

# What We Heard

in WALKER COUNTY



# Bringing H-GAC to Walker County

Beginning in late 2022 and throughout 2023, the Houston-Galveston Area Council embraced the theme of "Year of Service" by embarking on a journey to enhance its support of stakeholders, members, and the communities they represent.

This is what we heard in Walker County.

# **Top Successes:**

- Texas General Land Office grant for hazard mitigation plans
- Community enhancement grants to beautify downtown
- Improving MLK Center

# **Issues to Explore Further:**

- Strain on infrastructure with population surge
- Transportation/traffic









# **Walker County Quick Facts**

#### 78,870 Population (2022)

 Population increased by 11% in the last 5 years and is projected to increase by 9% in the next 5 years.

#### 24,113 Total County Employment (2023)

 Jobs grew by 1% in the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 6% in the next 5 years.

#### \$47K Median Household Income (2022)

 Median household income is \$28K below the national median household income of \$75K.

### **Top Three Largest Industries**

- 1. Justice, public order, and safety activities
- 2. Colleges, universities, and professional schools
- 3. Restaurants and other eating establishments

#### **Top Three Growing Industries**

- 1. Colleges, universities, and professional schools
- 2. Sawmills and wood preservation
- 3. Department stores

## **Top Growing Occupations**

- 1. General and operations managers
- 2. Personal care aides
- 3. Fast food and counter workers

#### **Top Five Employers of County Residents**

- 1. Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- 2. Sam Houston State University
- 3. Huntsville Independent School District
- 4. Huntsville Memorial Hospital
- 5. Walmart

Source: American Community Survey