



What is the difference?

FERRIS MAIN STREET and the FERRIS AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The roles of the Main Street Board and the Ferris Area Business Association (FABA) have changed since Ferris became a Texas Main Street City in 1996. Originally, the two were tightly coupled. In 2011, at the encouragement of the Texas Historic Commission Main Street Office, the two officially separated. Each entity has a distinct mission, organization structure, funding, and focus.

	FERRIS MAIN STREET	FERRIS AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
Structure	City appointed volunteer advisory board to the city council.	Chartered as a 501(c)6 tax exempt corporation.
Mission	Revitalization of the historic downtown through preservation and economic restructuring initiatives.	Promotion of the Ferris area, including the planning and execution of downtown events.
Time focus	Medium to long term (two to 10 years).	Short term (less than one year).
Leadership	Board consists of six citizens, two city council members, the FABA President, and two non-voting youth advisors.	President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary elected by FABA members in January.
Membership	Citizen volunteers for committees.	Core membership: Business owners in the Ferris zip code (75125). Others can join as Associate members.
General Funding	City department budget for salary and operations.	Member dues and fund raising events.
Special Funding	4B EDC	Sponsorships
Expenses	All items approved by City Manager and paid through City Finance.	Bank checking account with by-laws limiting use and authority.
Recent Projects	Wayfinding signs Downtown Design Guidelines Façade Improvement Program Historic Ferris art projects Downtown survey Alley Park Seasonal street pole banners Main Street booth	Christmas on the Square (December) Brick Festival (April) Ferris Trades Day (monthly) Great Pumpkin Race 5K Run/Walk After hours business socials Advocates for city improvements

The Main Street Manager is a City of Ferris employee who acts as a non-voting liaison to both organizations.