



The Texas Department of Transportation Goldthwaite Welcome Center is open and ready for visitors.

Goldthwaite Welcome Center Open for Visitors

The City of Goldthwaite is now home to a new Texas Department of Transportation Welcome Center located in the center of town.

The majority of the funding for this project — the Goldthwaite Welcome Center — has been provided by TxDOT, along with additional financial support from the City of Goldthwaite.

The project consists of the Welcome Center building which houses a welcome desk, office, exhibits, information about Goldthwaite and the surrounding area, and vending machines and restrooms. The project also includes an easily accessible parking area.

The Welcome Center is lo-

cated directly across from City Hall and is the centerpiece for Goldthwaite's growing cultural district. It connects Legacy Plaza — the Texas Botanical Gardens & Native American Interpretive Center—with Goldthwaite's restaurants

and retail shopping, and provides convenient access to the Mills County Museum and the Jennie Trent Dew Library.

According to plans released by TxDOT, the Welcome Center will “serve as a transportation museum, and as such will be formed by structural elements and materials used in train depots and rail cars of a by-gone time.”

The roof of the building, as presented in the design statement, is an “asymmetric butterfly,” which can collect rainwater and take it to the south end of the building where it will flow down a “rain chain,” into a pool, and eventually be piped into an underground storage tank.

Other attractive features of the center's design include “monolithic stone blocks” to be used decoratively with the native plant landscaping, and also serve as benches. The roof extends over a covered terrace for shaded outdoor seating.

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