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Founders Bank starts SBA Loan Group

New team will assist start-ups and small businesses that need capital to grow.

SUGAR LAND (May 14, 2008) — Founders Bank has established a new SBA Lending Group, designed to help new and existing business owners obtain financing through the Small Business Administration.

The SBA Lending Group is led by Paul Reade and staffed by Linda Amador-Stephens and Annu Makkar - three experienced lenders with extensive knowledge of the SBA process and the local marketplace. Reade, Amador-Stephens and Makkar all join Founders Bank from MagnetBank in Houston, where they helped develop a national SBA lending program.

“Fort Bend is a vibrant market for entrepreneurs with great ideas,” said Jim Sturgeon, president and chief executive officer of Founders Bank. “All they need is access to capital in order to take their businesses to the next level.

“Our new SBA Lending Group enables Founders Bank to provide a high level of personal, hands-on service to local businesspeople - streamlining the SBA loan application process for them and helping them obtain the funding they need to grow their businesses.”

Small business owners can utilize SBA loans for a wide range of business uses, such as:

- Owner-occupied real estate acquisition and construction
- Business acquisitions
- Start-up financing
- Business expansion
- Equipment purchases
- Debt refinance

SBA loans help entrepreneurs manage their cash flow by offering competitive interest rates with maturities that are generally longer than conventional financing. Additionally, SBA loans sometimes require less money down than conventional loans.

“We’re thrilled to have an experienced SBA group at Founders Bank because it gives us a vehicle to expand our outreach to businesses in the Fort Bend area,” says Manuel Gonzalez, director of the Houston District-Small Business Administration. “We’ve worked with Paul and his team for years and we know that they have a thorough understanding of the SBA loan process and how to best help businesspeople apply for and receive loans. They can help small business owners obtain capital in the most sensible way possible - a guaranteed loan via the SBA.”

About Founders Bank

Founders Bank is Fort Bend's only locally owned and managed bank, with headquarters in Sugar Land.

The bank takes its name from a "founders group" of Fort Bend businesspeople and community leaders who served as the driving force behind the institution's organization. Founders Bank is focused on serving the Fort Bend community.

Founders Bank opened its temporary location in early November at 4971 Sweetwater Boulevard in the Kroger shopping center, between Sweet Mesquite and Texas Eye Institute.

The bank will move into its permanent location - at the corner of Lexington and Sweetwater in the Founders Bank Plaza currently under construction - in spring 2008.

Learn more at www.foundersbanktx.com.