

TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

# 2026 MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

**JUNE 17-19, 2026**



**Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park  
Plano, TX**

# EXHIBITORS

**CDSMR**  
**CivicServe**  
**Community Inspired Capital Development**  
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**Terracon**  
**Texas Workforce Commission**  
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**The Retail Coach**  
**Viking**  
**ZacTax**

# Texas Economic Development Council 2026 MID-YEAR CONFERENCE AGENDA

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## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

Time	Topic	Room
10:30–11:15 AM	<b>Membership Committee Meeting</b> (Open to All)	Bluestem 1
10:30–11:15 AM	<b>Education Committee Meeting</b> (Open to All)	Bluestem 2
11:15 AM–12:00 PM	<b>PAC Committee Meeting</b> (Open to All)	Bluestem 1
11:15 AM–12:00 PM	<b>CEDA Committee Meeting</b> (Open to All)	Bluestem 2
12:00–1:00 PM	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> (Committee Only)	Bluestem 3
1:00–1:15 PM	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> <i>Adrian Cannady, President &amp; CEO, Temple EDC</i>	Prairie A–D
1:15–2:15 PM	<b>Trust Builders: The Key to Thriving Communities</b> <i>Amy Holloway, President &amp; Economic Development Strategist, Aha! Advisors</i>	Prairie A–D
2:15–3:15 PM	<b>Powering Texas' Future: Data Centers and Their Community Impact</b> <i>Sponsored by: Google</i> <i>Moderator: Matt Abel, VP of Government Relations, TEDC</i>	Prairie A–D
3:15–3:45 PM	<b>Networking Break</b> <i>Sponsored by: Buda Economic Development Corporation</i>	Prairie Foyer
3:45–4:45 PM	<b>Executive Positioning and Leadership for Economic Development Professionals</b> <i>Kat Saunders, Economic Leadership, LLC</i>	Prairie A–D
5:00–6:15 PM	<b>Networking Reception</b> <i>Sponsored by: Forney Economic Development Corporation</i>	Prairie Foyer
6:30–8:30 PM	<b>New Member Dinner</b> (Invite Only)	

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## THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026

Time	Topic	Room
7:15–8:15 AM	<b>Breakfast and Networking</b> <i>Sponsored by: City of Carrollton</i>	Prairie Foyer
8:00–9:00 AM	<b>From Projects to Pipelines: Building a Workforce System That Actually Delivers</b> <i>Laura Huffman, CEO &amp; Co-Founder, CivicSol; Cesiah Kessler, Founder &amp; CEO, Kezzler Group</i>	Prairie A–D
9:00–10:00 AM	<b>Unlocking the Texas Aerospace Advantage</b> <i>Clay Mowry, CEO, AIAA; Linda O'Brien, VP &amp; Chief Engineer, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics</i>	Prairie A–D
10:00–10:15 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
10:15–11:15 AM	<b>Protecting the Foundation: The Growing Importance of Investing in Infrastructure Resilience</b> <i>David Dodd, Founding President, DADCO Consulting; CEO, International Sustainable Resilience Center</i>	Prairie F
11:15–11:30 AM	<b>Break</b>	
11:30 AM–1:00 PM	<b>Workforce Excellence Award Luncheon</b> <i>Sponsored by: Allen Economic Development Corporation</i> <i>Speaker: Bryan Daniel, President, NYSE Texas</i>	Prairie A–D
1:00–1:30 PM	<b>Break</b>	
1:30–2:30 PM	<b>When Disruption Becomes Routine: Preparing Texas Small Businesses Before the Next Crisis</b> <i>Amy Hereford, President &amp; CEO, LiftFund</i>	Prairie A–D
1:30–2:30 PM	<b>How Economic Development is Changing in the Electro-Industrial Era</b> <i>Brian O'Hanlon, Managing Director, U.S. Program, RMI</i>	Prairie F
2:30–3:00 PM	<b>Networking Break</b> <i>Sponsored by: Buda Economic Development Corporation</i>	Prairie Foyer
3:00–4:00 PM	<b>Do More With Less: A Hands-on AI Workshop for Texas Economic Developers</b> <i>Dave Parsell, CEO, Localintel</i>	Prairie A–D
3:00–4:00 PM	<b>Infrastructure, Energy, and AI: The Emerging Economics of Texas Growth</b> <i>Shreeya Gurav, Analyst, REMI</i>	Prairie F
4:00–5:00 PM	<b>Site Location Consultant Fireside Chat</b> <i>Josh Bays, Managing Partner, Site Selection Group; Kevin Shatley, VP Economic Development, Dallas Regional Chamber</i>	Prairie A–D
5:00–6:30 PM	<b>Networking Reception</b> <i>Sponsored by: ZacTax</i>	Prairie Foyer

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## FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026

Time	Topic	Room
7:15–8:15 AM	<b>Breakfast and Networking</b> <i>Sponsored by: Athens Economic Development Corporation</i>	Prairie Foyer
8:00–9:00 AM	<b>Building a Founder Economy: Why Entrepreneurship is the Most Underrated Economic Development Strategy</b> <i>Jacquie Martinez, Assistant Director – Small Business Initiatives, ; Jennifer Storm, CEO, Buda EDC; Andres Urrego, Founder, Moil/HIVE</i>	Prairie A–D
9:00–10:00 AM	<b>Legislative Panel</b> <i>Moderator: Stacy Schmitt, COO, Opportunity Austin</i> <i>Panelists: Senator Angela Paxton (R–McKinney); Rep. Angie Chen Button (R–Garland)</i>	Prairie A–D
10:00–11:00 AM	<b>Maximizing Data Center Economic Impact: Developing an Effective Message in Support of Data Center Recruitment</b> <i>Moderator: Larry McManus, Business Development Dir., TXEDC &amp; Tourism</i> <i>Panelists: Misty Mayo, President &amp; CEO, Development Corporation of Abilene; Dale Fowler, Manager of Economic and Business Development, AEP Texas; Wilson Peppard, Director of Economic Development, Oncor</i>	Prairie A–D
11:00 AM–12:00 PM	<b>TEDC Board of Directors Meeting (Open to All)</b>	Prairie E–F

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This event is recognized by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) as a professional development training that counts toward the recertification of the Certified Economic Developers (CEd).

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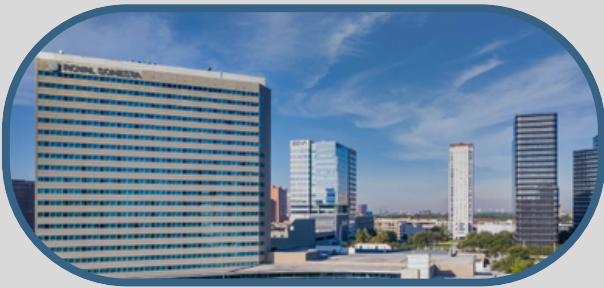
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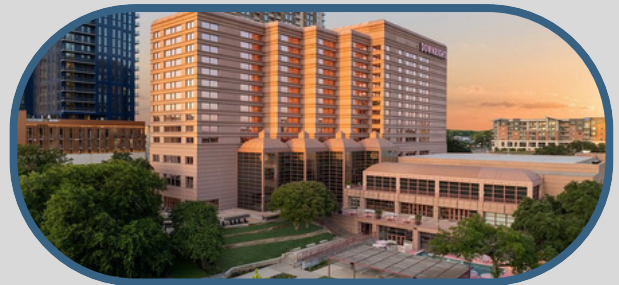


# We hope to see you at the next TEDC's Conferences



**2026 TEDC Annual Conference**  
October 7-9, 2026  
Royal Sonesta Galleria  
Houston, TX

**2027 TEDC Winter Conference**  
February 24-26, 2027  
Renaissance Downtown Hotel  
Austin, TX



TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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