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### **Hard Eight BBQ headed to Burleson**

The immensely popular Hard Eight BBQ has selected Burleson to be home to their fifth location.

“We love the Burleson area and the economic development department found us a great location, right along I-35,” said Hard Eight BBQ owner, Vicki Nivens.

Hard Eight BBQ bills itself as a one-of-a-kind eating experience where patrons receive their food fresh, hot and directly from the person who prepared it. The restaurant began in Stephenville, TX in 2003 by the late Phillip Nivens and his wife Vicki, along with his son-in-law Chad Decker and wife Carie.

“Burleson is known for its hometown atmosphere and as we continue to get bigger it is more important to us to recruit companies and businesses that fit the values of what a hometown is,” said Alex Philips, economic development manager. “Hard Eight BBQ has those same values with families and the community being first on the list and it is with the utmost excitement that we get to welcome Hard Eight BBQ to the Burleson community. Vicki Nivens, Chad Decker and the whole team at Hard Eight have been awesome to work with through this process.”

The proposed 12,000 square foot restaurant is projected to employ between 50 – 60 employees and will be located at 220 N. Burleson Blvd, right next to the current Stampede Harley-Davidson dealership. Burleson City Council approved an economic development incentive package during their regularly scheduled meeting on Nov. 13 for a sales tax rebate up to \$450,000 or ten years, whichever occurs first. Construction is expected to start in March 2018 with a projected opening date of January 2019.

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