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## SELMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SECURES CITY PARTNERSHIP RENEWAL



*Discussed at Selma City Council on March 4, 2025*

*By Francisco Ramirez – March 11, 2025*

The Selma City Council has reaffirmed its partnership with the Selma Chamber of Commerce, ensuring continued collaboration on local business development and community events. At the March 4, 2025, [council meeting](#), city officials voted to renew the Chamber's agreement, providing \$35,000 in annual funding to support economic initiatives.

Additionally, the council approved an immediate \$11,000 allocation to help fund [Selma's](#) highly anticipated July 3rd fireworks celebration. The Chamber had raised concerns about the rising costs of putting on the event, and the city's contribution will help ensure the tradition continues without disruption.

"Our goal is to support local businesses and bring people together through events that boost Selma's economy," said a Chamber representative. "This agreement gives us the stability we need to continue serving the community."

The renewed contract includes an automatic one-year renewal clause unless either party provides a 60-day notice to terminate. The Chamber is also required to provide the city with quarterly financial reports and an annual budget, a provision added to ensure transparency



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and accountability in how the funds are used.

The partnership has historically played a vital role in Selma's economic development, with the Chamber organizing events such as the Selma Car Show, the Christmas Parade, and various business networking opportunities. However, some residents have questioned whether the financial support should be adjusted based on measurable outcomes, such as increased business growth or tourism impact.

Council members acknowledged the Chamber's contributions but emphasized the importance of maintaining a fair and effective funding model. Some suggested exploring new revenue sources, such as grants or sponsorships, to reduce reliance on city funds over time. Others pointed out that similar partnerships exist in neighboring cities, where chambers receive municipal support in exchange for promoting local commerce.

As Selma looks ahead to another year of [business development and community](#) events, the Chamber's role remains crucial. The question moving forward is how the city can best balance its financial support while ensuring accountability and maximizing the impact of its investment.

Do you think this partnership benefits Selma's businesses and residents?