

GEORGETOWN CITY Reporter

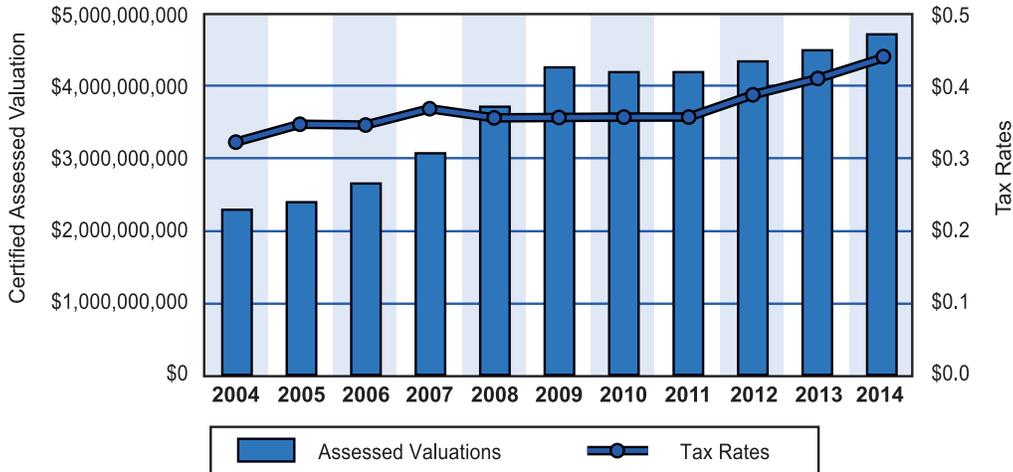


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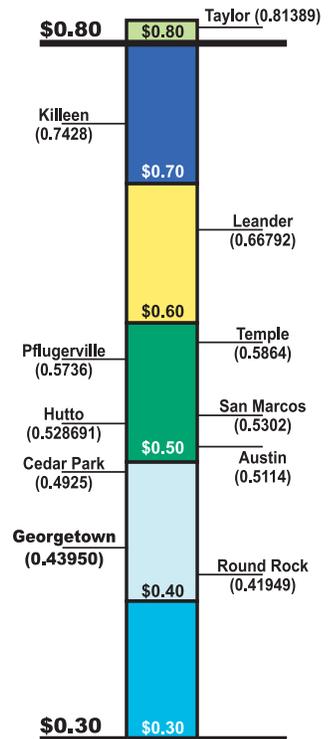
May 2014

Assessed Valuations & Tax Rates



The assessed valuation in the city, which represents the total value of all property in the city limits, has increased from \$2.2 billion in 2004 to \$4.7 billion in 2014.

City Tax Rate Comparison



Georgetown continues to have one of the lowest property tax rates among cities in the Central Texas region.

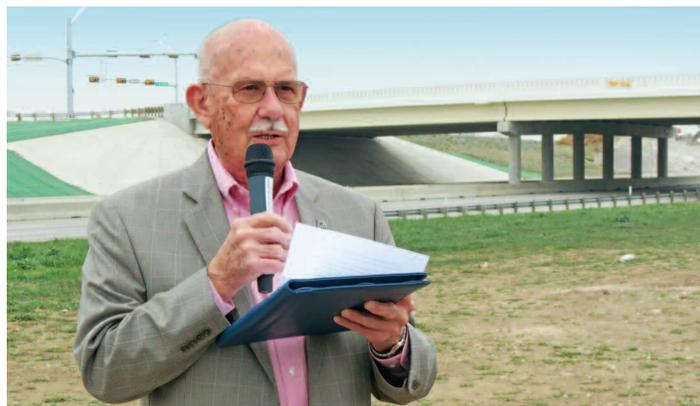
Georgetown Economy and Population Growing

Residential growth continues to be healthy in Georgetown with 690 new residential permits in city limits in 2013, representing a value of \$294.9 million. This is the highest number of residential permits since 2007. The city also added 445 multi-family units in 2013, including apartments and senior living facilities.

The Planning Department estimates that in 2013 (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31), the city’s population increased from 50,445 to 52,351. Since the 2010 census, the city’s population has grown 10.4 percent. Including the extraterritorial jurisdiction, which extends up to 3.5 miles beyond city limits, the January 1, 2014 population estimate is 76,010.

Housing values also have increased, with the average home in Georgetown valued at \$190,802 on

January 1, 2013, compared to \$185,915 on January 1, 2012.



Lakeway Drive Bridge Opens

The new Lakeway Drive Bridge opened to traffic in February as officials with the City of Georgetown joined the Texas Department of Transportation to mark the completion of a greatly improved east-west link in the city. The new bridge has dedicated left-turn lanes, wide shoulders, and sidewalks. Funding for the \$10.25 million bridge included federal and state sources

and \$2.5 million from the Georgetown Transportation Enhancement Corporation via the 0.5 percent 4B sales tax in Georgetown. “This project is a great example of collaboration by a number of agencies and we are excited to see this new bridge become a reality,” said Mayor George Garver at the opening event.

Mayoral Election on May 10

Early in-person voting for the May 10 mayoral election is April 28 through May 6. The candidates for mayor are Marlene McMichael and Dale Ross. The last day to register to vote in the May election is April 11. Keith Brainard and Rachael Jonrowe, incumbents serving on the City Council, were uncontested for the District 2 and District 6 seats, respectively.

Memorial Day Monday, May 26

City facilities closed

Normal solid waste and recycling collection

The Georgetown City Reporter is a publication of the City of Georgetown Public Communications Department, P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, Texas, 78627. For questions or comments, contact Keith Hutchinson, public communications manager, at (512) 930-3690 or by email at keith.hutchinson@georgetown.org.

Reporter

May Events

The Palace Theater

Moon Over Buffalo,

April 11 – May 4.

Guys and Dolls,

May 16 – June 15 Details at GeorgetownPalace.com, or call (512) 869-7469.

National Day of Prayer, May 1

Georgetown Community-Wide Prayer Event for the National Day of Prayer is 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at GISD Football Stadium, 2275 N. Austin Ave. Rain out location: Main Street Ministry Center, 10th and Main streets. Morning Prayer Event, 9:30 to 11 a.m., The Worship Place, 811 Sun City Blvd.

First Friday, May 2

Downtown live music, shops, and restaurants are open late. See the DGA website at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Sun City Garden Tour, May 3 – 4

Presented by the Sun City Garden Club, *Butterflies, Birds and Blooms*, is Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday noon to 3 p.m. Check-in at The Oaks at Legacy Hills Golf Course, 301 Del Webb Blvd for maps, directions, and admission wristband. Advance ticket sales start March 3 for \$10 each at the Visitor Center, 103 W. Seventh Street, or Sun City Member Services Office, 2 Texas Drive or online through May 2 at www.sctxca.org/suncity/tickets. Tickets are \$15 at The Oaks on May 3 – 4. Net proceeds donated to Williamson County charities.

Market Days, May 10

Handmade arts and crafts, food, and more on the Square from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.



Photo credit: Ellen Davis, Southwestern University

'Southwestern' on Water Tower

Georgetown Utility Systems recently completed a rehabilitation of the water tower on James Street near Southwestern University. The City partnered with Southwestern to have the SU logo and the word "Southwestern" painted on the

water tower. The new lettering serves as a proud statement that Georgetown is a college town and home to the oldest chartered university in the state. A grant to Southwestern funded the new lettering.

Georgetown Public Library

Author James Magnuson May 8

The Friends of the Georgetown Library's Hill Country Author Series will feature writer James Magnuson on Thursday, May 8 at 3 p.m. at the library.

Magnuson is the author of *Famous Writers I Have Known*, his ninth novel, and the director of the prestigious James A. Michener Center for Writers at the University of Texas. He is also the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship for his fiction and the winner of the Jesse Jones Award from the Texas Institute of Letters.

According to the Washington Post, "James Magnuson's cheeky ninth



novel, a triumphantly preposterous fish-out-of-water campus caper, is narrated by a sleazy antihero who just might win the day." The book is principally set in Austin at the so-called Fiction Institute of Texas where he is mistaken for a famous author and is surrounded by graduate lovelies.

Tickets for the event are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door, and may be purchased starting March 15 at the Second Hand Prose bookstore on the second floor of the library or by contacting Ricki McMillian at (512) 818-8074. The library is at 402 W. Eighth Street.

Outdoor pools open for the summer season on May 24 for the Memorial Day weekend and will be open through mid-August. Go to aquatics.georgetown.org for details.

Art & Author Fair, May 10

Look in the Book, an art and author fair sponsored by the Central Texas Authors group, is at the Georgetown Public Library from 1 to 5 p.m. Keynote by Rhiannon Frater, author of the *As the World Dies* zombie trilogy. Live music, refreshments, author book signings, and dramatic readings by professional actors/actresses, as well as art and photography.

Memorial Day Band Concert, May 25

The 36th Infantry Division Band of the Texas Army National Guard presents a free, public concert on Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Plaza, 2 Texas Drive. Details at www.sctxca.org.

Memorial Day Ceremony, May 26

The 11th annual Memorial Day Ceremony starts at 9:30 a.m. on Monday at the Veterans Memorial Plaza, 2 Texas Drive. The free and public ceremony honors men and women who gave their lives serving in the U.S. military. Details at www.sctxca.org.

Festival of the Arts May 29 – June 1

The 10th annual Georgetown Festival of the Arts presents *A Spanish Fiesta*, with a French twist. The event is held in several Georgetown venues May 29 through June 1. Spanish composers Isaac Albéniz, Enrique Granados, and Manuel de Falla are featured in the festival, as well as French composers who captured the atmosphere of Spanish culture.

The festival includes a performance by the A'lante Flamenco Dance Ensemble, a free film showing at City Lights Theatres, chamber concerts, symposiums, and a free outdoor concert in San Gabriel Park. The outdoor concert on Saturday features the Round Rock Symphony and student music ensembles from Georgetown High School and ends with a fireworks display. Go to www.gtownfestival.org for details and tickets. The festival is supported in part by the City of Georgetown.