

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL



Building Downtowns from Scratch

Tuesday, July 25, 2022 – 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

9:00 – 9:05 a.m.

Sarah Torresen, Houston-Galveston Area Council

Why Downtown?

9:05 – 9:20 a.m.

Jeff Taebel, Houston-Galveston Area Council

How Downtown?

9:20 – 9:45 a.m.

Rick Leisner, Norris Design

Ask the Experts

9:45 – 10:55 a.m.

Participants are invited to ask Rick Leisner and Jeff Taebel questions about planning for and building downtown gathering areas.

Announcements and Closing

10:55 – 11:00 a.m.

Please complete this brief survey to provide feedback on today's event:

<https://form.jotform.com/213414510968960>

For more information about Bringing Back Main Street,
visit H-GAC's website (www.h-gac.com)

Ask The Experts

RICK LEISNER, AICP, ASLA



Rick Leisner, AICP, ASLA, Principal at Norris Design, is a community planner and urban designer with more than 30 years of national experience in urban planning, design, and project implementation. Mr. Leisner has led a broad variety of both public and private sector projects creating community value in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and several other surrounding states. Recent successful projects include the RENEW Texarkana Comprehensive Plan; Denton Downtown Implementation Plan (DTIP); US 380 Corridor Overlay District Design Strategy in Frisco; Rose Complex Master Plan, Tyler; and Fort Worth's Central City Commercial Corridors Revitalization Strategy. His core experience focuses on comprehensive and downtown planning, urban

revitalization planning, streetscape implementation, site design for mixed-use developments, parks, and urban housing developments.

JEFF TAEBEL, FAICP



Jeff Taebel, FAICP, is Director of Community and Environmental Planning at H-GAC, where he oversees the agency's community planning, environmental planning, disaster recovery, economic development, socioeconomic modeling, and sustainable development initiatives. He has 39 years of experience in urban and regional planning, including 35 in his current position. Actively involved in community service, professional development, and planning education, Mr. Taebel is a former President of the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association and in 2008 was inducted as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Mr. Taebel earned a Master of

Urban Planning from Texas A&M University and a Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences from the University of Nebraska.