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15 Texas Cities Earn Prominent Scenic City Certification

HOUSTON – July 18, 2014 – Fifteen Texas municipalities have been awarded Scenic City Certification by the Scenic City Certification Program of Scenic Texas. Ten have been certified for the first time, and five have upgraded their certification status, bringing the total certified cities in Texas to 52.

The Scenic City Certification Program is the first in the United States to incorporate a comprehensive set of model standards for design and development of public roadways and public spaces into one program. Cities apply to the program for a rigorous evaluation and scoring of existing municipal standards against the model. Those with the highest evaluation scores earn certification.

Cities earning first-time certification, from 2014-2019, include:

Beaumont
Corinth
Denton
Dripping Springs
Friendswood
La Vernia
Lakeway
Taylor
Waxahachie
Webster

Also this year, the rankings of five previously-certified cities were upgraded in recognition of additional and stronger regulations adopted since the cities were originally certified.

Flower Mound Keller Mesquite Richardson West University Place

"Scenic Cities demonstrate a commitment to better quality of life and smart growth," said Anne Culver, executive director of the Scenic City Certification Program. "This program provides a roadmap for other cities to meet or beat the benchmarks the current Scenic Cities have set."

A reception to present these 15 municipalities with their Scenic City Certification will be held on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at The Grove restaurant at Discovery Green in Houston, during the Texas Municipal League's Annual Conference Week.

The Scenic City application process for the 2015 round of Scenic City evaluations opens January 1, 2015. Any incorporated Texas municipality may submit an application online before March 31, 2015. For more information, visit www.sceniccitycertification.org.

Scenic City Certification program partners include the Texas Municipal League, Urban Land Institute – Houston, American Planning Association Texas, Houston-Galveston Area Council, American Council of Engineering Companies Houston, Keep Texas Beautiful, Texas Downtown Association, Texas Historical Commission, Scenic Houston and Scenic America.

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Scenic Texas is a 501 c 3 non-profit organization. The mission of Scenic Texas is to preserve and enhance the visual character of Texas. We promote enhanced design standards for public projects, sign regulation, freeway landscaping and scenic byway development. Visit www.scenictexas.org.

TEXAS CERTIFIED SCENIC CITIES

Platinum

Fairview (2011-2016) Flower Mound (2014-2019) Frisco (2011-2016) McKinney (2013-2018) Plano (2012-2017) Richardson (2012-2017) Roanoke (2011-2016) Rockwall (2013-2018)

Gold

Belton (2010-2015) Benbrook (2011-2016) Buda (2011-2016) Cedar Hill (2011-2016) Cedar Park (2012-2017) Dripping Springs (2014-2019) Georgetown (2010-2015) Keller (2014-2019) Lakeway (2014-2019) Mesquite (2014-2019) North Richland Hills (2011-2016) Pearland (2011-2016) Southlake (2012-2017) Westlake (2010-2015)

Silver

Colleyville (2012-2017) Granbury (2010-2015) Heath (2011-2016) Houston (2013-2018) Mansfield (2011-2016)

Pflugerville (2012-2017) South Padre Island (2010-2015) Sugar Land (2010-2015) Trophy Club (2011-2016) Waxahachie (2014-2019) West University Place (2013-2018)

Bronze

Bastrop (2010-2015)
Beaumont (2014-2019)
Corinth (2014-2019)
Denton (2014-2019)
Friendswood (2014-2019)
Horseshoe Bay (2010-2015)
Hutto (2011-2016)
Irving (2010-2015)
La Vernia (2014-2019)
Missouri City (2010-2015)
Sealy (2011-2016)
University Park (2010-2015)

Recognized

Double Oak (2012-2017) Grapevine (2011-2016) Kennedale (2013-2018) McAllen (2011-2016) Seabrook (2013-2018) Taylor (2014-2019) Webster (2014-2019)