

ISSUE
JANUARY 2026

LAREDO IS ON THE RISE!

Border Insight

GROWTH

STRATEGY

**TEAM
WORK**

SUCCESS

GOALS

INNOVATION

*Featured
Article*

**YEAR END REVIEW:
LEDC AND MILEONE –
SUCCESS STORIES, LANDED
PROJECTS AND OUTLOOK**

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**EXCELLENCE IN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AWARDS**
2025 BRONZE WINNER
MAGAZINE & NEWSLETTER CATEGORY



INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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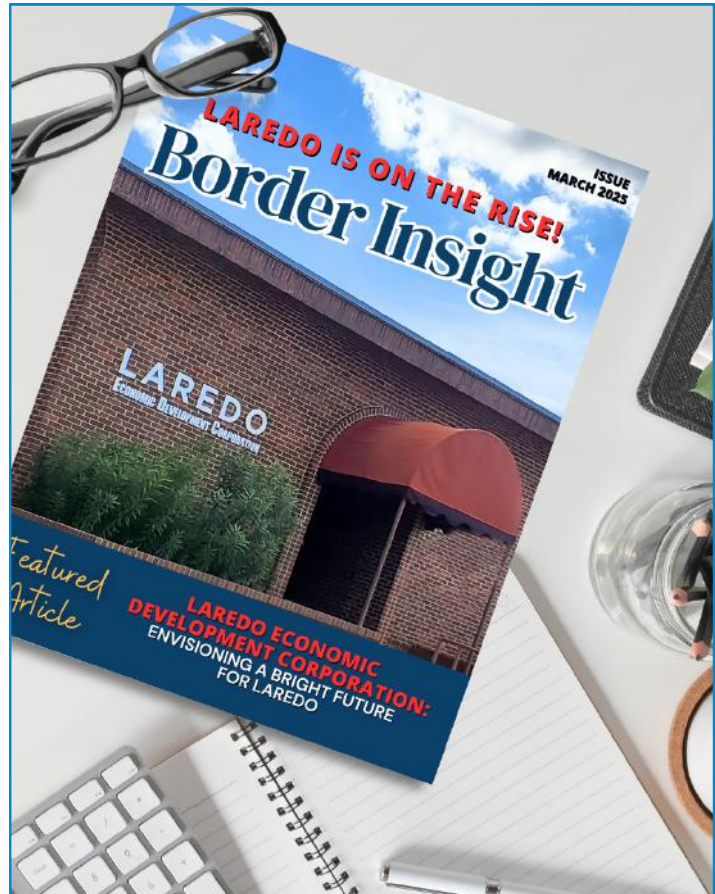
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OUR VISION

OVERVIEW

The Laredo Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) is an organization defined by its visionary leadership, recognized for its integrity and contributions towards the economic development and vitality of Los Dos Laredos and the Webb County region.

OUR MISSION

Incorporated on November 17, 1966, the mission of the Laredo Economic Development Corporation is to promote and foster the economic and industrial development of the Laredo region.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



DAVID A. STEDMAN President & CEO

As I report on my first year as CEO of the Laredo Economic Development Corporation, I'm honored to announce that the LEDC has generated **\$380 million in capital investment in FY 2024-2025** and helped facilitate **650 jobs**. And over the last 14 years, the LEDC has exceeded **\$1.58 billion**.

In fact, since 2011, Laredo has cumulatively facilitated **\$1,583,084,700** in capital investment. And in these uncertain times, it's amazing to think that we've closed major deals like the **\$100 million Stotan Industries** project, the **\$90 million Hersh Investments** deal and the **\$90 million DSV** project this year.

Our work in this year is spilling over into next Fiscal Year, beginning with the **Stacy- Bryant Group's** recently announced **\$100 million 359 Industrial Park** and the news that Mexico City based **Litos Properties** has announced that they are forming **Litos Texas**, and moving forward on a **\$31 million** project that is currently before the City for tax abatement. Also, we are set to begin next year with the **\$220 million Pine Gate Renewables (aka Corvus Solar)** project scheduled to be before Webb County Commissioners Court on November 10th, for tax abatement and a reinvestment zone. And **Energy Abundance's 5GW Data City Project** has secured an initial customer and is scheduled to announce their phased **\$25 to 50 billion** behind-the-meter Power Generation and **Data Center** project in the 1st Quarter of 2026.

Laredo has begun to achieve significant unprecedented **Statewide and National** attention. Thanks to events like **Economic Development Week** and **Pathways for Trade**, as well as our aggressive **Social Media Campaign**, the LEDC has leveraged the current trade uncertainty to create interest and dialogue. And yet, we have underspent our budget by \$ 12,000 and made a net profit of over \$140,000. We have met with the Budget Committee and have an aggressive budget and plan for 2025-2026. Being recognized by outside, 3rd party firms is always an honor, and I'm happy to recount that the **International Economic Development Council (IEDC)** awarded the LEDC **two national awards**, one for **Economic Development Week** and another for our **Border Insight Magazine**.

And in addition to our robust slate of activities during Economic Development Week, hosted quarterly Membership Mixers, and we were at capacity for both the Annual Boots N Bling Gala - Economic Development Industry Awards and the Pathways for Trade Symposium. We promoted Laredo at **Area Development Magazine's Site Consultant's Forums**, at the **U.S. Commerce Department's Select USA**, and the **Texas Economic Development Corporations Investor Forum** featuring Governor Gregg Abbot, at **Manufacturer's Expo**, and at the **COSTEP Trade Mission in Monterrey**, at the **North Capital Forum in Mexico City**, and at two different **Trade Missions to Queretaro, Mexico**. We have been very active in Governmental Relations with strong support from **Senators Cruz & Cornyn**, **Congressman Cuellar**, **County Judge**, **County Commissioners**, **Mayor Trevino**, **City Council** and **City Managers**. We have also interfaced effectively with the **U.S. Department of Commerce**, **TxDOT** and with the **Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC)**.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT



The Laredo Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) continues to demonstrate strong momentum in driving economic growth and long-term prosperity for the Laredo region.

During Fiscal Year 2024–2025, LEDC generated an impressive \$380 million in capital investment while helping to facilitate the creation of 650 new jobs, reinforcing Laredo’s position as a competitive destination for business expansion and investment.

FY 2024–2025 Highlights



Driving Growth Through Strategic Landed Projects

The Industrial Attraction and Business Development Division is a resource center focused entirely to assisting new businesses locate or expand in Laredo for the purpose of creating jobs and expanding our tax base through direct capital investments. In addition, this division showcases the opportunities and benefits that Laredo and Webb County offer businesses and corporations seeking new locations for their business.

The industrial attraction and business development team works closely with new prospects to deliver a wide range of services and information to facilitate the search process for site selectors. We conduct property site tours, presentations, and meetings with community stakeholders and provide the most current community data and economic indicators report for various sectors in our community. We also work with the City of Laredo and Webb County to provide economic incentives support.

Key landed projects during the fiscal year include:



\$100M

Stotan Industries Industrial Warehouse Development



\$90M

DSV Logistics/Distribution



\$90M

Hersh Family Investments Industrial Warehouse Development



\$100M

Project Bryant Stacy Group



OUR PRODUCTS

Our product line of specialized and quality tools ranges from assembly-line robotics and material handling to cutting tools and safety equipment.

SERVICES & BENEFITS

We supply specialized, quality tools, parts, and machinery while offering costs savings and better lead times, in order to provide world class service to our customers.

OUR COMMITMENT

Customers buy from us because we simplify the procurement process, serving as an industry partner by being more efficient and setting the highest standards in training and education.

Alma Acevedo
President & CEO

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SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

“The Laredo Economic Development Corporation is at the forefront of excellence in economic development with its Border Insight: Laredo is on the Rise magazine and the initiatives for Economic Development Week 2024. These awards illuminate LEDC’s commitment to the community and showcase the profound impact of economic development.”

IEDC is proud to honor the Laredo Economic Development Corporation for its leadership and innovation in this field.

Nathan Ohle,
IEDC President and CEO

Bronze Level Awards in the 2025 Excellence in Economic Development Awards program

The Laredo Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) proudly received two distinguished Bronze Level Awards in the 2025 Excellence in Economic Development Awards program, organized by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

LEDC was recognized in the following categories:

- **Magazine & Newsletter** – for its flagship publication, Border Insight: Laredo is on the Rise, which highlighted the city's growth and competitive strengths.
- **Innovation in Economic Development Week (EDW)** – for its initiatives during the 2024 Economic Development Week, showcasing the organization's collaborative efforts to promote the importance of economic development.

The awards were formally presented at the IEDC 2025 Annual Conference, which took place from September 14 to 17 in Detroit, Michigan.

Each year, the IEDC recognizes exceptional organizations, initiatives, and leaders that transform communities and enhance the practice of economic development. LEDC’s accomplishments reflect its steadfast dedication to establishing Laredo as a center for business, innovation, and growth.



Pathways For Trade

The North American Logistics & Manufacturing Symposium

"Connecting the Americas: Infrastructure, Industry, Innovation"



September 22-24, 2026



Laredo, Texas

SAVE THE DATE



More information visit us at:

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WELCOMES NEW CHAIRMAN AND 2026 BOARD LEADERSHIP

CLIFFE KILLAM →



The Laredo Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Cliffe Killam as Chairman of the Board, marking a promising commencement to 2026. This announcement was made during a well-attended New Year meeting of the LEDC Board of Directors.

LEDC President & CEO David Stedman states, “Mr. Killam brings a clear vision for the future of Laredo and has demonstrated steadfast support for the organization. His ongoing dedication to revitalizing downtown and diversifying the local economy is notable.” The Nominating Committee and Board of Directors selected Mr. Killam to lead the organization, reflecting confidence in his leadership during this dynamic period for business.

A native of Laredo, Texas, Killam brings deep family roots in South Texas and a lifelong commitment to the region’s future. Grounded in values of hard work, integrity, and service, he has built a career focused on strengthening the economic vitality and quality of life of his hometown and surrounding communities.

As President and CEO of Killam Development, Killam leads a more than 100-year-old family enterprise with a modern and forward-looking vision. Under his leadership, the company has developed, built, and acquired thousands of acres and millions of square feet of industrial and commercial real estate, positioning Killam Development as one of the leading firms in South Texas. His work spans real estate, energy, healthcare, education, the arts, and philanthropy, with an increasing emphasis on sustainable development and transformative downtown projects.

Killam is widely recognized as a solution-oriented business and civic leader with a strong understanding of the regional economy. He has played a central role in advancing major initiatives such as The Coves TIRZ and the ongoing Downtown Laredo redevelopment, projects designed to attract investment, create jobs, and generate lasting economic momentum for Laredo and Webb County. His community involvement includes expanding access to housing, supporting education and healthcare infrastructure, and fostering workforce development opportunities throughout the region.

Education and workforce development are defining components of Killam's civic legacy. He was instrumental in the development of the Petroleum Engineering program at Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) and helped launch an oil and gas accounting certificate program, where he also served as an adjunct professor. In honor of his family's legacy of public service, the Killam Family established a scholarship at TAMIU for the children of Laredo Police Officers.

Killam's leadership extends across numerous civic and business organizations. He is a Past Chairman of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce, currently serves as President of the Board of Directors for United Day School, sits on the Texas Community Bank Board of Directors, and remains actively engaged in civic, charitable, and cultural initiatives throughout South Texas. He has also been nationally recognized by Oil & Gas Investor's 40 Under 40 and Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year program for his leadership in the energy sector and community impact.

Killam holds a bachelor's degree in English Literature from Boston University, as well as an MBA and a Master's degree from The University of Texas at Austin. He is also a graduate of The Taft School and the School Year Abroad program, where he studied in Barcelona, Spain. He lives in Laredo with his wife, Christina, and their three children, Oliver, Charlotte Grace, and Erik.

At the meeting, Chairman Killam expressed his appreciation to outgoing Chair Ignacio Urrabazo and the departing Directors for their service and leadership. "This is a great start to 2026," said retiring Chairman Urrabazo, reflecting the shared optimism and enthusiasm of the LEDC Board and staff as the organization moves forward under new leadership.

The following individuals will serve as the LEDC Board of Directors for 2026:



- Alma Acevedo
- Hector Alaniz
- Eddie Aldrete
- Thomas Brittingham
- Andrew Carranco
- Justin Heather
- Cliffe Killam
- Kurt AJ Kraus
- Gene Lindgren
- James Notzon
- Dr. Diana Y. Ortiz
- Danny Trevino
- Guillermo Trevino
- Ruben Soto, Jr.
- Olivia Varela
- John Villarreal



THE LEDC HONORS IGNACIO URRABAZO, JR. FOR HIS 4-YEAR LEADERSHIP AS PAST CHAIRMAN

On December 10, 2025, the Laredo Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) proudly honored Mr. Ignacio Urrabazo, Jr. at the annual Christmas Posada, a cherished event that brings together community leaders and stakeholders to celebrate the year's accomplishments. This prestigious recognition was awarded in tribute to his outstanding service, unwavering dedication, and exemplary leadership as the Chairman of the Board from 2022 to 2025, a period marked by significant achievements and progress.

His steadfast commitment played a vital role in promoting sustainable economic growth, attracting new businesses, and nurturing a culture of innovation and collaboration throughout the region. In addition, his efforts have significantly contributed to the creation of new job opportunities and the enhancement of our city's infrastructure, further solidifying our community's position as a thriving economic hub.

Furthermore, his leadership fostered a spirit of partnership among local businesses, educational institutions, and government entities, encouraging a collaborative approach to problem-solving and strategic planning.

The LEDC Staff are immensely grateful for your contributions, which have left an indelible mark on our community and organization. Your legacy of service and dedication will undoubtedly continue to inspire and guide us for many years to come.



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An Unforgettable **Valentine Night Dinner!**

Celebrate exclusive Valentine's Night with a 5-course dinner at the Gateway to the Americas for \$75++, complemented by live music by Javier Richard—an elegant evening to remember.



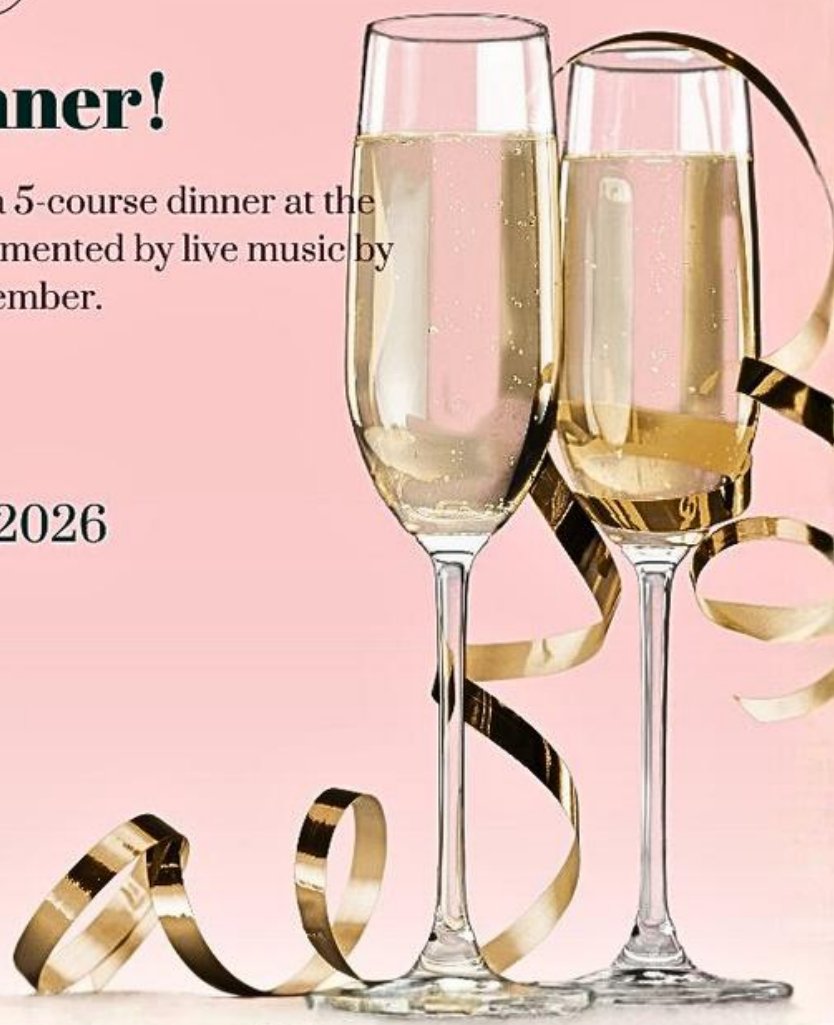
At 7 PM - 11 PM

Saturday, 14 February 2026

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For More Information and reservations
available on OpenTable





YEAR-TO-DATE, PORT LAREDO'S TRADE OCTOBER 2025

OCTOBER 2025 YTD OVERVIEW

Port Laredo **Exports**
totaled **\$107.2** billion
-1.13% from
October 2024

While **Imports**
were valued at
\$189.3 billion
+7.33% from
October 2024



TOP TRADING PARTNERS



MEXICO \$288.31B

Exports \$106.98B Imports \$181.34B
Fell -1.23% Rose 6.98%



CHINA \$1.32B

Exports \$1.41M Imports \$1.32B
Rose 6.07% Fell -15.23%



FRANCE \$1.066B

Exports \$0 Imports \$1.06B
Rose 19.27%



JAPAN \$9.11.72M

Exports \$12.77M Imports \$898.95M
Rose 14.9% Rose 63.82%



NICARAGUA \$738.80M

Exports \$118.97M Imports \$619.83M
Rose 4.45% Rose 3.68%

OCTOBER 2025 IN DETAIL (BY VALUE)

TOP EXPORTS



Motor Vehicle Parts fell -4.28%
compared to last year

\$1.14M



Gasoline, other fuels fell -4.92%
compared to last year

\$354.36M



Civilian aircraft, parts rose 113%
compared to last year

\$274.86M



Electric Storage Batteries fell -21.89%
compared to last year

\$264.67M



Motor Vehicle Engines rose 35.35%
compared to last year

\$262.34M

TOP IMPORTS



Computers rose 105.63%
compared to last year

\$3.01B



Motor Vehicle Parts fell -0.69%
compared to last year

\$2.33B



Passenger vehicles fell -3.57%
compared to last year

\$1.56B



Cell phones, related equipment rose
15.88% compared to last year

\$826.33M



Insulated wire cable rose 18.75%
compared to last year

\$617.50M

Source: US Trade Numbers-WorldCity

Compiled by Laredo Economic Development Corporation

Economic DASHBOARD

November 2025 Year-over-Year Report



*Workforce

Employment

117,768

▲ +2.11% from 2024



Labor Force

123,084

▲ +2.37% from 2024



Unemployment Rate

4.3

▲ +4.9% from 2024



Indicator	Nov 2025	Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
Employment	117,768	115,329	2.11%	▲ Positive Growth
Labor Force	123,084	120,231	2.37%	▲ Growth
Unemployment	5,316	4,902	8.45%	▲ Risen
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.10	-4.9%	▼ Decrease

*Sales Tax

Sales Tax Revenue \$5.6M

▲ +3.04 % from 2024



Indicator	Nov 2025	Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
Sales Tax Revenue	\$5,602,541	\$5,437,113	3.04%	▲ Increase

*Bridge Traffic Distribution (Southbound)

Indicator	Nov 2025	Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
Pedestrians	221,032	221,630	-0.27%	▼ Decrease
Non Comm. Vehicles	442,963	422,454	4.85%	▲ Increase
Buses	2,459	2,678	-8.18%	▼ Decrease
Commercial Vehicles	228,897	243,829	-6.12%	▼ Decrease
Non Comm. Vehicles (AVI)	154,902	151,327	2.36%	▲ Increase
Total Vehicles	674,319	668,961	0.80%	▲ Increase

Bridge Traffic Distribution (Northbound)

Indicator	Nov 2025	Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
*Pedestrians	548,294	269,259	103.63%	▲ Increase
*Non Comm. Vehicles	440,478	418,543	5.24%	▲ Increase
*Buses	2,257	2,574	-12.3%	▼ Decrease
*Commercial Vehicles	229,632	244,193	-5.96%	▼ Decrease

Data Sources:

*Texas Labor Market Information

*Texas State Comptroller

*City of Laredo Bridge System

*U.S. CBP-Inbound Traveler & Conveyance Data

*U.S. DOT-Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Prepared by: Ana Laura Benavides-Del Bosque

Economic DASHBOARD

November 2025 Year-to-Date Report



*Workforce

Employment

1116,372

▲ +2.40% from 2024



Labor Force

122,016

▲ +2.82% from 2024



Unemployment Rate

4.2

▲ +0% from 2024



Indicator	Jan-Nov 2025	Jan-Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
Employment	116,372	113,650	2.40%	▲ Positive Growth
Labor Force	122,016	118,669	2.82%	▲ Growth
Unemployment	5,644	5,019	12.45%	▲ Risen
Unemployment Rate	4.20	4.20	0.0%	▲ Steady

*Sales Tax

Sales Tax Revenue \$62.3M

▲ +5.25% from 2024



Indicator	Jan-Nov 2025	Jan-Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
Sales Tax Revenue	\$62,380,749	\$59,268,021	5.25%	▲ Positive Growth

*Bridge Traffic Distribution (Southbound)

Indicator	Jan-Nov 2025	Jan-Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
Pedestrians	2,218,474	2,166,730	2.39%	▲ Increase
Non Comm. Vehicles	4,648,537	4,604,471	0.96%	▲ Increase
Buses	28,043	30,071	-6.74%	▼ Decrease
Commercial Vehicles	2,712,433	2,773,634	-2.21%	▼ Decrease
Non Comm. Vehicles (AVI)	1,690,709	1,639,567	3.12%	▲ Increase
Total Vehicles	7,389,013	7,408,176	-0.26%	▼ Decrease

Bridge Traffic Distribution (Northbound)

Indicator	Jan-Nov 2025	Jan-Nov 2024	% Change (YoY)	Trend
*Pedestrians	3,031,651	2,661,684	13.90%	▲ Increase
*Non Comm. Vehicles	4,689,060	4,637,000	1.12%	▲ Increase
*Buses	20,667	31,433	-34.25%	▼ Decrease
*Commercial Vehicles	2,726,182	2,807,305	-2.89%	▼ Decrease

Data Sources:

*Texas Labor Market Information

*Texas State Comptroller

*City of Laredo Bridge System

*U.S. CBP-Inbound Traveler & Conveyance Data

*U.S. DOT-Bureau of Transportation Statistics



YOUR MISSION STARTS HERE



Mission Economic Development Corporation

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Consulate General of Mexico in Laredo Presents 2025 Annual Activities Report

On Wednesday, January 21, the Consulate General of Mexico in Laredo presented its **2025 Annual Activities Report**, highlighting the collective efforts carried out throughout the year in support of binational development in the Laredos Region.

The report underscores the importance of collaboration among government authorities, the business sector, universities, civil society organizations, community leaders, and the media. This coordinated work has been essential in advancing initiatives that promote competitiveness, social development, and cross-border integration between Laredo, Texas, and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.

During the presentation, Dr. Víctor Treviño, Mayor of the City of Laredo, and Carmen Lilia Canturosas, Mayor of Nuevo Laredo, emphasized the critical role of binational cooperation in addressing shared challenges and opportunities along the border. Both leaders highlighted that strategic collaboration between the two cities is fundamental to building joint solutions, strengthening institutional ties, and fostering long-term progress. They reaffirmed their commitment to continued coordination aimed at ensuring sustainable growth, economic development, and prosperity for both communities.

The **2025 Annual Activities Report** reflects the shared vision of the Laredos as a unified region, where cooperation and dialogue serve as key drivers for innovation, resilience, and a stronger binational future.

Among the attendees was David Stedman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Laredo Economic Development Corporation.



LEDC MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Laredo EDC proudly recognizes a distinguished Member
in its monthly Border Insight for:

- The company's commitment to the betterment of the community
- Special Efforts above and beyond the normal scope of job and performance services



MIDWEST

STERILIZATION CORPORATION

Production-minded, perfection-driven!

We congratulate **MIDWEST STERILIZATION CORPORATION** as Laredo EDC Member of the Month for their contribution to the development efforts in our region.

MILEONE

MILEONE LAUNCHPAD GRADUATES: FROM VISION TO VENTURE

LUNA CPA, LLC — ALBERT LUNA JR. FOUNDER | CPA | TAX & BUSINESS CONSULTING



Albert Luna Jr.
LUNA CPA, LLC

Starting LUNA CPA, LLC became one of the most rewarding decisions of Albert Luna's professional life. After more than a decade in the accounting industry—much of it in firms specializing in international tax compliance—Albert chose to build something of his own, rooted in proactive strategy and long-term client partnership.

LUNA CPA was created to offer more than traditional accounting. The firm specializes in tax and business consulting for law firms, medical and dental practices, veterinary clinics, and companies in the logistics industry. With a proactive approach, Albert and his team go beyond compliance to help clients strengthen operations, make smarter decisions, and grow with confidence.

Albert is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the state of Texas and holds both a BBA in Accounting and a Master's in Professional Accountancy from Texas A&M International University. His experience in high-precision compliance environments shaped the way he approaches every client relationship—with care, foresight, and a commitment to excellence.

At LUNA CPA, the philosophy is simple: accounting isn't just about numbers—it's about partnerships. The firm supports clients through business formation, tax planning, audit guidance, and QuickBooks training—helping entrepreneurs build stronger foundations and plan for the future.



MILEONE LAUNCHPAD GRADUATES: FROM VISION TO VENTURE

The Hermit Specialty Coffee — Jesus Prado Owner & Founder | Specialty Coffee | Downtown Laredo

After more than 13 years in the energy industry, Jesus Prado reached a point where something felt missing. By most definitions he had success, but he wanted to build something with deeper meaning—something aligned with passion, values, and impact. That decision led him to embrace his “inner Hermit” and step into entrepreneurship.

Coffee had always been more than a drink for Jesus—it was a ritual and a moment of clarity. During a trip to Colombia, where his family lives, he brought back five kilograms of green coffee and began learning to roast with a small 500-gram infrared home roaster. One small batch at a time, The Hermit was born.

Today, The Hermit Specialty Coffee roasts specialty coffee in downtown Laredo, serving locally owned establishments and coffee enthusiasts with Colombian coffee that reflects craft, care, and purpose. But the brand is built on more than taste—it’s built on values.

The Hermit is committed to creating a sustainable coffee experience that begins at the source. Through ethical sourcing, farmer support, and a continuous effort to reduce environmental impact, the brand aims to build transparency from farm to cup—honoring the people behind every harvest and every roast.

Jesus credits the MileOne community as an important part of the journey. Being named 2023 Startup of the Year was a meaningful milestone, and the encouragement, resources, and sense of belonging helped fuel the next stage of growth.



Jesus Prado
The Hermit Specialty Coffee



A YEAR IN REVIEW: MILEONE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Women Entrepreneurs Rock Series – Six month series

MileOne's Women Entrepreneurs Rock Series (WERS) continued evolving into a robust six-month program focused on education, connection, and real-world business support for women entrepreneurs. Across the series, participants engaged in practical learning and mentorship around key growth topics such as access to capital, government contracting, and long-term business strategy, while building community through consistent networking and resource-sharing.



YES Camp (Youth Entrepreneur Skills Camp)

MileOne launched and expanded its Youth Entrepreneur Skills (YES) Camp by delivering multiple hands-on sessions throughout 2025. The inaugural camp was held in May and June (two sessions), followed by an additional YES Camp in October 2025 and November 1, 2025. Each session provided youth with interactive learning experiences designed to build confidence, leadership, and entrepreneurship skills—introducing real-world topics such as public speaking, marketing, and technology innovation.

A YEAR IN REVIEW: MILEONE'S ACHIEVEMENTS



Texas Venture Fest Laredo Edition 2025

For the first time, Laredo participated in Texas Venture Fest (Oct. 2, 2025), bringing together entrepreneurs, innovators, and community leaders for networking, collaboration, and statewide visibility tied to entrepreneurship and innovation.



Networking for Dollars Fundraiser

Networking for Dollars Fundraiser supported the MileOne New Business Scholarship and created a platform for local entrepreneurs to pitch, network, and gain visibility.

By the end of the night, the event successfully raised funds for the scholarship, ensuring that future entrepreneurs would have the resources and support needed to pursue their dreams.

A YEAR IN REVIEW: MILEONE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

PNC Foundation Grant Award

MileOne secured a \$25,000 grant from the PNC Foundation to support continuation and expansion of the Women Entrepreneurs Rock Series (WERS) into 2026. The investment strengthens MileOne's ability to connect women entrepreneurs with women leaders through mentorship, networking, and skill-building experiences that support long-term business growth in Laredo.



MileOne New Business Scholarship

MileOne introduced its first Entrepreneur Scholarship, designed to support early stage founders through startup funding, dedicated mentorship sessions, marketing support, networking opportunities, and access to MileOne resources.

Looking Ahead: MileOne's 2026 Economic Forecast

In 2026, MileOne anticipates continued growth in entrepreneurship across the Laredo region—particularly in service-based ventures, trade-adjacent industries, and businesses positioned to serve bilingual and cross-border markets. At the same time, entrepreneurs are expected to operate in an environment where cost discipline and strategic decision-making remain essential.

BUSINESS TRENDS

Key insights for 2026 and beyond

TRADE

Continued demand for efficient cross-border commerce drives logistics and operational growth in global markets.



GROWTH

Entrepreneurs increasingly seek government contracts to secure stable revenue streams and foster business sustainability.

CAPITAL

There's rising interest in alternative funding options, emphasizing the importance of transparent financials and strategic planning.



SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

Embrace these trends to enhance your business strategy.

M1EMBER OF THE MONTH

The Law Office of Sergio R. Davila PLLC

Sergio R. Davila is an intellectual property and civil litigation attorney who represents individuals, businesses of all sizes, and nonprofit organizations. His work spans intellectual property matters, civil litigation, and civil appeals, helping clients protect what they've built and navigate legal challenges with clarity and confidence.

Over the course of his career, Sergio has practiced in federal courts, the state courts of Texas and California, before administrative bodies, and in private arbitration settings. He has worked with law firms in Silicon Valley and Austin, after beginning his legal career in Laredo.

Sergio earned his law degree from The University of Texas, where he was part of a national championship-winning team of appellate advocates. He was also one of only ten graduates in the Class of 2011 inducted into the prestigious Order of the Barristers, recognizing outstanding achievement in advocacy.

Before law school, Sergio studied Mathematics, Computer Science, and Radio-Television-Film at The University of Texas. During that time, he worked as a software engineer in Seattle and Austin with both major tech companies and startups, building a strong foundation in problem-solving and strategy.

In 2017, Sergio opened The Law Office of Sergio R. Davila PLLC, a Laredo-based firm focused on intellectual property, civil litigation, and civil appeals. Since opening, the firm has remained headquartered in Laredo and continues to provide trusted legal services to clients throughout the community.



A founding MileOne member since 2017, Sergio has been part of the MileOne journey from the very beginning. He is passionate about legal research, clear communication, and making legal information easier to understand, and he values every opportunity to serve clients through thoughtful, practical guidance.



WE ARE HIRING

Program Intern



\$10/HR | 15 HRS | (OFF CAMPUS)

Mileone International Business Assistance Center, a division of the Laredo Economic Development Corporation, offers free support services, coworking, office spaces, growth acceleration, startup guidance, and everything needed to grow a business.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Assist in the management of coworking and office spaces, ensuring a professional and supportive environment for clients.
- ✓ Supports the development and execution of business growth and startup initiatives, including workshops, seminars, and networking events.
- ✓ Engage with clients to understand their needs and provide them with relevant resources and guidance.
- ✓ Contribute to marketing and communication efforts, helping to promote MileOne's services and success stories.
- ✓ Assist with administrative tasks, including scheduling, data entry, and report preparation, to ensure smooth program operations.

More Information:



956.326.2265



SCCE@TAMU.EDU



**APPLY
NOW!**

CELEBRATING
International Women's Day



Grow with us!

SATURDAY
MAR 14

11am to 3pm
The Outlet Shoppes at Laredo

*Fitness Demos • Free Pot Painting
Live music • Food Demos*



The **Outlet**
Shoppes at Laredo



SAVE THE DATE!

GOVERNOR'S SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT

L A R E D O , T X

JUNE 11 | 8:00AM



MILEONE

2026

U P C O M I N G

EVENTS

16 JAN

**NEW BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER ANNOUNCED**

8 MAR

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY:
CELEBRATING WOMEN WHO LEAD**

19 MAR

**2026 NETWORKING KICKOFF:
CONNECT AT MILEONE**

16 APR

WERS 2026 KICKOFF EVENT

21 MAY

WERS | SESSION 2

GET IN TOUCH

mileoneinc.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Economic Development Week

**4-8
MAY**

Pending Locations

- Proclamation Day and State of Economic Development
- State of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Small Business Forum
- Spring Membership Mixer (Casino Night)
- Shop Local Initiative and Job Fair

Summer Membership Mixer

**09
JULY**

Pending event and Location
Summer Festival

Pathways for Trade Symposium

**22-24
SEP**

Location to be determined
(TAMIU or Arena)

Boots'n Bling Gala – EDI Awards

**06
NOV**

The Barn at Los Patios

LEDC/MileOne Christmas Posada

**09
DEC**

Pending Location

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1/2 Page **\$500**
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All ads must be in png format and due by the specified closing date.

UPCOMING ISSUES

Month	Featured Article	Topics	Closing Date
February 2026	Featured Article: U.S. Consulate Office in Nuevo Laredo, Tamps.	• Who they are • History • Outlook/Services/ Programs/Projects	February 18th
March 2026	Featured Article: CPKCR	• Rail Transportation • History • Outlook/ Services/ Programs/ Projects	March 18th



MILEONE
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE CENTER



Pathways For Trade
Symposium



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Border Insight



~ Follow Us! ~



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