TEXAS MAIN STREET PROGRAM

The Texas Main Street Program (TMSP) coordinates a network of 89 Main Street communities to revitalize historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts. The TMSP, in cooperation with Main Street America, supports the creation and implementation of preservation and economic development strategies, as well as the rehabilitation of downtown historic assets.

WHAT WE DO

Communities and urban neighborhoods apply to the TMSP and, if accepted, gain access to organizational and design services that address the needs of each defined Main Street district. Additionally, the TMSP provides continuing education specific to The Main Street America Approach™.

THC STAFF:

- Coordinates ongoing comprehensive training for Main Street managers and board members.
- Provides onsite evaluations and recommendations to participating communities, businesses, and property owners.
- Provides design and historic preservation assistance.
- Consults with downtown merchants on small business practices and issues.
- Maintains DowntownTX.org, a real estate and building inventory tool that lists commercial building stock in historic downtowns.
- Coordinates the Imagine the Possibilities tours, which showcases properties listed on DowntownTX.org available for purchase or rent.
- Serves as a liaison between Main Street local programs and other THC programs.

Shown above: Downtown San Angelo.
Inset: Downtown Nacogdoches.

A PROVEN TRACK RECORD

The Texas Main Street Program (TMSP) began in 1981. Affiliated with Main Street America, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the TMSP network is among the largest coordinating programs in the nation.

More than 180 cities have participated in the Texas Main Street Program over the years accomplishing:

- Private reinvestment of $3.2 billion in Texas downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.
- More than $5.4 billion in overall reinvestment.
- More than 47,000 new jobs in Texas.
- More than 11,000 business starts, expansions, or relocations.

HOW TO APPLY

Texas communities with a concentration of historic downtown commercial buildings or a historic neighborhood business district may apply to participate in the TMSP. Please contact the Community Heritage Development Division at 512-463-6092 for application procedures.

REQUIREMENTS BASED ON POPULATION

- Cities with populations of 50,000 and under must agree to hire a full-time Main Street manager.
- Cities with a population of more than 50,000 must hire a full-time Main Street manager and one support staff position.
- All designated communities must provide funding for staff salaries and professional development, as well as administrative costs and local Main Street activities and initiatives.

A DEDICATED TEAM

TMSP staff members have various educational backgrounds and professional experience in architecture, design, historic preservation, public engagement, and organizational planning.

HOW TO REACH US

The Texas Main Street Program (TMSP) office is located at 1304 Colorado St. in the Christianson-Leberman Building in Austin. Staff members are available to answer questions and provide preservation assistance to Main Street local program stakeholders. The TMSP's state coordinator and assistant state coordinator can field questions about application to the network of participating communities. Please contact us at:

Phone: 512-463-5758
Fax: 512-463-5862
Email: community-heritage@thc.texas.gov

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

thc.texas.gov