



ALEDO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION MEETING

Thursday, March 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Aledo Economic Development Corporation convened on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., at the Aledo Municipal Complex, Aledo, Texas, for the purpose of a Regular Meeting, with the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting having been posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, with the following members being present:

BOARD PRESENT

Shane Davis, Mayor
Matthew Pruitt
Ryan Merrill
Amanda Wimpee
Wes Cooper

STAFF PRESENT

Candice Edmondson, City Manager
Alicia Kreh, City Attorney
Erika Cooper-Bateman, Director of Community Services
Laura Weber, Communications & Events Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shane Davis, President, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. WORK SESSION

a. Economic development workshop presented by Carlton Schwab, Texas Economic Development Council President/CEO.

Carlton Schwab, President and CEO of the Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC), led a workshop providing an overview of economic development principles and the role of EDCs in supporting community prosperity. The discussion highlighted how EDC funds can be strategically used to attract businesses, support existing employers, and promote long-term economic growth.

b. Discuss current Aledo Economic Development Corporation incentive programs.

Staff presented an overview of the EDC's current incentive programs, including the Façade Improvement Grant Program, the Sign Matching Grant Program, and the Infrastructure Rebate Program. The discussion included a review of each program's structure, eligibility requirements, funding criteria, and the overall application-to-reimbursement process.

Staff discussed opportunities to improve efficiency by simplifying and consolidating program steps. This included consideration of merging the Façade Improvement Grant Program and the Sign Matching Grant Program into a single, unified application.

c. Discuss opportunities for economic development incentive programs.

Staff presented an overview of opportunities to expand the EDC's existing economic development incentive programs and shared examples from the Cities of Saginaw, Southlake, Wolfforth, and Harlingen. These examples included incentive types such as lighting and parking improvements, pedestrian amenities, demolition assistance, and public art enhancements. Staff also reviewed stand-alone programs used by other communities to support business marketing efforts and expand public art initiatives. Board members discussed how similar programs could be implemented in Aledo to modernize and broaden the EDC's current incentive offerings.

Staff will bring forward a draft of the revised economic development incentive program for consideration by the Board.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR CONSIDERATION

a. Approval of March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Wes Cooper, second by Ryan Merrill, to approve the minutes as presented.
MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

b. Discuss and consider approval of the Your Personal Chef Incentive Agreement.

Candice Edmondson, City Manager, presented the item. Explained that she reached out to the business owner and confirmed that these expansions will increase their assessed value by 50% so they are requesting a rebate of up to 50% of new sales tax.

MOTION by Wes Cooper, second by Nicole Reilley, to approve moving forward with the tax abatement requested by Your Personal Chef. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.

4. STAFF UPDATES

a. Comprehensive Plan Update

Erika Cooper-Bateman, Director of Community Services, provided an update on the comprehensive plan. Recapped the first Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee kickoff meeting on February 17. The consultant provided an overview of the planning process and led the committee through a visioning exercise and SWOT analysis. The meeting focused on orienting members to their roles and responsibilities. Key themes discussed included maintaining community character, managing growth, downtown revitalization and connectivity, and targeted economic development. Staff noted that the Steering Committee will meet nine times throughout the process and that additional community engagement opportunities will be available both in person and online through the Comprehensive Plan website. No action was taken.

b. First Street Initiative

Laura Weber, Communications & Events Manager, provided an update that the City of Aledo was selected as a 2026 cohort city for the Texas Historical Commission's First Street Initiative, joining 23 other communities across the state. She provided an

overview of the program, a recap of the first meeting, and outlined expectations for participation. Staff noted that the First Street Initiative meetings will occur on a quarterly basis over the next year and discussed anticipated benefits of the program for the City.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the Aledo Economic Development Corporation may convene in executive session to deliberate regarding the following matters:

- a. **Section 551.087 – Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.** The City Council may convene in executive session to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the City and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations; or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described above, including the following items:

Chapter 380 Agreements

- Jakes Burgers
- Press Café
- Dayne's Craft Barbecue

Mayor Shane Davis recessed the regular session and called the meeting to executive session at 7:48 p.m.

6. ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Shane Davis called the meeting back to regular session at 8:03 p.m.

No action taken.

7. AEDC MEMBER COMMENTS / STAFF COMMENTS

8. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

ATTEST:

Staci L. King, City Secretary



Shane Davis, Mayor

