

NEWS RELEASE

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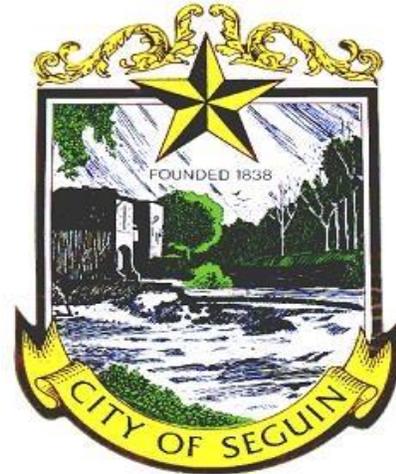
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What Do You Do with an Old Hydroelectric Plant?

City of Seguin Finds Solution with Public-Private Partnership

SEGUIN, Texas – The friendly atmosphere, scenic views, excellent food and cold drinks make it Seguin’s newest must-see destination but it hasn’t always been that way. There was a time when what is now known as the Power Plant Texas Grill was an abandon piece of the city’s history. The revitalization is the result of a public-private partnership spearheaded by Seguin City Manager Doug Faseler.

“The hydroelectric plant building is important to this community,” Faseler said. “We’re happy to be able to partner with a developer to bring new life to a site that has such historical value.”

The red brick building, along the Guadalupe River near Max Starcke, originally opened in the early 1900s as a gristmill. In 1940, the structure was converted into a hydroelectric plant, providing power for decades until being decommissioned in the mid-1990s. The structure, featured in the City of Seguin’s official seal, sat vacant until the 2006 Destination Seguin bond package. Voters recognized the building’s historical value and future potential, allotting \$250,000 in bonds for structural and utility improvements. Seguin City Council also approved an additional \$500,000 from funds received in the subordination of the plant’s hydro water rights.

“Voters gave us the go ahead to make utility improvements that would lay the foundation for the developer to come in,” Faseler continued.

In 2008, private investors signed a lease with the City of Seguin for the building. Since then, Lake Seguin Hydro-Electric Partners have invested more than \$2 million in renovations. A large deck and kitchen were added and existing space converted into dining areas. Much of the building’s heritage is preserved as pieces of machinery remain, telling the story of the city’s early source of electricity and the transformation of one of Seguin’s most iconic structures.

About the City of Seguin

Seguin, Texas is located along Interstate 10, about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Seguin is big enough to boast a top-rated university and a state-of-the-art hospital. More than 25,000 residents enjoy a range of cultural, recreational, and employment opportunities. Seguin’s robust diversified economy features a steelmaker, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plants making roadside mowing equipment and building materials. In 2009, Seguin was proud to be selected by Caterpillar as the site of a major new engine manufacturing facility.

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