

July 22, 2026

Director's Report- Q2 2026

Office of Economic Development

Brittany Sotelo
Economic Development Director

In the News

Panel Rey opens plant in Texas and accelerates Mexican manufacturing expansion in the U.S.

By Israel Molina

South Texas

May 22, 2026



The inauguration event was attended by Nicolas Alverde, CEO of Grupo PROMAX; Gerard Hudspeth, Mayor of Denton; and James S. Taylor, Director of the State of Texas Mexico Office.

LOCAL

Monster Mini Golf opens glow-in-the-dark venue in Denton

by: Abbey Bowling
Posted: Jul 1, 2026 / 04:30 PM CDT
Updated: Jul 1, 2026 / 12:24 PM CDT



Credit: Monster Mini Golf

DENTON

Denton approves incentives for at-scale manufacturer of commercial and military AI drones

By Christian McPhate Staff Writer Updated Apr 25, 2026

 Dallas Innovates

Switzerland-Based Novartis Breaks Ground on Radioligand Therapy Site in Denton

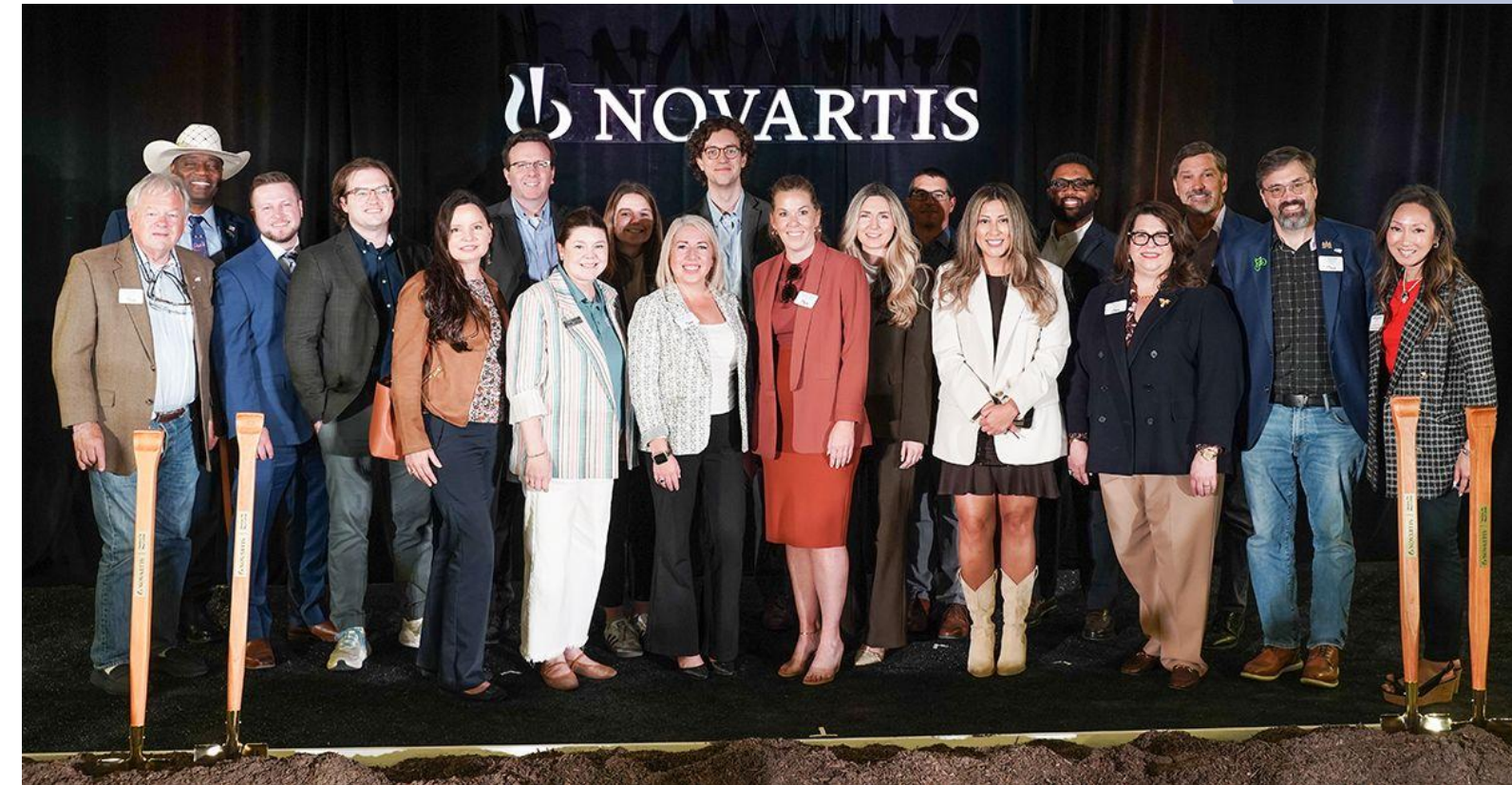
When completed in 2028, the company's first Texas-based manufacturing facility will bring RLT medications closer to patients across the southern...

May 12, 2026



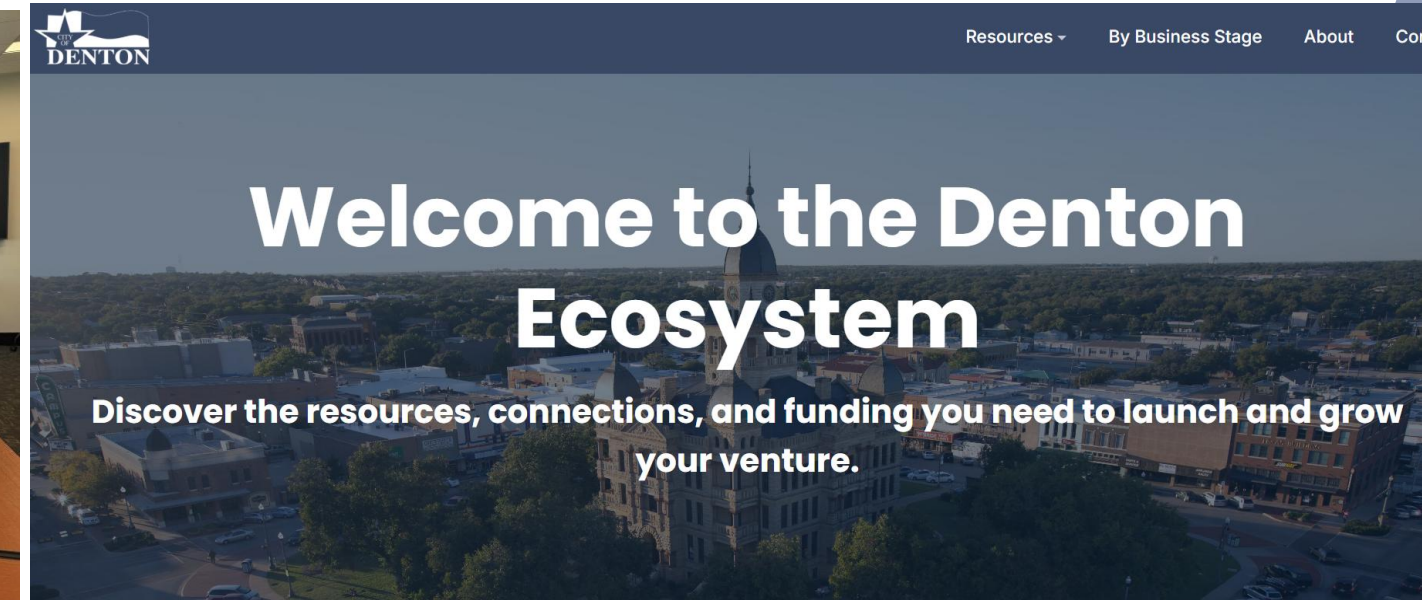
Partner Events

- 4/24: Pilot Knob Rotary Presentation
- 4/30: UNT Kuehne Speaker Series
- 5/5: Panel Rey Denton Facility Groundbreaking
- 5/7: Downtown Denton Foundation Twilight Tunes
- 5/7: Novartis Denton Facility Groundbreaking
- 5/27: Bisnow Denton County State of the Market



Partner Events (OED Led)

- 4/16: Denton Community Job Fair
- 4/28: Small Business Week Lunch and Learn Session
- 5/4: Small Business Week Campaign
- 5/14: Launched OpportunityDenton.com
- 5/20: Denton Airport Business Roundtable



Trainings, Workshops, Conferences

- 4/7-4/8: CAAT Consortium Meeting
- 4/20 – 4/22: EarthX E-Capital Summit
- 4/23: Stoke's FlintConf
- 4/24: Urban Institute “Getting Started on Upward Mobility” Webinar
- 5/11 – 5/14: XPONENTIAL 2026
- 6/22 – 6/25: Automate Show 2026
- 6/22 – 6/25: Bio International Convention



Q2 Recruitment Stats

31

Active Projects

- 4,796 Potential Jobs
- \$1.146 Billion Potential Cap. X

Active Projects Stage	Count
Lead (5%)	28
Awaiting App. (10%)	2
Board Approval (90%)	1
Total	31

14

New Leads

Sources:

- Local Partner – 3
- Broker – 2
- Denton Chamber – 1
- EDP Website – 1
- Direct – 4
- Recruitment – 1
- Dallas Regional Chamber – 1
- Governor’s Office – 1

2

Recruitment Visit

6

Leads Reclassified

- (5) Cold
- (1) Transferred to Business Support

1

Incentive Proposal Sent

210

Recruitment Outreach Attempts

Q2 Trade Show Stats



XPONENTIAL™



633

Contacts Retrieved

Sources:

- XPONENTIAL: 31
- Automate: 37
- Bio International: 565 (Lead retrieval)

30

Project Leads

Sources:

- XPONENTIAL: 7
- Automate: 11
- Bio International: 12

Q2 RFI Stats

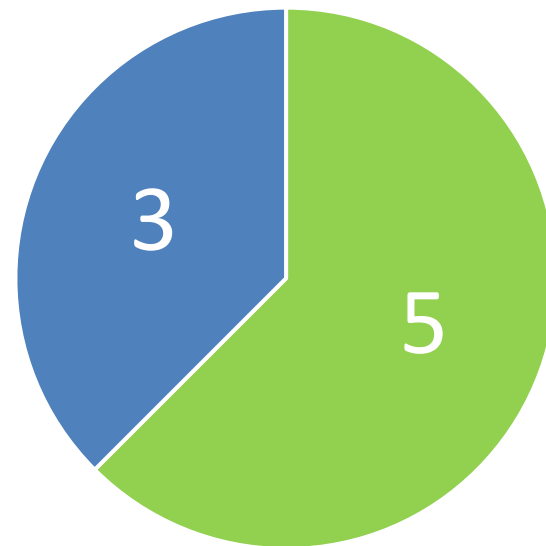
**RFIs
Received**
26

Submitted
8

No Submittal
17

**Lead
Conversion**
2

Submitted RFI Lead Source



■ Governor's Office
■ Dallas Regional Chamber

**Potential
Capital
Investment**

\$384M

**Potential
Jobs**

3,163

***Submitted for Q2**

20

**Annual RFIs
Submitted**

Q2 Downtown Stats

6

BRE Visits

2

Leads Lost

- (1) Not moving forward with project
- (1) Cold

0

New Downtown Grant Leads

- The TIRZ 1 Board increased the budget to \$300K to cover the remaining grants. No new grant applications will be accepted until the start of the FY 26/27 cycle.

16

Recruitment Outreach Attempts

Main Street Update

- Main Street Reaccredited
- 6/1: TX Main Street Retreat – Huntsville
- New Main Street Advisory Board Onboarding
- Denton Halloween Business update



Business Name	Business Start	Business Closure	Jobs (gained)	Jobs (lost)
Opening				
Ruby Rodeo - April	x		32	
Hoochies - May	x		10	
Blind Man's Corner	x		2	
Closing				
The Black Fox		x		5
Archive Haus		x		2
Mallouf Hat (online only)		x		2
Discount Denton Vacuums		x		2
Patchouli Joes		x		6
Ramyum Stop (Bunny Bakery Opening soon)		x		5
Visitor Center Relocation		x		2
TOTAL	3	7	44	24

Music & Film

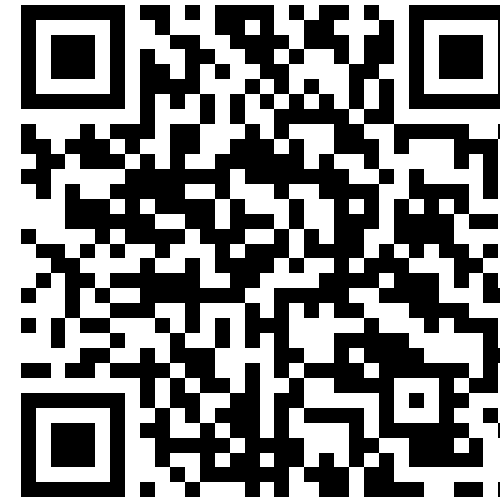
Film

- Permits issued Q2: 3
- YTD: 6
- Hosted meeting with 15 Denton film professionals to learn more about their work and hear feedback on what they'd like to see from the City.

Music

- Tom's Daiquiri awarded Live Music Society's Music in Action Grant!
- **Project: Denton Spotlight Residency:**
 - A residency program featuring a local emerging artist as the designated opening act for a two-week period. The initiative provides sustained exposure, professional development, and opportunities to connect with new audiences.

Submit your property to the Texas Film Commission's Location Database



Meet our 2026 Grantees

We are so excited to announce our newest group of Music in Action grantees! This year, 29 small music venues across the US have been awarded a total of \$844,000. Funding will support creative projects that enable venues to take a chance on new programming, engage with their community, expand audiences. With this latest round of funding, Live Music Society has distributed nearly \$6 million to 250 small independent venues since 2020.

Grantee Venues

Ars Nova Workshop (Philadelphia, PA)	Odin & Freja's Place (Scandinavia, WI)
Bishop Hill Creative Commons (Bishop Hill, IL)	One World Brewing (Asheville, NC)
Cafe Colonial (Sacramento, CA)	Preservation Hall (New Orleans, LA)
Caffè Lena (Saratoga Springs, NY)	The RiffRaff Arts Collective (Princeton, WV)
The Dance Hall (Kittery, ME)	The Riptide (San Francisco, CA)
Drom (New York, NY)	The Rosette (Austin, TX)
Drytown Social Club (Drytown, CA)	The Royal Music & Arts Center (Glenside, PA)
The End (Lafayette, CO)	Safety Harbor Music & Arts Center (Safety Harbor, FL)
The Free Man (Dallas, TX)	The Silverlake Lounge (Los Angeles, CA)
Happy Dog (Cleveland, OH)	Songbyrd Music House (Washington, DC)
La Casa de la Cultura Isabelina (Isabela, PR)	The Starry Plough Pub (Berkeley, CA)
The Monarch (Louisville, KY)	Tom's Daiquiri (Denton, TX)
Monks Jazz Club (Austin, TX)	Trans-Pecos (Ridgewood, NY)
Next Stage Arts Project (Putney, VT)	ZOLA (Spokane, WA)
Nova Arts (Keene, NH)	

Staff News

- Kalli Ruiz joins Economic Development team as Economic Development Manager
- Kalli will be helping our team guide projects, ensuring alignment with strategic goals, and overseeing day-to-day departmental operations.
- Kalli has experience in administrative management with the City of Denton's Capital Projects Department. Prior to that, she held several roles with Salt Lake City Corporation in Utah, supporting economic development, housing and neighborhood development, and capital improvement initiatives.

Kalli Ruiz

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



Upcoming Events

- AI for Your Business Workshop
 - Part 1: July 30, 9 – 10AM
 - Part 2: Sept 3, 9 – 10AM
- IMTS Tradeshow – September

A flyer for the 'AI for Your Business' workshop. It features the City of Denton logo in the top left corner. The title 'AI FOR YOUR BUSINESS' is prominently displayed in large, bold, white letters. Below the title, a paragraph describes the workshop as a hands-on and collaborative learning opportunity. Further down, it states the facilitator is Dave Jimenez of WNDYR. A note mentions it's a 2-part workshop with limited spots. The location, Quakertown Civic Center, and the dates/times for both parts are listed at the bottom with corresponding location and clock icons.

 **AI FOR YOUR BUSINESS**

Learn from an expert on leveraging AI for your business. In this hands on and collaborative workshop, participants will learn about leveraging AI to improve your operations.

This course will be facilitated by Dave Jimenez of WNDYR.

This will be a 2-part workshop with limited spots available.

 **Quakertown Civic Center - 321 E McKinney St**

 **Workshop Part 1: July 30, 9AM - 10AM**
Workshop Part 2: September 3, 9AM - 10AM

Thank you!