



EDIBLE COMMUNITIES

LAY OF THE LAND

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At first glance, Elgin is one of those quaint small towns east of Austin with a historic district and a laid-back feel. And thanks to companies Meyer's and [Southside Market](#), it's known as the sausage capital of Texas. Yet, if you look a little deeper, you'll discover Elgin's identity is deeply rooted in the soil as a vibrant farming community. With an ever-encroaching Austin skyline from the west, though, and developers eyeing the fertile landscape for suburban development, the potential threat to Elgin's farming community grows palpable. How can Elgin preserve its proud heritage and keep a spotlight on farming as the seeds of change approach?

It starts with key leadership and a combined effort from local farmers and producers. About a year ago, the Elgin City Council began to reevaluate the town's core strengths