



BUSINESS — to — BUSINESS

BAHEP extends its sincere appreciation for the continued support of THE DAILY NEWS through this monthly supplement.

BAHEP Hosts Dr. Ayman Hawari for Nuclear Energy Update

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, a member-driven organization dedicated to stimulating regional economic development and employment in Southeast Texas, hosted its March General Membership Meeting at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center on March 26, 2026.

The meeting featured a presentation on advancements in the development and safety of nuclear technology from Dr. Ayman Hawari, the Head of the Nuclear Engineering department at Texas A&M University.

The event brought together elected officials, business executives, community leaders, educators and legislative staff for an evening of networking and mingling. BAHEP President Brian Freedman kicked off the program with a welcome mes-

sage and an introduction of elected officials, new members, and sponsors. Freedman then invited up Dr. Hawari to the stage. Dr. Hawari provided an engaging PowerPoint and presentation on nuclear technology and how the future of nuclear energy will im-

pact Texas and the industries that operate in the Bay Area Houston region.

Lockheed Martin was the Platinum Sponsor for the evening. Linda Singleton, Senior Manager at Lockheed Martin, spoke briefly to the attendees about the launch of the Artemis II mission and Lockheed's role in the Orion Spacecraft Program. Nellie Chappell-White, 2026 BAHEP Board Chair and CEO of JES Tech, provided a quick update on upcoming BAHEP events and adjourned the meeting.



Dr. Ayman Hawari presenting his update on nuclear energy for the BAHEP membership.



(L to R) Brian Freedman, Linda Singleton, Dr. Ayman Hawari, Nellie Chappell-White, and Carl Joiner.



(L to R) City of Kemah Mayor Robin Collins and Jill Reason.

BAHEP Hosts Swedish Delegation for Aerospace Discussion

BAHEP hosted an international delegation from Sweden on March 17, 2026 for a roundtable discussion and networking lunch at the BAHEP offices.

The visit underscored the strong and growing ties between the United States and Sweden in innovation, economic development, and space exploration. The delegation featured several high-ranking officials and leaders, including H.R.H. Crown Princess Victoria; H.E.

Maria Malmer Stenergard, the Minister for Foreign Affairs; H.E. Urban Ahlin, the Ambassador of Sweden to the U.S.; H.E. Christine Toretti, the Ambassador of the U.S. to Sweden; and Anna Hammarlund Blixt, the Consul Gen-

eral of Sweden in Houston.

The roundtable discussion focused on "Space as an Arena", fostering engaging conversations around the future of commercial space, international

partnerships, and emerging opportunities within the aerospace sector. Many aerospace BAHEP members attended including Barrios, Astrolab, Vast, Axiom Space, Cimmaron, and Leidos. Attendees exchanged insights advancing human space exploration and supporting innovation-driven growth in Houston and Sweden.

In addition to industry leaders, several local government officials were in attendance. Participants included Hou-

ston City Council Member Fred Flickinger, Jay Guerrero representing Senator Cornyn's office, and Dr. Chara L. Bowie

representing Harris County Precinct 2.



The members of the Swedish Delegation, BAHEP members, and BAHEP staff in the BAHEP Atrium enjoying a networking lunch after the roundtable discussions.



Almost 80 participants gathered in the BAHEP conference room to participate in the roundtable discussion centered on the future of space and international partnerships.

BUSINESS to BUSINESS is a monthly Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership publication in partnership with THE DAILY NEWS. BAHEP is a member-driven organization that provides the leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in southeastern Texas. Its members include more than 360 business partners encompassing 18 cities, Galveston and Harris counties, the Houston Airport System, and Port Houston.

For membership information, contact Membership Director Harriet Pilgrim at 832.536.3250.

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BAHEP Attends Kemah Council Meeting for New Town Center Announcement

The BAHEP staff members attended the City of Kemah's Special City Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 8, to hear a presentation on plans for a conceptual mixed-use development. Designed to support long-term economic growth, strengthen tourism, and expand opportunities for both resi-

dents and visitors. The concept brings together a large-scale event and sports center, a hotel, and a walkable environment with retail and dining.

The proposed project, Kemah Town Center, would be located on approximately 30 acres across from Kemah City

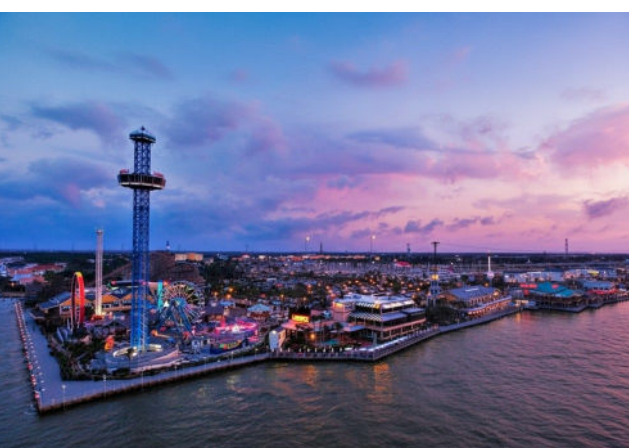
Hall. The Event and Community Center will span more than 90,000 square feet and include eight full court basketball courts, 16 volleyball courts, and 24 pickleball courts, along with a convention/meeting space, indoor fitness opportunities, and youth programming. The retail and hospitality component is expected to total approximately 200,000 square feet and will include a hotel, restaurants, and retail space. The development is also designed to be walkable, with golf cart accessibility throughout.

The event and sports center is intended to serve not only tourists

and regional athletes, but local residents, providing a venue for tournaments, community gatherings, and other activities. Plans currently include 500-600 dedicated parking spaces, plus around 1,300 additional spaces.

Currently, the project remains conceptual, and City officials are work-

ing closely with partners to evaluate next steps and the long-term impact of the project. Kemah Town Center represents another strong example of the continued economic growth in the region, and BAHEP looks forward to its potential impact on the community.



View of Kemah Boardwalk at sunset. Courtesy of the City of Kemah.



Rendering of the Event and Community Center. Courtesy of the City of Kemah.