

THE

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INSIDER

EAST MONTGOMERY COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 4 JULY 2025

The follow-up

Update on the Convention Center

Back to School

Supplies for your kids

BUSINESS HAPPENINGS: COMING TO THE EAST SIDE!

CONVENTION CENTER CONSTRUCTION

with Kelley

VP/Chief Communications Officer



Progress

Construction of the greater Houston area's third-largest convention center is coming along quickly. SpawGlass has had mostly good weather days, and that means progress toward taking the 210,000 sf structure vertical!

As of June 11, continuous and spread footings, which will help support the structure, as well as select fill earthwork are complete. Underground plumbing and electrical are complete on the north side of the project. Casting beds for tilt wall panels have been poured at the northwest corner of the site.



What's next? Framing and pouring tilt wall panels! Crews will finish slab-on-grade and continue with underground utilities. This month we should see tilt wall erection. Structural steel installation will follow in August.

These are really exciting times. SpawGlass takes dozens of pictures every day of the progress, and it truly is amazing to watch.



(Above and to the left): Recent aerial images of the convention center construction site.

The team from SpawGlass has handled the continued construction, masterfully in such a short amount of time.

Local Interest

Do you know what else is amazing? The interest we have from organizations, individuals, trade shows, and companies who want to know more about the convention center and when they can book it. We met with a big group in June who are looking to hold an annual event that would use every square foot of the building! Awesome, right?

While we are not currently booking the venue, we would be happy to meet with groups who have an interest in doing so for 2027 and later. If you have a genuine interest in holding an event in this magnificent facility, contact us!



Structural Steel & Decking

1,968 total tons of steel
(1,516 tons structural steel+ 452 tons joists).

30,000 square feet of metal decking installed.



Electrical Infrastructure Summary

1,658,010 feet of copper wire installed.

3,679,000 linear feet of conduit for electrical distribution.

Over 500,000 feet of PVC conduit.

650,000 conduit connectors and couplings used for secure connections.



First slab-on-grade pour in the Administration, Kitchen and Back of House areas.



Calibrating equipment that spreads shake-on hardener. Shake on hardener is added to back of house and exhibit hall concrete to increase the abrasion resistance.



Grade 80 steel reinforcement mats delivery for installation in slab on grade concrete.



Weekly Safety Meetings are held every Monday at 7:00 AM.



Installing column block-outs, under slab electrical rough-in, preparing subgrade for next slab on grade concrete pour.



Fine grading building pad. Installing floor boxes for power/data/audio visual.

New looks in East Montgomery County Business Happenings



Calling All Book Lovers

Books-A-Million will open a new location in Valley Ranch Town Center, taking over the former Party City place.

Books-A-Million is the second largest book retailer in the nation and features an expansive selection of books, magazines, manga, collectibles and gifts for the bibliophile in your life.



Restaurant Returns to Porter

Uncle Tony's is moving back to EMC and opening a second location in Porter at 21898 FM 1314, Ste. A, in Porter – near the Grand Parkway/99. Uncle Tony's first started in Porter as a cafe, and they are coming back to Porter after 12 years as a cafe serving homestyle food and breakfast. They are expected to open in June and will have a pick-up window.



Lumos Construction Progressing

EMCID and media partners toured the new entertainment business, Lumos, coming to Valley Ranch Town Center. Lumos will feature 16 lanes of bowling fun, a 6,000-square-foot arcade, axe throwing, a laser tag area featuring a

post-apocalyptic London theme with a Big Ben replica, four party rooms, a place to enjoy food and beverages, and an outdoor patio with a big screen TV! We can't wait for them to open later this summer.



Havertys Furniture in Valley Ranch

Havertys Furniture will open a location in Valley Ranch Town Center. This marks the company's continued expansion in Texas since leaving the Houston area in the 1980s and

features a variety of furnishings, fabrics and finishes, and complimentary design service. The store will be located in the former Sam's Club space.





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Drive Thru



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PRE-K THROUGH 8TH!

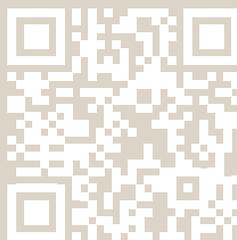
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FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK

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Commissioner Matt Gray

Another hurricane season is upon us, and although it is the response to the storms that gets the public’s attention, the more important work happens in preparation and mitigation. Commissioner Gray and the Precinct 4 team remains in a constant state of preparation and continues to refine it’s disaster response.

Commissioner Gray has been working on bringing a disaster warehouse to Precinct 4. A materials storage building is in progress located on Gene Campbell Boulevard in the EMC Industrial Park. This new 10,000 square foot warehouse will house emergency supplies in a more centralized location to East Montgomery County, allowing for a quicker response time to deploy supplies and immediate needs to the community in the event of a disaster.

During a storm, Precinct 4 crews are staged and prepared with equipment such as high water barricades and chainsaws. The highest priority is to keep the roads clear for first responders, and barricade off any dangerous high-water locations. Once the storm has passed, Precinct 4’s focus is clearing our roadways from storm debris like down trees and repairing any streets that may have washed out due to high water. This year, Commissioner Gray purchased a new grapple truck, which will allow storm debris to be removed from the county right-of-way quicker and more efficiently using less equipment and manpower.

Despite the best preparations, no two disasters are the same and we continue to learn and better prepare for the next one.





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*for all graduates within the
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Improvement District



The Insider is a quarterly newsletter produced by the East Montgomery County Improvement District. Please direct questions or comments to:
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