# Hutto





## **VISIT HUTTO**

This Eastern-Williamson County community is just a short 27-mile drive northeast of downtown Austin and offers many attractions for the entire family. Hutto is a full-service, homerule municipality operating under a Council-Manager form of government. Nearly 35,000 people call this fast-growing community home. Located in the strong Austin-area jobs market, Hutto has been recognized as one of the safest cities in Texas, a top place to raise a family, and appealing to young couples. From its agricultural roots to its progressive economic development, the City of Hutto is focused on providing a strong quality of life centered on these Core Values: collaboration, accountability, transparency, and resiliency.

#### WHAT'S WITH THE HIPPOS?

Hutto is the only community in the United States to use the hippo as its mascot. There are several stories that explain how the hippopotamus became Hutto's official mascot. The most popular tells of a circus train that stopped at the depot in 1915, most likely to take on passengers, pick up mail and water and feed the animals. During this historic stop, it is said that a hippo escaped and made its way to nearby Cottonwood Creek. Farmers and merchants watched in amusement as unsuccessful efforts were made to extricate the troublesome hippo from the muddy waters. Soon after the incident, the Hutto School adopted the hippo as its mascot.

In 2003, the Texas Legislature recognized Hutto as the

"Official Hippo Capital of Texas." The Hutto Chamber of Commerce arranged for a seven-ton concrete hippo named "Henrietta" to be placed along East Street in 1986. The fast-growing city of Hutto is also home to a herd of smaller concrete hippos which stand outside homes, businesses and public buildings as a symbol of community pride. Many are painted to reflect the unique character of the owner or business it represents.

#### **Family Friendly**

Hutto has been recently recognized as the "Top Place in Texas to Raise a Family. With its low student-to-teacher ratios, low crime rate and short commute to Austin, Hutto is easily one of the best places to raise a family in Texas.

Hutto offers a wide range of residential living choices, including established neighborhoods and new developments by KB Homes, Gehan Homes, Pulte, Wilshire Homes and many others. Your family will find room to play at our newly renovated Fritz Park, and we have exciting plans for future park space as part of the Williamson County Regional Park plan, along with an amphitheater and sports fields.

# Parks & Recreation

Hutto Parks and Recreation is committed to increasing the quality of life and the well being of its citizens. Through our beautiful parks, trails, events, athletic leagues, and programs we hope to provide something for everyone.

#### **Hutto Facts:**

- -Part of the Austin/Round Rock Metro Statistical Area (MSA)
- -Low student-to-teacher ratios
- -Short commute to Austin's tech hub
- -Average household income is \$93,371
- -Home Value \$250K to \$400K
- -35K cars travel on HWY 79 every single day
- -Population within 15 miles: 581,027
- -High-performing Independent School District

# Hutto has been recognized as:

- Top Place in Texas to Raise a Family
- #1 Austin Suburb for Young Couples
- #7 in the 50 Safest Cities

#### **SCHOOLS**

From pre-school through college, Hutto offers access to excellent educational opportunities.

#### **Hutto Independent School District**

We are home to an award-winning independent school district, with more than 7,500 students at 9 campuses, with continuously growing enrollment. Hutto High School, home to the only hippo mascot in the country, boasts a Career and Technical Education program with numerous certifications including culinary arts, health sciences, business and veterinarian programs. We are proud of our award-winning and state-recognized art, band, music and athletic programs, a state-awarded and nationally recognized FCCLA program; and our facilities. We are also the only district in the area to offer a full-day Head Start Program.

## **Higher Education**

Hutto is also the home of the East Williamson County Higher Education Center, a multi-institutional teaching center. EWCHEC provides a wide array of educational opportunities and workforce readiness program with the convenience of going from a certificate to a graduate degree all in one location through a partnership with Temple College, Texas State Technical College, and Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

## **Downtown Tourism**

About Old Town. Old Town refers to Hutto's historic district, bound loosely by Park Street to the east, Orgain Street to the south, the Co-Op site to the west, and north just past the intersection of Church Street and FM 1660. With charming structures dating back to the 1800's, Old Town truly is the Heart of Hutto.

#### **Downtown Commercial Historic District**

Downtown is home to a number of local businesses, shops and restaurants that attract Hutto residents and visitors alike. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Hutto Commercial Historic District consists of twelve buildings occupying approximately half of a city block in the heart of Hutto, Texas, approximately 27 miles northeast of Austin. Most of the buildings are good examples of the Late Victorian Italianate style of the 1890's, and the early 20th century Commercial Style, applied to one-part and two-part commercial blocks. Of the twelve buildings, ten are contributing resources and two are non-contributing. The district constitutes the entirety of the historic central business core of the once-small town, which has experienced meteoric population growth of over 1000% in the decade since 2000.

# A Great Place to Call Home

Hutto is consistently ranked as one of the fastest growing communities in Texas. When it comes to towns of the future, Hutto is one that's definitely on the rise. As Austin continues to grow at a rapid rate, the population in this small city is expected to double in size over the next few years. With a great location of 28 miles from the city center, Hutto gives you plenty of separation from the city while still allowing easy access to all of Austin's cool amenities.

#### Hutto's ideal business climate...

With over 2000% growth since 2000 and a cost of living index that stands at 93% the national average, you can understand why businesses are moving to Hutto from around the country.

Hutto is "open for business," and aggressively and progressively pursues economic growth. Innovation Business Park will be the largest business park opened in Central Texas in the past several decades, and we look forward business growing here.