



ANGELINA COUNTY



# VISION 2020



**YEAR IN REVIEW** As promised, Angelina County Vision 2020 will report to you annually on the progress made in the past year towards the strategies, goals and benchmarks identified by the community. We ended our first year with 89 Vision Partners committed to supporting the implementation of the community's vision for the future of Angelina County. Strides have been made in each of the six targeted areas, with particularly solid results in the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERSHIP areas. Given there are more than 50 strategies identified in Vision 2020, the chairs will be adopting specific strategies on which to focus for the coming year. Those strategies will be announced in mid-May. Please note that the full text of the strategies below can be found at [www.angelinacountyvision2020.com](http://www.angelinacountyvision2020.com)

Jane Ainsworth, Chair

## EDUCATION

Chaired by **Roy Knight**

### Strategy 2

**Ensure that every student that needs a mentor gets one.**

- Built coalitions for development of county-wide mentoring programs.

### Strategy 3

**Prepare students for meaningful careers through increased educational opportunities and skills training.**

- Developed additional technical and trade class offerings for high school students
- Expanded the dual credit program with Angelina College which allows high school students to earn college credit

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chaired by **Trey Henderson**

### Strategy 2

**Develop a business climate that actively promotes job retention and creation.**

- Angelina County was included on the Site Selector list of the Top Micropolitan Areas based on relocations and business expansions.
- The Economic Development Partnership purchased 150 acres of prime industrial land for business development.

### Strategy 6

**Attract high-income retirees to Angelina County.**

- Under the leadership of the Economic Development Partnership and the Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce, Lufkin was awarded one of three charter certifications as a Certified Retirement Community by the State of Texas.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Chaired by **Paul Parker**

### Strategy A1

**Develop and implement coordinated master infrastructure plans that provide adequate levels of service.**

- To ensure access to a long-term regional water supply, the City of Lufkin is working with the US Corps of Engineers and the US Forest Service on a future water plant at Lake Sam Rayburn.

### Strategy F2

**Plan, design, finance and build I-69. (now called TTC-69)**

- The City of Lufkin has been working with the TTC-69 Alliance to secure funding for environmental studies.
- Should have options on proposed corridor narrowed to one by Summer 2007

## PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERSHIP

Chaired by **Robin Mercer**

### Strategy 5

**To train leaders within our community by developing on-going leadership training programs.**

- Worked with Angelina College to develop a series of leadership classes. First sessions in early 2007 enrolled 66 people. Next classes scheduled to begin in June 2007.
- Developed classes for those presently serving or interested in serving on a non-profit or corporate board of directors. Series to start in May 2007.

## GOVERNMENT

Chaired by **Trent Ashby**

### Strategies 1 and 3

**Maintain focused communication with and between local, state, and federal officials that will continuously advance Vision 2020 goals. Develop a consensus agenda that will be used in communicating with state and federal officials.**

- The Legislative Affairs Committee has developed a comprehensive agenda that was communicated to both state elected and regulatory officials during a recent trip to Austin.

## QUALITY OF LIFE

Chaired by **Mark Hicks**

### Strategy A1

**Develop a recreation master plan for Angelina County.**

- Under guidance of DETTRAC, 1 ½ miles of biking/hiking trail at Kit McConnico Park is nearing completion

### Strategy C1

**Commit to reduce and prevent substance abuse through whole person rehabilitation.**

- Angelina County Drug Court added another docket and is meeting the national average success rate.



## BENCHMARKS

**THE SUCCESS OF ANGELINA COUNTY'S VISION 2020** is measured through benchmarks which were included as part of the overall plan. Measurements will be used annually to monitor our progress toward change in the community. Not all information used to measure key benchmarks is available yearly, such as data from the US Census conducted every ten years. We hope that an honest, accurate and regular appraisal of our Vision results will help us maintain credibility within the community AND keep the momentum of this effort intact.

### INCOME GROWTH

#### GOAL

Between 2006-2011, increase average annual earnings at an annual rate 0.7 percentage points below the Texas rate (3rd quarter to 3rd quarter each year)

|                 | 1990 – 2005 | 2006   |
|-----------------|-------------|--------|
| Angelina County | 3.3%        | (1.9%) |
| Texas           | 3.9%        | 2.3%   |
| Gap             | (0.6%)      | (4.2%) |

*A decline in average weekly wages and an increase in the gap resulted from job growth in lower-paying sectors (see below). The key will be how we work to reverse this trend!*

### JOB GROWTH

#### GOAL

Between 2006-2011, increase the number of jobs in Angelina County at an annual rate 0.7 percentage points above the Texas rate (3rd quarter to 3rd quarter each year)

|                 | 1990 – 2005 | 2006   |
|-----------------|-------------|--------|
| Angelina County | 1.4%        | 4.6%   |
| Texas           | 2.1%        | 3.7%   |
| Gap             | (0.7%)      | (0.9%) |

*EXCELLENT job growth...at a higher rate than in the State!*

### EDUCATION

#### GOAL

Decrease the population gap of those without a high school diploma to within 5 percentage points of the US average (percentage of adults 25 and older)

|                 | 2000  | 2005  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Angelina County | 28.7% | 21.3% |
| Texas           | 19.6% | 15.8% |
| Gap             | 9.1%  | 5.5%  |

*Significant reduction in the gap between Angelina County and the US!*

#### GOAL

Increase the population gap of those with a bachelor's degree or higher to within 5 percentage points of the US average (percentage of adults 25 and older)

|                 | 2000   | 2005    |
|-----------------|--------|---------|
| Angelina County | 14.6%  | 16.1%   |
| Texas           | 24.4%  | 27.2%   |
| Gap             | (9.8%) | (11.1%) |

*While we have a greater percentage with bachelor's degree or higher, the gap between Angelina County and the US increased.*



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VISION 2020

## VISION PARTNER PERSPECTIVES



Angelina County Vision 2020 has provided us with an excellent road map for our future. By working together, our community will become an even better place to live. I'm especially pleased with the strides we've made in the economic development arena as we've been able to delineate what initiatives will be the responsibility of the 4B Corporation and Partnership and which ones The Chamber will undertake. The next several years will be exciting as we work to implement the Vision 2020 strategies through the continued efforts of our Vision Partners.

**Jay Shands**  
CEO - First Bank & Trust East Texas



The greatest benefit of the work of Vision 2020 has been the exchange of information across Foundations and within subcommittees. These exchanges have helped committees to refine the needs of the community and to develop specific actions to ensure the success of given strategies. As an example, the Transportation Committee's work has provided greater recognition of the needs of not only Lufkin but of the surrounding county jurisdiction regarding road projects. Vision 2020 has successfully gathered volunteers focused on the success of Angelina County now and into the future—past 2020!

**Dorothy Wilson**  
City of Lufkin



A community cannot properly grow without the correct planning or the right sense of direction. Angelina County Vision 2020 provides us with a tremendous opportunity to make a difference in the future of our region. I believe that as we implement the strategies set forth in the Vision 2020 plan, we are on our way to a brighter future for ourselves and for future generations. I encourage all citizens of Angelina County to wholeheartedly support the chairs of the six Foundations. Their tasks are not easy, but by working together in support of Angelina County Vision 2020, we certainly can make a big difference in the future of this great community.

**Ino Reyes**  
Co-Owner - La Lengua Spanish newspaper



Lufkin continues to thrive as regional hub for health care. The strength of our health care community has had a major influence on many growth initiatives within our county and with the Vision 2020 plan, we anticipate healthcare jobs and services will continue to expand. As well, Vision 20/20 has brought with it a renewed emphasis on ensuring that East Texans can get quality, affordable health care in Angelina County. We are committed to the goals of the vision plan and are working to secure our future!

**Yana Ogletree**  
Director of Marketing - Memorial Health System of East Texas



Vision 20/20 is an "on target" response to the identified needs of the residents of Angelina County. The plan has set educational goals that are addressing the key issues and will, in turn, allow many parents to realize dreams for their children – the opportunity to be able to work in Angelina County while enjoying the benefits of competitive salaries and job satisfaction. Developing educational partnerships to provide mentoring is but one way we're working to reach that goal. One year later, as a result of the all-encompassing goals of Vision 20/20, Angelina County residents are well on the way to realizing these dreams!

**Louise LaVane**  
Community Volunteer



Vision 2020 provides all public officials with a unique opportunity to "come to the table" in a collaborative effort to chart the course of our community without the conventional limitations of territory, jurisdictions or terms of office. Frequently elected officials are tempted to focus solely on the specific needs and interests of their respective electorate; however, the synergy of perspectives and resources presented at the "Vision 2020 table" compels a superior strategy to achieve a wider scope of goals. Angelina County Vision 2020 proves that the sum of the total is always more productive than separate and independent components!

**Paul White**  
District Judge



I am always amazed at the "can-do" attitude of Lufkin and Angelina County. When focused, there is no limit on what we can accomplish. Vision 2020 has provided a community focus for our future. Already we have seen how these ideas and goals can directly impact the quality of life of people in Lufkin and Angelina County. Establishing our priorities has brought together leaders in government, law enforcement, education, and business to focus on specific issues. This unified direction is bringing success with local, state and federal legislative issues in areas where past efforts have failed due to the lack of a cohesive voice.

**Curt Fenley**  
Attorney - Fenley & Bate LLP



Through the efforts of the Private Sector Leadership Foundation, Angelina County Vision 2020 has made great strides in training new leaders as well as providing continuing education for current leadership within our community. We have successfully partnered with Angelina College to offer two series which train and develop men and women interested in volunteering to work with and serve on the boards of the County's many organizations. With its long-term vision for Lufkin and Angelina County, we want to ensure a continuum of great leaders!

**Sherri Ziegenhals**  
Marketing Manager - Lufkin Mall

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# VISION 2020

## Looking Ahead

Angelina County Vision 2020 is one year into implementation. We've made strides in each of the targeted areas, but much work is left to be done! Every organization—private or public—should consider what role it wants to play in Angelina County's future. With over 50 strategies identified in the Vision, opportunities abound! What this County looks like in 20 years depends on who helps to make a difference NOW! Where are you going to plug in?

For more information, contact Susie Cardwell, Vision 2020 Coordinator at (936) 631-3835 or at [scardwell@lufkintexas.org](mailto:scardwell@lufkintexas.org)

## VISION PARTNER INVITATION

Join the growing list of organizations throughout Angelina County that are working together to "create our future." Sign up now to become a Vision Partner!

### What is a VISION PARTNER?

Any organization which endorses and supports Angelina County Vision 2020 and its Visions, Strategies and Key Benchmarks. To view a list of current supporters, visit [www.angelinacountyvision2020.com/visionpartners.htm](http://www.angelinacountyvision2020.com/visionpartners.htm)

### Ways a VISION PARTNER can participate include:

- Working to develop and implement programs needed to achieve the Vision 2020 goals
- Encouraging other organizations to become Vision Partners
- Promoting Angelina County Vision 2020 by referencing your affiliation in printed materials or by creating a link to the Angelina County Vision 2020 website ([www.angelinacountyvision2020.com](http://www.angelinacountyvision2020.com)) on your organization's site

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary area of interest:  Education  Economic Development  Infrastructure  Government  Quality of Life  Private Sector Leadership

Please return the completed form to: **Fax:** (936) 634-8726 **Mail:** Angelina County Vision 2020, P.O. Box 1606, Lufkin, TX 75902

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