



Downtown Fort Worth Growth

Because of rising demand, downtown Fort Worth needs to add more than 1,400 hotel rooms and repurpose its convention center arena, according to a report by Hunden Strategic Partners. The growth of Fort Worth's 35-block Sundance Square shopping and entertainment development, featured on ESPN College GameDay, has helped boost demand for meetings and conventions. The City has issued an RFQ for a new convention center hotel, expected to be built across the street from the convention center and near the light rail station that will connect with DFW International Airport in 2018.



WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL CENTER ARENA PROJECT

Fort Worth has announced plans for a \$450 million multipurpose arena and sports facility at the Will Rogers Memorial Center Complex in the Cultural District, 10 minutes from downtown. The 14,000 seat arena will host the annual Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, concerts, sporting events and more. Arena construction is expected to be completed by December 2019.

Stockyards National Historic District Development

Fort Worth's Hickman family, who led preservation of the Stockyards National Historic District 30 years ago, has announced a \$175 million development plan to preserve and enhance the area with Majestic Realty. Current plans include mixed-use areas and public "festival districts."

- The "Marine Creek" district, adjacent to the Lonesome Dove Western Bistro restaurant and White Elephant Saloon, will house restaurants and a hotel bordering the water.
- The historic Mule Barns bordering Marine Creek will be outfitted with additional shops and restaurants.
- Additional hotel and meeting properties are being discussed for the site of the former Swift-Armor meat packing plant.

**Project timeline is TBA.*



Trinity River Vision Project

This expansive project now underway will connect many neighborhoods in Fort Worth directly to the Trinity River, creating an oasis of urban living and recreation. Projects underway include the revitalization of Gateway Park into one of the largest urban-programmed parks in the nation; the creation of Panther Island, a metropolitan waterfront neighborhood complete with more than 12 miles of canals and walkways lined with cafés, restaurants and nightlife; new boat and canoe launches and environmental enhancements.



PANTHER ISLAND PAVILION

Panther Island Pavilion is a scenic venue for outdoor entertainment and recreation located on the Trinity River with downtown Fort Worth as a backdrop. It is home to the only waterfront stage in Texas, a main stage for year-round events and two additional band shells for multi-act festivals. A sand beach provides public access to the river for boating, tubing, fishing, and swimming. Kayak, canoe, paddleboard and food and beverage concessionaries are located onsite for rentals.

Black-Eyed Vodka, is distilled in Fort Worth's Near Southside District. Trey Nickels of Muleshoe, Texas, came up with the idea years ago while facing another bad year of farming. With the knowledge that alcohol can be made from starches, Nickels turned the legumes into vodka and joined Fort Worth's growing craft spirit and beer scene. The distillery is fully operational and offers various tasting events.



COYOTE VINTAGE DRIVE-IN MOVIE THEATER

Fort Worth's first and only modern drive-in movie theatre, Coyote Drive-In, is equipped with three screens playing first-run movies in digital format, a modern concession stand, and space for up to 500 vehicles at each screen. The drive-in is available for private events, concerts and transforms into an outdoor ice rink, Panther Island Ice, in the winter.



Bob Jameson

President and CEO of the Fort Worth
Convention & Visitors Bureau

Bob Jameson joined the Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau as president and CEO in January 2013 after nearly four decades in the hotel industry. He began his career with Marriott International in California in 1977. He joined The Americana Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas, as Resident Manager in 1985 and was promoted to General Manager two years later. Jameson helped lead the hotel's transition from Americana Hotel Company to the independently operated Worthington Hotel. He continued serving as general manager after Marriott purchased and renamed the Worthington Renaissance in 1999 until joining FWCVB. Jameson serves the Fort Worth community on numerous boards, including the Arts Council of Fort Worth and the Fort Worth Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce.



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