

**THOMAS C. LEPPERT  
MAYOR**



**CITY OF DALLAS**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release:  
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### **Top China Firm Placing US Headquarters in Dallas Shenzhen Mayor Announces Dallas Visit**

Today Mayor Tom Leppert put the finishing touches on a deal with ZTE - a giant Chinese telecom firm - to place its US headquarters in Dallas. The announcement came during Mayor Leppert's Trade Mission to China.

ZTE is based in Shenzhen, a dynamic Chinese city about an hour outside Hong Kong. ZTE will establish a US headquarters for the firm in Dallas and move its research and development facility from Richardson to Dallas. The move should take place in June.

"We want dynamic global firms to base their US offices, manufacturing and distribution operations in Dallas," said Mayor Leppert. "ZTE is a firm that expects to triple its US revenues in the next year. They clearly feel Dallas is the best place to make that happen."

Making the announcement today was former ZTE Chairman Zhang Taifeng. Mr. Zhang - a founder of the company - is the "Z" in ZTE. ZTE will occupy 21,000 sq feet of space in the Prime Art and Jewel Building at 18325 Waterview Parkway in Far North Dallas. The deal includes \$192,000 in relocation incentives from the City. The firm will spend \$1 million to finish out the space, and create 65 jobs initially in Dallas. But the Mayor says the wider impact may be more important.

"ZTE is a big player in China," said Mayor Leppert. "Its move to Dallas will get the attention of other companies, especially in Shenzhen where we have been establishing strong relationships. This can help tip the scale. "

City Councilmember Ron Natinsky agrees. He chairs the Council's Economic Development Committee and is a member of the Mayor's Trade Delegation. Mr. Natinsky says, while ZTE's operations will move just a few miles into Dallas, it's actually a big strategic win for both.

ZTE - US Moving to Dallas

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“The move raises Dallas’ profile among Chinese firms,” says Mr. Natinsky, “And it links ZTE with business-friendly Big D, a brand known round the world. “

Following the meeting at ZTE, the delegation met with the Mayor of Shenzhen, Xu Zhongheng. Shenzhen has seen explosive growth in just a few short decades. In 1980 it was a fishing village of 90,000. Then Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping declared the area a special enterprise zone. With its proximity to Hong Kong, entrepreneurship took hold. Today the area is filled with high rises and has a population of more than 8 million. Its businesses are looking for places to invest and expand in the US.

Last September, 70 CEOs from Shenzhen firms visited Dallas where the Mayor hosted a dinner for them. Today he met with many of those same CEOs. Later, Mayor Leppert told Mayor Xu that this was something the two cities had in common: A sense of optimism about the future, and a strong sense of entrepreneurship. Mayor Xu then surprised the delegation by announcing that he would visit Dallas during a trip to the US this summer.

Earlier in the day, members of the delegation met with another Chinese airline, Cathay Pacific. The Mayor hopes to establish a non-stop flight between China and DFW Airport within the next two years.

Tomorrow, the delegation will visit the Hong Kong Convention Center where a major trade show is underway. The delegation returns to Dallas on Friday.

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**See photos on next page**

**Photos — Trade Delegation's visit to Shenzhen, China**



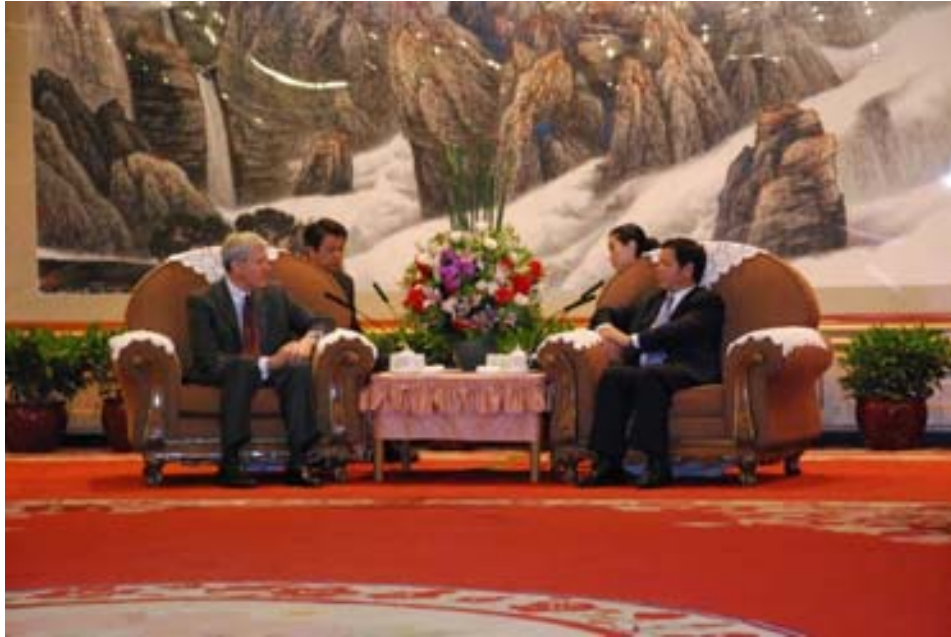
Delegation photo at ZTE Headquarters



Mayor Leppert and the delegation tour ZTE campus

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## More Photos — Trade Delegation's visit to Shenzhen, China



Mayor Leppert meeting with Shenzhen Mayor Xi Zhongheng



Mayor Leppert, Mayor Xi at banquet for the delegation.  
Now that's a centerpiece!

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## More Photos — Trade Delegation's visit to Shenzhen, China



Mayor Leppert, Former ZTE Chairman Zhang Taifeng and Councilmember Tennell Atkins



ZTE World Headquarters,  
Shenzhen, China