



## History

### Welcome to Taylor, Texas

Taylor represents the best of Texas. Located just 30 miles northeast of Austin and surrounded by corn and cotton fields, Taylor has been the prairie, the railroad town, the idyllic country community and now the progressive edge of an urban landscape. Home to a community of more than 18,000, Taylor lies in the heart of the community, in the richness of its history, and in the pride of its heritage.

The progress and promise of Taylor is most evident in its newest additions: the new [Taylor Public Library](#), the The Sustainable Technology Academy that provides training and industry support for emerging "green" technology companies, the [tournament-grade Taylor Regional Park and Sports Complex](#) and the [East Williamson County Higher Education Center](#), a multi-institutional teaching center that boasts a partnership of Temple College, Texas State Technical College, Texas Tech, Concordia College and [Legacy Early College High School](#).

### Taylor Made Texas

You can catch citizens of Taylor as they celebrate their spirit with festivals (Blackland Prairie Days, rodeos, barbecue cook-offs, car shows), participate in sports activities at the new Taylor Regional Park and Sports Complex, or enjoy personal or group activities at Murphy or Robinson Park including hike and bike trails, tennis parks, and playscapes. Savor the unique flavor of Texan life as you stroll through historic downtown to admire buildings dating back more than 100 years, stop for some sizzling smoked barbecue, or tour exquisite renovated mansions, B&B's, and a host of cultural and historic landmarks. Experience the gusto of Texas with a sprinkle of spirit, a dash of charm, and a spoonful of heart from right next door.

## Taylor EDC

### History

- In 1993 the Economic Development (ED) Committee of the Taylor Chamber began to explore ways to encourage business growth in Taylor. Surrounding communities, Round Rock and Georgetown, were funding ED activities with money from their general fund.
- The Chamber Board approved the recommendation of its executive director to consider the sales tax for economic development as a possible method. In August 1993, City Commissioners agreed to place the issue on the November ballot.
- The City Commission decided to combine the ½ cent for property tax reduction with the ½ cent for ED sales tax.
- Of those who voted, 72.4% voted for the proposition to create a 4A corporation and 27.6% voted against it.
- The primary source of funds is the 4A sales tax which can be used to assist primary businesses, infrastructure for businesses, and workforce development.
- By January 1995, the Taylor EDC had acquired office space, hired a staff and was well on its way.

## Our Bragging Rights

Taylor is well-known world wide for its barbecue and historic downtown. It's also well known for its rich culture and progressive leadership. Here is just a few of the "bragging rights" we have about Taylor.

*The charming Hill Country town of Taylor, now part of the Greater Austin area, is well over 100 years old in steeped in history.*

- [GoTexas.About.com](http://GoTexas.About.com)

*If you're on your way to Austin from Dallas, it's only a 16-mile detour.*

- [Frommer's](http://Frommer's)

*Feature of Louie Mueller Barbecue on Food Network TV. Enough said.*

- [Food Network TV, Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives with Guy Fieri](http://FoodNetworkTV.com)

*Can't-miss spots for barbecue fans (Louie Mueller Barbecue)*

- [Bon Appetit magazine](http://BonAppetitMagazine.com)

*Feature of Tim Mikeska of Mikeska Foods on Food Network TV. Oldie but goodie.*

- [Food Network TV, Food Nations with Bobby Flay](http://FoodNetworkTV.com)

*Visitors are attracted to Taylor's bustling historic downtown area filled with distinctive shops and authentic barbecue joints.*

- [AllAcrossTexas.com](http://AllAcrossTexas.com)

*The Best Barbecue in Texas, Part 1: Taylor*

- [aSweetAndSavoryLife.com](http://aSweetAndSavoryLife.com)

*Best Places to Live (contender)*

- [Money.CNN.com](http://Money.CNN.com)

*National Register of Historic Places: Taylor, Texas*

- <http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/tx/Williamson/districts.html>

*Preserve America Community: Taylor, Texas*

- <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/PACommunity-taylorTX.html>

*Mustang Creek Golf Course has continued to evolve into a tough, challenging course.*

- [AustinGolf.com](http://AustinGolf.com)

*Taylor's Mustang Creek Golf Course is "One of the finest and most challenging 9 hole courses in the USA"*

- Golf USA Tour.

*"Summer Road Trips" ...the best Texas Style Barbecue.*

- [USA Today](http://USA Today)

*Taylor is a town known for its good barbeque... Taylor's barbeque history intersects the legend of one of the best known families in Texas barbeque, the Mikeska brothers*

- [BlogCritics.com](http://BlogCritics.com)

*Taylor is one of the few still functioning industrial towns in Texas, a unique throwback to an older age, with factories and active train traffic and a lot of character.*

- [BlogCritics.com](http://BlogCritics.com)

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