

State Incentives: Enterprise Zone

Washington County/Brenham Enterprise Zone

Purpose

The purpose of the Texas Enterprise Zone Program was created to encourage job creation and attract capital investment in areas of economic distress. This is an economic development tool designed to offer state and local incentives and program priority to new or expanding business in these designated areas.

Zone

Designated by the Texas Department of Economic Development, the Washington County/Brenham Enterprise Zone encompasses 2.14 square miles.

Enterprise Project

To be designated an enterprise project by the State, the business must commit to create or retain new permanent jobs, make capital investment at the qualified business site, and hire at least 25% of its new jobs with individuals who are either economically disadvantaged or enterprise zone residents.

State Incentives

Enterprise Projects are eligible for a refund of state sales and use tax paid on machinery and equipment, building materials, and labor for the rehabilitation of existing buildings.

Enterprise Projects are eligible for a franchise tax reduction on its annual report filing for each year of their designation.

Source: Office of the Governor, Texas Economic Development and Tourism

Local Business Incentives include

- *Expedited permitting process
- *Education/Job training programs
- *Assistance from the Small Business Development Center at Blinn College
- *Tax Phase-In Program