

Built for More: Downtown Development that Benefits Everyone
November 13, 2025

Panelists and Bios



Mark Jensen
Vice President,
Weston Urban

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Serving as Vice President, Mark brings a passion for urban revitalization and commitment to quality development to the Weston Urban team. With wide experience in multifamily product types and various markets, he is focused on creating vibrant residential communities that contribute to the density and diversity of downtown.

Mark has a successful track record of multifamily development from project origination through construction execution and stabilization and has been instrumental in the creation of thousands of residential units in Texas and other regions of the country. Before Joining Weston Urban, previous employers include Landmark Properties, The NRP Group, Sares-Regis Group, and the Taubman Company. With Landmark Properties, Mark focused on developing purpose-built student housing communities across various University-centric markets around the country. With The NRP Group he was responsible for the origination and execution of market rate developments throughout the state of Texas with a focus on urban and suburban class “A” mixed-use communities.

Mark earned his Bachelor of Science in Construction Management from Brigham Young University and his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business. While still a Detroit Pistons fan at heart, he has adopted the Spurs as his western conference team and he and his lovely wife Carrie have two creative and energetic daughters, Kaylie and Brynn.



Andres Andujar
Chief Executive Officer,
Hemisfair (retired)



Andres Andujar
Senior Advisor
andres@andujar1.com

Andres recently retired from Hemisfair after 14 years as CEO. Andres was the driving force behind the community vision for the Hemisfair area redevelopment: to create one of the world’s great public places. This is being done by the transformation of the ’68 World’s Fair site into an urban district of multiple parks, residences and local businesses. Hemisfair is becoming sustainable, self-funded and filled with events authentic to San Antonio. In addition to his work on the Hemisfair district, Andres helped develop a vision and coined River North for an area north of our downtown surrounding the Museum Reach of the Riverwalk extension that resulted in a 400-acre urban rezoning and the creation of a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone. For that volunteer effort, Andujar was given an honorary title from the American Institute of Architects. Andres was named 2006 Downtowner of the Year by Centro and was selected as one of San Antonio’s Visionaries in 2008. In 2010 the San Antonio Business Journal named Andres one of the top five most influential people in San Antonio. In 2017 the San Antonio Express News selected Andres as a Texas Powerbroker, and in 2018 Visit San Antonio recognized Andres with the Con Corazon award for his dedication and passion for making San Antonio a better place.

Andujar received his bachelor’s degree in architectural engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1980. His school recently inducted him into the Architectural Engineering Academy of Distinguished Alumni. His 30-year career in the private sector before Hemisfair includes design, construction, development and management experience of several billion dollars’ worth of projects around the US and abroad.

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Lori Houston
Assistant City Manager,
City of San Antonio (retired)



Lori Houston was appointed Assistant City Manager in July 2015 where she served for 23 years. During that time and until she announced her retirement in September 2025, she oversaw several key city departments including Center City Development & Operations, Historic Preservation, Human Services, and Neighborhood & Housing Services.

She began her work with the City of San Antonio in 2002, starting with roles in the Public Works Department and the City Manager’s Office. Before her appointment as Assistant City Manager, she was with the Center City Development & Operations Department, first as Assistant Director and then as Director.

During her tenure, she’s led or been involved in major projects and initiatives such as the San Antonio River Improvements Project (including the Museum Reach segment), facilitating more than 12,000 affordable multi-family housing units, expansion of UTSA’s downtown campus, Alamo restoration and development efforts, creation of the Emergency Housing Assistance Program, and establishment of the City’s Homeless Response System.

Lori has also been involved in several civic organizations such as the San Antonio Spurs Sports Foundation, Alameda Theater Conservancy, Haven for Hope, Alpha Home and Young Women’s Leadership Academy.

Lori earned a Master of Public Administration, University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and her Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing, New Mexico State University.

Lori Houston has a daughter named Millie. She is married to Sam Houston and enjoys running, traveling, and tennis.



Veronica Salazar
Senior Executive Vice
President for Enterprise
Development and
Transformation
UT San Antonio



In addition to guiding the UT San Antonio’s integration efforts through the Integration Management Office, Veronica is focused on enterprise development and transformation, leading the effort to ensure the success of ongoing initiatives, including the Campus Master Plan and the expansion of the UT San Antonio Downtown Campus.

Salazar’s efforts include leadership on the \$91.8 million San Pedro I development, home to the UTSA Center for Data Science and National Security Collaboration Center; formal integration with the Southwest School of Art in 2022; current development of the \$131 million San Pedro II; and ongoing visioning for the Institute of Texan Cultures.

Salazar joined the university’s executive leadership team in January 2019, providing leadership and guidance for real estate development, operations and finance, human resources, campus infrastructure and public-private partnerships. She has over 25 years of professional leadership experience in higher education.

Prior to joining UT San Antonio, Salazar served as the Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer at the University of California, Merced (UC Merced) where she made significant contributions to the success and momentum of the Merced 2020 Project, a \$1.3 billion initiative. Before her tenure at UC Merced, she began her academic career at The University of Texas at Brownsville, now The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, spending 12 years in senior leadership roles focused on finance, budget development, facilities, capital planning and project management.

Salazar lends her expertise to numerous boards and committees, including dedicated service to Centro San Antonio on the Board of Directors and member of the Roadrunner Foundation and United Way Advisory Council. Previously, she served as Chair of the UT Share Executive Committee and United Way Public Sector Division Chair Volunteer.

In August 2021, Salazar was recognized by the San Antonio Business Journal with a 2021 Women’s Leadership Award. In 2022, she completed the Governor’s Executive Development Program, enhancing her leadership in state agency operations, strategic planning and hybrid workforce management. In 2024, she attended Harvard’s Institute for Educational Management, focusing on critical higher education issues, including strategic direction and resource management.

Veronica earned MBA and BAAS in Management degrees at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

She has two daughters and enjoys hiking, traveling and spending time outdoors.