the City Council on potential retail opportunities within the City of La Porte, Texas. The committee will thoroughly investigate available properties, zoning regulations, and the needs and interests of the community to ensure any retail development aligns with the City's goals and residents' desires.

### **Objectives:**

- **Property Availability:** Identify and evaluate properties within the city limits that are suitable for retail development, including both vacant land and underutilized properties.
- **Current Zoning:** Review existing zoning regulations to determine their compatibility with potential retail development and recommend any necessary changes to support new retail opportunities.
- **Public Need:** Assess the types of retail services and businesses that are currently lacking in the City and would fulfill unmet needs.
- **Public Interest:** Conduct surveys, public meetings, or other forms of outreach to gather input from residents and stakeholders regarding desired retail opportunities.

### **Committee Composition:**

Brent McCaulley, Councilperson, Chair  
Brandon Lunsford, Councilperson  
Robbie McLarrin, Councilperson  
Marty Campise, resident  
David Janda, resident

Each member is selected based on their expertise, community involvement, and interest in the development of the local economy.

### **Timeline and reporting:**

- The committee shall endeavor to hold its initial meeting in September and provide updates at a Council meeting every 30-60 days.
- Every effort will be made in this regular reporting rhythm to aid Councilpersons in being prepared as early as possible to consider items related to the committee's work at the 2025 budget retreat.
- A final report, including recommendations, justifications, and any dissenting opinions, will be presented by the committee chair at or before the March 24, 2025, Council meeting.

### **Meetings:**

- The committee is expected to meet at least monthly and in adherence with the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
- The committee is expected to identify at least two points in its work where public feedback should be sought and considered, in addition to input received during *Public Comment* at meetings. The committee should work with City team members to best engage the public, considering a variety of outreach methods and seeking response from all stakeholder groups. The material collected will be included in the committee's deliberations and a synopsis of the feedback covered in the reports to the Council.

- Draft meeting minutes will be provided promptly to committee members after each meeting and generally handled as for the Council and Council committees.

**Support:**

- Committee members will have access to City planning documents, financial reports, and legal advice, as necessary and appropriate.

**Legal and Ethical Guidelines:**

- The committee will operate within legal parameters and adhere to ethical standards, including:
  - Transparency: Open meetings and accessible records.
  - Conflict of Interest Policies: Members must disclose any potential conflicts of interest.
  - Confidentiality: Sensitive information will be handled with appropriate confidentiality.