

Memorandum

Memorandum No: 24-133

Date: October 7, 2024
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Ryan Henderson, City Manager 
Re: Upcoming Texas Municipal League Annual Business Meeting

The 89th Texas Legislature is scheduled to meet from January 14, 2025, to June 2, 2025. During the 2023 session more 23% of bills or significant resolutions filed would have affected Texas cities in a substantial way. As a member of the Texas Municipal League (TML), the City of Anna is represented by the TML's lobbyists, in accordance with its legislative program.

TML will hold its annual business meeting on Thursday, October 10 at 3:00 p.m. during the 2024 annual conference in Houston. TML staff will provide a report of the municipal policy summit that took place in August and special policy committees that have occurred in the interim session. The report of the summit and resolutions submitted for review of the membership are included in the attached exhibit. During the business meeting one representative of the City of Anna may vote for or against inclusion of the proposed resolutions in the 2025-2026 legislative program.

In December, TML will finalize its legislative program based on resolutions passed at the upcoming meeting and last year's meeting. Assistant City Manager Taylor Lough and Public Affairs Manager Frances La Rue will be tracking the upcoming session and coordinating with TML regarding future legislation.

Attachments:

Exhibit I – Resolutions Packet 2024

c: Taylor Lough, Assistant City Manager
Frances La Rue, Public Affairs Manager
Greg Peters, Assistant City Manager
Clark McCoy, City Attorney
Carrie Land, City Secretary
Management Team



**RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED
TO THE
MEMBERSHIP OF THE
TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**

October 10, 2024

Houston, Texas

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The Texas Municipal League Grassroots Policy Development Process

Member City Input:

Annual Business Meeting Resolutions and/or Interim Municipal Policy Summit

The primary function of the Texas Municipal League is advocating on behalf of its member cities. That's the way it has been since the League's formation in 1913 because many significant decisions affecting Texas cities are made by the Texas Legislature, not by municipal officials. Now, just as they did over a century ago, newly elected mayors and councilmembers quickly realize the legislature can address virtually any aspect of city government.

This fact is vividly demonstrated during each legislative session. For example, during the 2023 session, more than 8,000 bills or significant resolutions were introduced; more than 1,800 of them would have affected Texas cities in some substantial way. In the end, over 1,200 bills or resolutions passed and were signed into law; 230 of them impacted cities in some way.

The number of city related bills as a percentage of total bills filed rises every year. Twenty years ago, around 17 percent of bills filed affected cities in some way. In 2023, that percentage has increased to 23 percent. In other words, almost a quarter of the legislature's work is directed at cities, and much of that work aims to limit municipal authority.

Based on a legislative program that is developed by member city officials, the League, through its grassroots, advocates for or against those efforts. To develop the program, city officials provide input in primarily two ways.

First, member city officials can participate in the League's Municipal Policy Summit during each interim. The report of the summit takes the form of a resolution that is submitted to the annual conference. The goal of the committee process is two-fold: (1) it allows input on the legislative program from a broad cross section of cities and city officials; and (2) it educates new city officials to the legislative issues faced by cities. The summit participants are appointed by the TML President based on volunteers and others chosen to balance the demographics of the TML membership at large.

The Summit is an intensive, two-day workshop during which League staff briefs the participants on the myriad legislative issues faced by cities. Most are issues that arise each session, but several consist of solicited or unsolicited issues brought by city officials. Even if no changes are recommended to the fixed program, which is an unlikely prospect, staff will fulfill its educational goal through continued briefing on the issues. After each subject-matter briefing, the participants make concise recommendations on the issues. Those recommendations are placed into resolution form and submitted to the League's annual business meeting, discussed next.

Second, a member city, TML region, or TML affiliate may submit a resolution for consideration at the League's annual conference. Each city is asked to provide one delegate to serve as its liaison at the meeting. The delegates are briefed on the content of the resolutions and given a chance to discuss and vote on whether they merit inclusion in the legislative program. The resolutions form the basis of a fixed legislative program, under which – each session – modifications to the program will be

considered at a future Summit, business meeting, or TML Board meeting. Detailed information relating to resolution submittal is provided to each member city, TML affiliate organization, and TML region well in advance of the due date.

The detailed policy development process is necessary to ensure that the League advocates as directed by its members. The League is nothing without the involvement and expertise of its members, and participation in the process is an invaluable part of protecting municipal authority.

The TML Legislative Philosophy

The TML approach to the 2025 session will undoubtedly be guided by principles that spring from a deeply rooted TML legislative philosophy:

- The League will vigorously oppose any legislation that would erode the authority of Texas cities to govern their own local affairs.
- Cities represent the level of government closest to the people. They bear primary responsibility for the provision of capital infrastructure and for ensuring our citizens' health and safety. Thus, cities must be assured of a predictable and sufficient level of revenue and must resist efforts to diminish that revenue.
- The League will oppose the imposition of any state mandates that do not provide for a commensurate level of compensation.

TML Legislative Policy Process Schedule

The League's 2025-2026 legislative policy development schedule is roughly as follows:

October 2023 – the TML membership considered resolutions at the 2023 Annual Conference at the annual business meeting.

May 2024 – the chair, vice-chairs, board representative, and participants of the League's Municipal Policy Summit as well as any special policy committees were appointed by the TML President.

July 2024 – Municipal Policy Summit materials were distributed to the membership.

August 2024 – the Municipal Policy Summit, a two-day policy briefing at which the members made recommendations for the League's 2025-2026 legislative program.

October 2024 – the report of the Municipal Policy Summit, along with any other resolutions, or reports of any special policy committees will go forward to the annual business meeting at the 2024 Annual Conference.

December 2024 – the TML Board will finalize the League's 2025-2026 legislative program based on resolutions passed in both 2023 and 2024.

Suggestions for City Officials

City officials can significantly impact the outcome of the 2025 legislative session. When making recommendations for the League's Legislative Program, they should keep in mind the following:

1. **There is a practical limit to what the League – or any group, for that matter – can accomplish in any legislative session.** It is obvious that all resources – human, financial, and political – are limited, and no group can hope to achieve all its legislative objectives. The most powerful interest groups in the state sometimes come away from a legislative session bruised and battered. On occasion, the best that can be expected is that damage be mitigated.
2. **TML will expend the vast majority of its resources killing bad bills.** This has always been so and will probably always be the case. At one point during the 2023 regular session, the League was monitoring more than 2,000 bills or resolutions, many of which were bad for cities. The League's legislative philosophy has traditionally been, first and foremost, to defeat bad legislation and, secondarily, to seek passage of beneficial legislation as time, resources, and political realities permit.
3. **It is unlikely that any other interest group in the state monitors and opposes as many bills as does the Texas Municipal League.** During recent legislative sessions, the League took steps to oppose bad legislation dealing with everything from annexation to zoning and from autonomous vehicles to tree preservation. The breadth of the League's legislative focus becomes obvious each year when TML completes and submits its state-mandated lobbyist registration form. One schedule of the form asks which of 83 subject matters are of interest to the organization. All 83 fall within the League's areas of interest.
4. **Unfortunately, the number of bad city-related bills grows almost every year. (Please see the chart on the next page.)** As a result, the League has been forced to expend an ever-greater percentage of its resources simply fending off bad ideas.
5. **Given the League's finite resources, and because vast amounts of those resources are necessarily expended in defeating bad legislation, the League must very carefully select bills that it will support or for which it will attempt to seek passage.** A sharply focused legislative program is more likely to lead to success than is a very large and wide-ranging program. In addition, supporting a bill that has a low probability of passage requires a large amount of time and political resources that can be used more productively in other ways. **Thus, it is important to advocate only those initiatives that are truly important and that have a realistic chance of passage.**

Year	Total Bills Introduced*	Total Bills Passed	City-Related Bills Introduced	City-Related Bills Passed
2003	5754	1621	1200+	110+
2005	5369	1397	1200+	105+
2007	6374	1495	1200+	120+
2009	7609	1468	1500+	120+
2011	6303	1410	1500+	160+
2013	6061	1437	1700+	220+
2015	6476	1329	1600+	220+
2017	6800	1220	2000+	290+
2019	7541	1437	2000+	330+
2021	6927	1073	2000+	240+
2023	8344	1258	1800+	230

*Includes bills and proposed Constitutional amendments; regular sessions only.

6. How can business meeting or summit participants identify initiatives that are truly significant and that merit a place in the TML legislative program? Committee members may wish to ask the following questions about each discussion item:
- **Does the initiative have wide applicability to a broad range of cities of various sizes (both large and small) and in various parts of the state?**
 - **Does the initiative address a core municipal issue, such as erosion of local control and preservation or enhancement of municipal revenue?**
 - **Will the initiative be vigorously opposed by strong interest groups and, if so, will member cities commit to contributing the time and effort necessary to overcome that opposition?**
 - **Is this initiative, when compared to others, important enough to be part of TML’s list of priorities?**
 - **Is this initiative one that city officials, more than any other group, should and do care about?**

The foregoing suggestions are not meant to imply that TML can’t pass good, solid legislation. It can, it has in the past, and it will again. The suggestions are meant merely to emphasize the fact that any group, to succeed, must use its resources and its political strength wisely and selectively.

Categories of Legislative Positions

Legislative positions should reflect one of four categories that will direct League staff. Keep in mind that there is a difference between “seek introduction and passage” and “support.”

- **Seek Introduction and Passage** means that the League can attempt to find a sponsor, will provide testimony, and will otherwise actively pursue passage. Bills in this category are known as “TML bills.” **These bills require an enormous amount of**

time and resources, and the committee should be very cautious about putting items in this category.

- **Support** means the League will attempt to obtain passage of the initiative if it is introduced by some other entity.

With very few exceptions, any item that makes its way into the 2025-2026 TML Legislative Program should be categorized by the two terms above, or by a recommendation that TML “**oppose**” or “**take no position.**”

League staff will, based upon the foregoing principles and its knowledge of current legislative realities, determine the amount of time and resources devoted to any item in the program. City officials serving throughout the process is an essential part of protecting municipal authority. The League is nothing without the involvement and expertise of its members.

Have questions or comments? Contact JJ Rocha, TML Grassroots and Legislative Services Manager, at JJ@tml.org.

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: TML Municipal Policy Summit

Brief Background: This resolution is the report of the TML Municipal Policy Summit. It represents the culmination of the work undertaken by the Summit delegates regarding legislative priorities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: This resolution and the accompanying TML fixed legislative program with modifications and additions (highlighted in the attached program draft by strikeouts (deleted) and underlines (added) are intended to assist the membership and the TML Board in identifying priority legislative issues. Most, if not all, of the issues described in the report are self-explanatory. Any of the issues can be fully described and explained by Summit delegates and/or TML staff during the Annual Business Meeting.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution addresses issues that have been identified as city-related by Summit delegates.

Statewide Importance: The issues addressed in this resolution and the accompanying TML fixed legislative program with modifications and additions are of statewide importance by definition. The Summit included delegates from each part of the state, and the delegates carefully considered statewide importance – and other factors – when making recommendations.

Submitted By: Summit Chair Christine DeLisle, Mayor, City of Leander

For further information: Monty Wynn
Grassroots and Legislative Services, Director
monty@tml.org

1.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REPORT OF
THE 2024 TML MUNICIPAL POLICY SUMMIT

WHEREAS, the 2024 TML Municipal Policy Summit was appointed by TML President Tito Rodriguez in early 2024; and

WHEREAS, over 100 municipal officials from cities of every size across the state served on the Summit; and

WHEREAS, the Summit reviewed the fixed legislative program, studied numerous city-related issues, and recommends certain modifications and additions to the program; and

WHEREAS, the Summit has completed its work and has drafted the attached fixed legislative program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the attached program from the TML Municipal Policy Summit be accepted and adopted.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024 at Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE PROPOSED
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
(2025 – 2026)

Introduction

City officials across the state are well aware of the fact that many significant decisions affecting Texas cities are made by the Texas Legislature, not by municipal officials.

During the 2023 session, nearly 8,000 bills or significant resolutions were introduced; more than 1,800 of them would have affected Texas cities in some substantial way. In the end, over 1,200 bills or resolutions passed and were signed into law; 230 of them impacted cities in some way.

The number of city related bills as a percentage of total bills filed rises every year. Twenty years ago, around 17 percent of bills filed affected cities in some way. By 2023, that percentage had increased to 23 percent. In other words, almost a quarter of the legislature’s work is directed at cities, and much of that work aims to limit municipal authority.

There is no reason to believe that the workload of the 2025 session will be any lighter; it will probably be greater. And for better or worse, city officials will have to live with all the laws that may be approved by the legislature. Thus, the League must make every effort to assure that detrimental bills are defeated and beneficial bills are passed.

The TML approach to the 2025 session is guided by principles that spring from a deeply rooted TML legislative philosophy:

- The League will vigorously oppose any legislation that would erode the authority of Texas cities to govern their own local affairs.
- Cities represent the level of government closest to the people. They bear primary responsibility for provision of capital infrastructure and for ensuring our citizens’ health and safety. Thus, cities must be assured of a predictable and sufficient level of revenue and must resist efforts to diminish their revenue.
- The League will oppose the imposition of any state mandates that do not provide for a commensurate level of compensation.

In setting the TML program, the Board recognizes that there is a practical limit to what the League can accomplish during the legislative session. Because the League (like all associations) has finite resources and because vast amounts of those resources are necessarily expended in defeating bad legislation, the Board recognizes that the League must very carefully select the bills for which it will attempt to find sponsors and seek passage.

Each initiative is subjected to several tests:

- Does the initiative have wide applicability to a broad range of cities of various sizes (both large and small) and in various parts of the state?

- Does the initiative address a central municipal value, or is it only indirectly related to municipal government?
- Is this initiative, when compared to others, important enough to be part of TML’s list of priorities?
- Will the initiative be vigorously opposed by strong interest groups and, if so, will member cities commit to contributing the time and effort necessary to overcome that opposition?
- Is this initiative one that city officials, more than any other group, should and do care about?

The Board places each legislative issue into one of four categories of effort. Those four categories are:

- **Seek Introduction and Passage** – the League will attempt to find a sponsor, will provide testimony, and will otherwise actively pursue passage. Bills in this category are known as “TML Priority bills.”
- **Support** – the League will attempt to obtain passage of the initiative if it is introduced by some other entity.
- **Oppose** – the League will actively and vigorously attempt to defeat the initiative because it is detrimental to member cities.
- **No Position** – the League will take no action.

Our Highest Priority: Oppose Bad Bills

The Board determined that TML’s highest priority goal is the defeat of legislation deemed detrimental to cities. As a practical matter, adoption of this position means that the beneficial bills will be sacrificed, as necessary, in order to kill detrimental bills.

The TML Priority Package

The TML Priority Package includes the following items in no particular order:

1. Defeat any legislation that would erode municipal authority in any way, impose an unfunded mandate, or otherwise be detrimental to cities, especially legislation that would:
 - a. provide for state preemption of municipal authority in general.
 - b. impose further revenue and/or tax caps of any type.
 - c. erode the ability of a city to issue debt.

- d. erode municipal authority related to development matters, including with respect to the following issues: (1) annexation; (2) eminent domain; (3) zoning; (4) regulatory takings; (5) building codes; (6) tree preservation; (7) short-term rentals; (8) the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ); and (9) manufactured housing.
 - e. erode the authority of a city to be adequately compensated for the use of its rights-of-way and/or erode municipal authority over the management and control of rights-of-way, including by state or federal rules or federal legislation.
 - f. limit or prohibit the authority of city officials to use municipal funds to communicate with legislators; or limit or prohibit the authority of the Texas Municipal League to use any revenue, however derived, to communicate with legislators.
 - g. reduce or abolish the concept of the ETJ.
2. Seek introduction and passage of any legislation that would:
- a. (1) eliminate reauthorization provisions for the collection and use of street maintenance sales and use tax; (2) authorize cities to reimburse themselves from sales and use tax collections for actual election costs required for tax implementation; and (3) clarify that cities may use street maintenance sales tax revenue for all streets and sidewalks in the city.
 - b. allow cities alternate methods for publications of legal notices.
 - c. promote pay as you go financing for capital projects expenditures by authorizing a dedicated property tax rate that is classified similarly to the debt service tax rate in property tax rate calculations.
 - d. (1) allow cities to unilaterally remove themselves from an emergency services district (ESD) if the city is capable of providing services to the area; (2) expressly authorize ESDs to expand into a city's corporate limits or ETJ only with city council approval; (3) require an ESD to enter into a sales and use tax sharing agreement with a city when a city annexes territory located in an ESD and, should negotiations fail, enter into binding arbitration and/or mediation; and (4) change the governance structure for ESDs from appointed boards to elected board to produce accountability to taxpayers, for ESDs above a certain size threshold.
 - e. increase the competitive bidding threshold to account for increased costs to cities.
 - f. require a rural water supply corporation to notify the nearest municipality, and any CCN holder closer than the nearest municipality, to inform the entity, via certified mail, of:
 - i. any pending transfer;

- ii. any failure to comply with infrastructure improvements per existing and/or development agreements;
- iii. any failure to comply legally with contractual agreements;
- iv. any failure to refund finances for improvements, meters, hydrant meters and/or infrastructure related equipment;
- v. any failure to provide adequate staffing;
- vi. any failure to provide defined licensed operators, technicians, backflow inspectors;
- vii. any failure to refund finances to public improvement district bond obligations;
- viii. any failure to produce a third-party audit by the annual meeting for its customer members; and
- ix. any failure to have day-to-day administration and/or operation support.

With one or more violations based on the above list is determined, the water supply corporation is to be sold, placed under receivership, and/or transferred to another entity, then the nearest municipality has first right to asset transfer and/or customers of the corporation.

Support

The Board supports legislation that would:

1. make beneficial amendments to the equity appraisal statute; close the “dark store” theory of appraisal loophole; and require mandatory disclosure of real estate sales prices.
2. authorize a council-option city homestead exemption expressed as a percentage or flat-dollar amount.
3. convert the sales tax reallocation process from a ministerial process into a more formalized and transparent administrative process.
4. authorize a city council to opt-in to requiring residential fire sprinklers in newly constructed single-family dwellings.
5. make beneficial amendments to H.B. 3167 (2019), the subdivision platting shot clock bill.
6. allow for greater flexibility by cities to fund local transportation projects; amend or otherwise modify state law to help cities fund transportation projects; or provide cities with additional funding options and resources to address transportation needs that the state and federal governments fail to address.
7. provide additional funding to the Texas Department of Transportation for equitable transportation projects that would benefit cities and provide local, state, and federal transportation funding of transportation infrastructure, including rail.

8. allow a city to lower the prima facie speed limit from 30 to 25 miles per hour without the need for a traffic study.
9. in relation to federal transit funding: (1) clarify federal congressional intent of federal transit law to protect cities across the United States from being penalized due a to a population drop suffered as a direct result of a natural disaster; (2) explicitly state that only presidentially declared major disasters are covered, in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 100-707); and (3) protect federal transit funding streams for urbanized areas until the execution of the next decennial census.
10. in relation to federal legislation, provide states greater authority over management of train delays in conjunction with affected cities.
11. provide greater authority to the Texas Department of Transportation to improve city railroad crossings and install signal lights where there are safety concerns.
12. establish that expenditures of Community Development Block Grant funds by cities are a governmental function.
13. require city consent before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is authorized to issue a standard permit for a rock crushing operation, cement crushing operation, or any similar activity that may be authorized under a standard air permit from TCEQ within the corporate limits or ETJ of a city. Alternatively, or in addition, such legislation may: (a) authorize a city to restrict, prevent, or regulate the locating of such activities in the city's corporate limits or ETJ in other manners, such as imposing minimum distance from such operations and schools, hospitals, churches, and residences; (b) require TCEQ to provide notice of applications for standard permits to cities for activities proposed in the city's corporate limits or ETJ and require TCEQ to address any and all comments received from the City as required by Sec. 382.112 of the Texas Health & Safety Code; or (c) prohibit TCEQ from issuing a standard permit for activities proposed in the city's corporate limits or ETJ unless the city verifies that the proposed activity is authorized under the city's zoning ordinance or comprehensive plan to locate at the proposed location.
14. provide consistency and uniformity in the compliance deadlines and fees for compliance dismissals of Class "C" misdemeanors.
15. rectify the wording of Texas Government Code Section 29.013 to eliminate the requirement that a city secretary notify the Texas Judicial Council of elected or appointed mayors or municipal court clerks.
16. protect from disclosure the list of applicants for a mail in ballot up until the time ballots are sent for those applications, regardless of whether a request is made for the applications.

17. allow for the expenditure of municipal hotel occupancy tax revenue for construction of improvements in municipal parks and trails/sidewalks that connect parks, lodging establishments, and other tourist attractions, and related public facilities.
18. require equitable treatment of local governments by preventing a state official or state agency from placing additional restrictions on a city's use of federal funds from future stimulus legislation related to a health pandemic, in contravention of congressional intent.
19. require counties to share timely information on health emergencies with cities.
20. treat broadband service similar to other critical utility infrastructure to ensure statewide availability, equity, and affordability for citizens and businesses.
21. modernize the Texas Universal Fund through revenue sources that ensure long-term sustainability for the provision of broadband services.
22. require the State of Texas to create a state regulatory process for oil and gas and CO2 pipeline routing that:
 - i. enables affected communities and landowners to provide input prior to establishment and publication of routes.
 - ii. provides for negotiation on routes when municipalities believe that substantial threats to economic development, natural resources, or standard of living are potential outcomes.
 - iii. intrastate pipelines will comply with environmental and economic impact study standards, including the participation of local governmental entities and public participation.
 - iv. pipeline operators shall have in place performance bonds like those the state has in its own contracts.
23. increase existing or create new grant program funding that provides financial assistance to local governmental public safety agencies for public safety resources, including legislation that supports the use and the purchase of body cameras and associated data storage costs.
24. harden the state's electric grid against blackouts, especially those caused by extreme weather events.
25. provide additional tools for municipally owned electric utilities to harden their systems against blackouts, especially those caused by extreme weather events.
26. mitigate the cost and liabilities of a generation or distribution outage event caused by a natural disaster from being passed on to cities and city residents.
27. provide stabilization and funding for the electric grid in response to increased demand.
28. ensure that each city gets at least one vote on appraisal district board members.

- ~~29. strengthen current law as it relates to catalytic converter theft and prevention, including increasing penalties for auto repair facilities and individual sellers who resell or are in possession of stolen catalytic converters.~~
29. promote increased flexibility under the Texas Open Meetings Act, including flexibility for public participation, so long as the legislation doesn't mandate any new costs on local governments.
30. give cities more input in the municipal utility district development process within the city limits and ETJ, including legislation that promotes additional transparency in the process for cities and city residents.
31. raise the threshold for the $\frac{3}{4}$ super majority requirements triggered by the opposition of landowners close to proposed zoning changes from 20% of property ownership interest within the notification area, to 50%.
32. add safeguards to the formation of new municipal utility districts (MUDs) through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality process, limit MUDs administrative costs, require MUDs to meet in the cities they tax from, coordinate with local cities or counties on MUD board elections, and provide additional financial information to citizens in an open and transparent manner.
33. allow for competitive procurement of the professional services enumerated in the Professional Services Procurement Act by home rule and general law municipalities.
34. allow for the expansion and preservation of diverse, affordable housing in cities, including additional appropriations.
35. allow a city official to submit a request for an attorney general letter ruling under the Public Information Act by email at no charge.
36. increase the maximum hiring age for firefighters in a civil service city from age 35 to 45, or to eliminate the maximum hiring age altogether.
37. make beneficial amendments to H.B. 2439 (2019), the building materials bill.
38. amend Sec. 52.095, Election Code, related to the requirement that cities are only able to assign a letter of the alphabet to the measure that corresponds to its order on the ballot.
39. prohibit the Texas Department of Transportation from requiring municipalities requesting toll road frontage improvements, ramp improvements, and other competing facilities to pay for any revenue reduction from improvements and maintenance costs of the improvements.
40. require city consent for a housing finance corporation to operate within the city.

41. prohibit housing finance corporations from taking action that would remove property from the tax rolls without approval of the governing body of the jurisdiction in which the property is located.
42. make beneficial amendments to S.B. 2038 (2023).
43. make beneficial amendments to H.B. 1750 and H.J.R. 126 (2023).
44. cap state fees on municipal court convictions.
45. provide confidentiality and protection of information originally judges and their families extended to courthouse employees and employees of the Office of Court Administration.
46. study the adequacy of rural firefighting capabilities and rural technical rescue capabilities for rural jurisdictions.
47. enhance professionalism in policing and provide funding to assist police agencies in achieving accreditation status with a recognized state or national accrediting body.
48. fully fund the disabled veterans homestead exemption property tax relief program to assist cities uniquely impacted by high concentrations of disabled veterans homestead exemptions, enabling them to more effectively manage property tax rates.
49. ensure cities maintain their authority to determine lot sizes, parking, and density requirements in the city limits and these planning and zoning regulations are left to the individual cities, not the legislature.
50. codify Texas Commission on Environmental Quality guidance on regionalization for wastewater treatment facilities and improve permitting requirements around wastewater to ensure long term safety and security of package plants, so long as the legislation does not impose an unfunded mandate.
51. clarify a homeowners association's ability to fine residents during declared periods of drought.
52. make beneficial amendments to H.B. 3613 (2023).
53. provide funding for city police officers modeled after H.B. 1354 (2023).
54. authorize cities to use local hotel occupancy tax revenue derived from short term rentals on essential city services provided to short term rentals.

55. provide additional state grant funding to the Texas Water Development Board as identified in the State Water Plan.

Oppose

The Board opposes legislation that would:

1. negatively expand appraisal caps but take no position on legislation that would authorize a council-option reduction in the current ten-percent cap on annual appraisal growth.
2. impose new property tax or sales tax exemptions that substantially erode the tax base.
3. limit or eliminate the current flexibility of the Major Events Reimbursement Program or Events Trust Fund as a tool for cities to attract or host major events and conventions.
4. limit the type of incentives available to the city or that would limit any use of incentives by a city.
5. further erode local control as it pertains to retirement issues.
6. substantively change or expand the scope of the current disease presumption law, unless doing so is supported by reputable, independent scientific research.
7. require candidates for city office to declare party affiliation in order to run for office.
8. eliminate any of the current uniform election dates.
9. impose additional state fees or costs on municipal court convictions or require municipal courts to collect fine revenue for the state.
10. restrict city authority to draft ballot propositions in such a way that reflects the full fiscal impact of the proposition.
11. require preclearance of city ballot propositions by a state agency.
12. erode city solid waste franchise fee authority.
13. repeal the Texas Department of Public Safety's Failure to Appear/Failure to Pay Program through OmniBase Services.
14. restrict a city's ability to negotiate or enter into an employee severance agreement.

No Position

The Board takes no position on legislation that relates to immigration matters, so long as it does not impose new and substantial unfunded mandates or unavoidable liabilities on cities.

The Board takes no position on legislation that would impact local sourcing of sales and use taxes.

~~The Board takes no position on legislation that would authorize a city to annex out a roadway to bring a voluntarily requested area into the city limits.~~

Other

The Board takes the following additional actions:

1. with regard to economic development: (1) take no position on legislation that would broaden the authority of Type A or Type B economic development corporations; and (2) oppose legislation that would limit the authority of Type A or Type B economic development corporations statewide, but take no position on legislation that is regional in scope and that is supported by some cities in that region.

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Aledo

Brief Background: Texas is the second most populous state in the nation, with the third highest growth rate. However, as Texas grows, so too does the strain on its resources. Rural municipalities, in particular, frequently struggle to meet the demands imposed by the growing population. Exacerbating their struggle, even if a municipality’s infrastructure is inadequate to support the needs of its growing community, and as such in need of legislative assistance, many are ineligible simply because their median household income is greater than \$54,213, or 75% of the median household income across Texas. While median household income may be a sufficient indicator of the resources available to a community to support long-term development, the current population growth faced by Texas municipalities is rapid and upending—overwhelming the resources of many rural communities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The resolution proposes the creation of a new grant program to support rural municipalities facing the demand of updating or increasing its infrastructure and/or utility services to support the continued population growth. Alternatively, the resolution proposes expanding the existing Economically Distressed Areas Program to expand the definition of “in-need” counties and municipalities to include those rural communities whose median household income is greater than 75% of the median household income of the state, but whose infrastructure or utility services are nonetheless inadequate to support community needs.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution seeks to provide rural municipalities across Texas access to funding that may effectively alleviate strains on infrastructure and utility lines imposed by Texas’ rapid population growth.

Statewide Importance: As Texas continues to grow, local governments across the state must be able to act quickly to meet the rising needs of their community. Without support from the Legislature, many rural communities will continue to struggle and suffer, hindering the economic development of the State as a whole.

Submitted By: Noah A. Simon, City Manager, City of Aledo
citymanager@aledotx.gov

2.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAMS TO MEET THE DEMANDS IMPOSED BY RAPID POPULATION GROWTH

WHEREAS, the State of Texas is the second most populous state in the nation, with the third highest growth rate; and

WHEREAS, many rural areas cannot meet the infrastructure, water, sewer, and utility demands imposed upon them by the rising population; and

WHEREAS, the Economically Distressed Areas Program provides grant funding to assist the burdens experienced by rural municipalities; however, the Texas Administrative Code defines an economically distressed area as an area with a median household income that is not greater than \$54,213, or 75 percent of the median state household income; and

WHEREAS, rural municipalities with a median household income that is greater than \$54,213, or 75 percent of the median state household income, are ineligible to apply for economic development grant programs governed by the Texas Legislature; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seek introduction and passage of legislation that would: (1) create new grant programs to assist rural cities with costs related to the expansion or upgrading of infrastructure and utility facilities required due to the rapid population growth; or (2) alternatively, expand the definition of “in-need” communities to include those cities whose median household income is more than 75% of the median household income of the state, but nonetheless need legislative support to alleviate the strains on their resources imposed by Texas’ rapid population growth and to meet the needs of their growing community.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024 at Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Aledo

Brief Background: Law enforcement agencies are essential to community development and growth, particularly in rural areas. Approximately one-third of rural communities in Texas still only receive emergency services support from their corresponding county sheriff's department, even though the county sheriff's office may be 25 miles away. While in the past this partnership may have been mutually beneficial, in the face of Texas' rapid population growth, many county law enforcement agencies can no longer meet the needs of all municipalities within their jurisdiction, leaving many Texas residents without adequate or timely police support.

Steps have been taken by the Texas Legislature to assist rural emergency services. The Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Grant Program (the "Salary Program"), for instance, signed into law by Governor Abbott on June 7, 2023, establishes a series of annual grants designed to support the development of law enforcement agencies serving a county with a population of 300,000 or less. Though the Salary Program has so far been hailed as a monumental success, providing \$125 million to 362 sheriffs' and prosecutors' offices across Texas, rural municipalities will not benefit from the legislature's intended support. Other legislative funding programs, such as the Bulletproof Vest and Body Armor Grant Program, similarly exclude municipalities, by requiring applicants to have an existing law enforcement agency already established. Tex. Gov't Code § 772.0075. A municipality without an existing police force cannot apply for bulletproof vests and body armor if the terms of the grant program state that "[a] law enforcement agency may apply for a grant under this section only if the agency first adopts a policy addressing the deployment and allocation of vests or plates to its officers; and usage of vests or plates by its officers." With many county public offices already stretched thin and no ability to access existing grant programs, rural municipalities need Legislative support to establish new grant programs or expand existing grant programs to provide financial assistance to rural communities seeking to establish a municipal police force.

A municipality seeking to establish its own municipal police force must first ensure that they can satisfy the costly training, personnel, facility, and equipment requirements established by the Texas Administrative Code, Occupations Code, and the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. Although the Texas Legislature has expressed a desire to support the development of law enforcement agencies in rural communities, there are no grant programs currently available to support the creation of municipal police forces. Rather, current grant programs require municipal agency applicants to have an existing law enforcement agency and are furthermore frequently available only to counties.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The resolution is intended to create opportunities for rural municipalities to receive financial support through grants and other funding opportunities from the Texas Legislature to assist in establishing municipal police forces and make the equipment and facility purchases required by Section 1701.163 of the Texas Occupations Code.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution seeks to alleviate the burden faced by many growing rural communities who no longer receive adequate

emergency service support from county public safety offices and provide these municipalities the opportunity to apply for and receive financial support when establishing their own municipal police departments.

Statewide Importance: As Texas continues to grow, so too will the demands on of Texas' 254 county Sheriff's departments. Roughly one third of Texas municipalities receive their emergency service support from the county public safety office. There are currently no grant programs for which a municipality seeking to establish its own municipal law enforcement agency is eligible to apply. Creating new grant program funding or expanding existing grant program funding to provide financial assistance to municipal law enforcement agencies seeking to establish a municipal police department will provide increased public safety services to rural Texas citizens while decreasing the burden experienced by county Sheriff's departments.

Submitted By: Noah A. Simon, City Manager, City of Aledo
citymanager@aledotx.gov

3.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT
GRANT PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE MUNICIPALITIES WITHOUT A PRE-EXISTING
POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the State of Texas is experiencing continuous and upending population growth; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement agencies are critical to community development; and

WHEREAS, annual strategic assessments reveal that, in response to population growth, county public safety offices cannot meet the demand for services in every area within their jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of a municipality may therefore decide to provide for the protection and safety of its citizens by establishing a municipal police force to meet the growing needs of its community; and

WHEREAS, Texas Administrative Code §211.16 and Texas Occupations Code §171.163 establish specific requirements that a city seeking to establish and operate a law enforcement agency must fulfill; and

WHEREAS, while a city may have sufficient anticipated capital to support the long-term maintenance of a police force, financing the equipment, facilities, and personnel costs associated with these statutory requirements may impose an undue burden on the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has stated its express interest in supporting the development of law enforcement agencies in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has so far created grant programs to support the development of county law enforcement agencies or existing law enforcement agencies in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, rural cities without an existing police force are ineligible to apply for such grant programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seek introduction and passage of legislation that would either create new law enforcement grant programs or expand the language of current law enforcement grant programs and expand eligibility to include those municipalities seeking to establish a police force.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024 at Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Cross Roads

Brief Background: Resolution Requesting Legislative Consideration for the Use of Brackets and Cutouts in Municipal Regulations and Funding Requirements

What the Resolution in Intended to Accomplish: Smaller municipalities face unique challenges in meeting state and federal legislation demands without the resources available to larger cities. We urge the Legislature to consider using brackets and cutouts to tailor regulations and funding requirements according to the size and capacity of each municipality. This approach would allow for equitable compliance with new regulations, accommodating the varied needs and growth trajectories of Texas communities.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: ETJ and bracketing in legislative actions.

Statewide Importance: N/A

Submitted By: Ben Nibarger, Interim Town Administrator, Town of Cross Roads
b.nibarger@crossroadstx.gov

4.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO USE OF BRACKETS AND CUTOUTS IN CITY REGULATIONS AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, there are 254 counties in the great state of Texas, with 1,125 municipalities, including 971 cities, 231 towns, and 23 villages; and

WHEREAS, only 43 municipalities have populations exceeding 100,000, leaving the majority under this threshold; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities with populations currently under 100,000 are projected to surpass that mark in the next 10 to 15 years; and

WHEREAS, cities with populations of 900,000 and 10,000 are not created equal in terms of resources, infrastructure, and financial capabilities; and

WHEREAS, many smaller municipalities face unique challenges in meeting the demands of state and federal legislation without the same level of resources available to larger cities; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of mandated funding requirements without consideration of municipal size and capacity can place undue burdens on smaller communities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads is asking for legislative consideration in the use of brackets and cutouts that would tailor regulations and funding requirements to the size and capacity of each municipality; and

WHEREAS, any legislation affecting budget projections, resource allocation, or financial planning should consider the varying needs and growth trajectories of smaller communities, allowing them the time and flexibility to accommodate legislation designed for larger cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support: (1) the use of brackets and cutouts in legislation affecting cities, ensuring that smaller communities are afforded the necessary time, growth potential, and flexibility to comply with new regulations; and (2) the concept that any mandated funding requirements be adapted to account for the varying capacities of Texas cities.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024 at Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Cross Roads

Brief Background: Resolution Urging the Repeal or Amendment of Senate Bill 2038

What the Resolution in Intended to Accomplish: Senate Bill 2038 has introduced significant challenges for smaller municipalities, particularly regarding land use and thoroughfare planning. The ability of property owners to petition for de-annexation within our Extraterritorial Jurisdictions (ETJ) disrupts our comprehensive plans, leading to substantial additional expenses. We respectfully urge the Legislature to repeal S.B. 2038 or, at a minimum, limit its application to cities with populations of 100,000 or more to mitigate its adverse effects on smaller communities.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: ETJ and bracketing in legislative actions.

Statewide Importance: N/A

Submitted By: Ben Nibarger, Interim Town Administrator, Town of Cross Roads
b.nibarger@crossroadstx.gov

5.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE REPEAL OR AMENDING SENATE BILL 2038 DUE TO ITS DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON SMALLER MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 2038 poses significant challenges for the Town of Cross Roads and similar municipalities across Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads has invested considerable time and financial resources in developing comprehensive land use and thoroughfare plans; and

WHEREAS, the ability for property owners within our Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) to petition for de-annexation under S.B. 2038 creates substantial disruptions, leading to “donut holes” within our carefully constructed plans; and

WHEREAS, such disruptions would force the Town to revise and update these plans at significant additional expense, undermining the efficient growth and development of our community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads has established boundary agreements with neighboring cities, sometimes involving financial transactions to realign ETJ boundaries for the mutual benefit of all parties involved; and

WHEREAS, allowing property owners to petition for de-annexation after such agreements have been made raises the issue of whether the property owner should reimburse the Town for the costs associated with the ETJ release; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads has consistently denied requests for de-annexation at formal Town Council meetings to protect the integrity of our long-term planning and agreements; and

WHEREAS, while S.B. 2038 may have been designed with larger cities like Austin or Houston in mind, it fails to consider the detrimental impact on smaller cities and their taxpayers, effectively prioritizing developers’ interests over those of the community; and

WHEREAS, S.B. 2038 could enable developers facing municipal resistance to force deannexation, thereby bypassing local oversight and potentially jeopardizing the health, safety, and welfare of our residents, while still requiring emergency services from the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would repeal S.B. 2038 (2023) in its entirety, or, at a minimum, limit its application to cities with populations of 100,000 or more, or trigger its provisions only in cases of multiple forced annexation attempts by a city.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024 at Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Dalworthington Gardens

Brief Background: Under current law, part-time firefighters are limited to a maximum of 24 hours per week on average. This has caused the City of Dalworthington Gardens to be unable to make maximum use of the part-time hours some otherwise full-time firefighters wanted to work for Dalworthington Gardens.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: 24 hours per week and some smaller cities trying to more fully staff their fire departments wish to be able to offer part time employment of greater than 24 hours per week to said full time firefighters. Allowing these full-time firefighters to work more than 24 hours per week allows them to increase their pay while providing better firefighting coverage for smaller cities.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Finding and paying for enough full-time fire fighters can be especially difficult for small city fire departments. Allowing full time firefighters to work part-time for more than 24 hours per week on average would benefit the staffing of smaller city fire departments.

Statewide Importance: Smaller cities grappling with staffing their fire departments exist across the state, thus providing statewide benefit if full-time firefighters were allowed to work part-time for more than 24 hours per week.

Submitted By: Laurie Bianco, Mayor, City of Dalworthington Gardens
mayorbianco@cityofdwg.net

6.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OF PART-TIME FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, state law requires that part-time fire protection employees may not work more than 24 hours a week for an employing fire department; and

WHEREAS, some full-time fire protection employees wish to work more than 24 hours part-time for an employing fire department other than their full-time employer; and

WHEREAS, some municipalities wish to hire part-time fire protection employees who can work up to 39 hours per week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would allow cities to employ fire protection employees part-time for up to 39 hours per week if those same fire protection employees were also full-time firefighters for another entity.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024 at Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Friendswood

Brief Background: Hurricanes and winter storms have brought renewed national attention to the life-threatening impacts of the loss of electrical power on vulnerable populations. When power is lost, residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities are susceptible to weather-related illnesses and sometimes even death. Currently, certain nursing homes and assisted living facilities are required to have a generator to power only specified safety features, including emergency lighting, alarm systems, illumination of exit signs, and communication systems, but not air condition or heating systems. This resolution proposes changes to address shortcomings in requirements related to backup generators in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: This proposed change will require nursing homes and assisted living facilities to have generators for the purpose of providing backup power to meet all of their residents' needs, including air conditioning and heat, as applicable. Specifically, the proposed resolution requires nursing homes and assisted living facilities to have generators or a comparable power source and fuel to run for at least 72 hours during a power outage. The proposed amendment places this obligation on all nursing homes and assisted living facilities by a date certain and requires inspections to ensure the operation of the required equipment.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: As a result of the aging population in all communities throughout the country, many of our elderly or infirmed citizens find themselves in nursing homes and/ or assisted living facilities. The City of Friendswood, like other coastal communities, is particularly vulnerable during hurricane season. At-risk citizens in our communities need protection from the harsh effects of power losses that often result when hurricanes and other extreme weather events occur.

Statewide Importance: The state recognized this problem in 2021, received a report from the Commission in 2022, but failed thereafter to take any action in 2023. This proposed resolution protects the health, safety, and welfare of the State's most vulnerable population when power outages occur.

Submitted By: Mike Foreman, Mayor, City of Friendswood
mayor@friendswood.com

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO GENERATOR REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSING HOMES
AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

WHEREAS, hurricanes, winter storms, and other extreme weather events have brought renewed national attention to the life-threatening impacts of the loss of electrical power on vulnerable populations; specifically, when power is lost, residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities are susceptible to weather-related illnesses and sometimes even death; and

WHEREAS, nursing homes and assisted living facilities are currently required to have a generator to power only specified safety features, including, emergency lighting, alarm systems, illumination of exit signs, and communication systems, but not air conditioning or heating systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would require nursing homes and assisted living facilities to have generators for the purpose of:

- (a) providing backup power to meet all the needs of their residents, including air conditioning and heat, and to require that nursing homes and assisted living facilities have generators or a comparable power source and fuel to run for at least 72 hours during a power outage;
- (b) requiring this obligation to be placed on all nursing homes and assisted living facilities by a date certain; and
- (c) requiring inspections to be conducted to ensure the operation of the required equipment.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Friendswood

Brief Background: The Texas Comptroller’s Offices recognizes that “[m]any cities do not have the funds necessary to repair existing streets and sidewalks [and that] [t]he Tax Code authorizes cities to impose a special sales tax to fund maintenance of this important mobility infrastructure.” Unfortunately, there is a conflict in the Tax Code as to the expiration of such tax. Specifically, Subsection (a) of Section 327.007 of the Tax Code generally provides that the tax expires four (4) years after the date the tax took effect. On the other hand, Subsection (b) of that same section states that the tax expires four (4) years after the date of the election. Because Subsection (b) is the language given to the voters when reauthorizing the tax and is cities’ contract with the voters, such subsection should control. As such, many cities are holding elections early so to ensure that the tax does not expire prior to the reauthorization. For instance, a city, which holds elections only on November uniform election dates and adopts the tax on November 5, 2024, would need to hold the reauthorization election on November 2, 2027, instead of November 7, 2028, since the tax would have expired on November 5, 2028, prior to the 2028 uniform election date. Fortunately, the Texas Comptroller’s Office has not interpreted the statute so stringently. However, the Texas Secretary of State’s Office does.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: This resolution proposes to address the above referenced conflict in order to provide both voters and cities certainty as to when the tax expires and when a reauthorization election is necessary. Clarifying Section 327.007 of the Tax Code will also provide cost savings to those cities that are holding reauthorization elections almost a year early due to the expiration of the tax.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution affects all cities that have adopted or will adopt a municipal sales and use tax for street maintenance under Chapter 327 of the Tax Code.

Statewide Importance: This resolution will resolve the conflict between the interpretations of the Texas Secretary of State’s Office and the Comptroller’s Office as to the expiration and permissible reauthorization of the tax.

Submitted By: Mike Foreman, Mayor, City of Friendswood
mayor@friendswood.com

8.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR THE STREET
MAINTENANCE SALES AND USE TAX

WHEREAS, a conflict exists in the Tax Code as to the expiration of the street maintenance sales and use tax as to whether the tax expires four (4) years after the date the tax took effect or four (4) years after the date of the most recent reauthorization election; and

WHEREAS, such conflict has caused some municipalities to hold elections early to ensure that the tax does not expire prior to the reauthorization, e.g., a municipality, which holds elections only on November uniform election dates and adopts the tax on November 5, 2024, would need to hold the reauthorization election on November 2, 2027, instead of November 7, 2028, since the tax would have expired on November 5, 2028, prior to the 2028 uniform election date; and

WHEREAS, this conflict has been recognized by the Texas Secretary of State's Office, which has attempted to amend the ballot language (the contract with the voters) in past legislative sessions, to no avail; and

WHEREAS, resolving this conflict by clarifying when the tax expires will not only provide certainty to voters and municipalities as to the expiration of the tax but also eliminate unnecessary expenses incurred by municipalities holding reauthorization elections almost a year early due to the conflict in the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would revise the ballot language for the street maintenance sales and use tax to mirror the ballot language used for the reauthorization of crime control districts and fire control, prevention, and emergency medical services districts so that early elections are not needed for reauthorization elections occurring as a result of the fluctuations in the uniform election dates.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Friendswood

Brief Background: Current speed limits on residential streets may, at times, be unsafe for children and adults alike. Reducing travel speeds on such streets will allow for increased reaction time for drivers and pedestrians, avoidance of some accidents, and a reduction of the severity of injuries. Current state law requires municipalities to perform extensive engineering or traffic investigations in order to declare a lower speed limit.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: While TML's proposed legislative program supports legislation that lowers the prima facie speed limit from 30 to 25 miles per hour without the need for a speed study, this proposed resolution allows cities to lower the speed limit further to 20 miles per hour without such a study if it finds that the prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution better protects the safety of children, pedestrians, and bicyclists along residential streets.

Statewide Importance: This proposed resolution protects Texans of all ages while on residential streets.

Submitted By: Mike Foreman, Mayor, City of Friendswood
mayor@friendswood.com

9.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO LOWERING SPEED LIMITS ON RESIDENTIAL
STREETS – “TWENTY IS PLENTY”

WHEREAS, current speed limits on residential streets may, at times, be unsafe for children and adults alike; and

WHEREAS, reducing travel speeds on such streets will allow for increased reaction time for drivers and pedestrians, avoidance of some accidents, and a reduction of the severity of injuries; and

WHEREAS, current state law requires cities to perform extensive engineering or traffic investigations to declare a lower speed limit; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the implementation of 20 mile-per-hour speed limits in areas where vulnerable users (e.g., pedestrians and bicyclists) share the road with motorists may result in further safety benefits, including the reduction of motor vehicle accidents and fatalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would allow a city to lower the speed limit to 20 miles per hour without performing engineering or traffic studies if a city finds that the prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Friendswood

Brief Background: The Texas Public Information Act allows employees and officers to elect whether to allow public access to the home addresses, home telephone numbers, emergency contact information, social security numbers, and other information that reveals whether the person has family members.¹ Because an officer is not defined in the Act, one must look to common law for the definition of an “officer”. Common law has long held that the test to determine whether a person is an officer is “whether any sovereign function of the government is conferred upon the individual to be exercised by him for the benefit of the public largely independent of the control of others”.² Citizens who are appointed to advisory committees, commissions and boards of a city, do not exercise any sovereign function of the City; therefore, these volunteers’ private information could be subject to disclosure to the public.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The proposed resolution proposes to protect the personal information of persons who graciously volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities. This protection is needed to ensure that volunteers can serve without fear of harassment, intimidation or injury.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Service on advisory boards/commissions/committees of cities is vital to the operations and functions of the City. The Public Information Act should not be a deterrent to citizens who wish to serve.

Statewide Importance: Changes in the Act will protect the private information of all Texans who volunteer for the benefit of their communities.

Submitted By: Mike Foreman, Mayor, City of Friendswood
mayor@friendswood.com

¹ Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. § 552.024.

² *Aldine Indep. Sch. Dist. V. Standley*, 280 S.W.2d 578, 583 (Tex. 1955).

RESOLUTION RELATING TO PERSONAL INFORMATION OF MEMBERS OF
ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, the Texas Public Information Act (the “Act”) allows employees and officers to elect whether to allow public access to the home addresses, home telephone numbers, emergency contact information, social security numbers, and other information that reveals whether the person has family members; and

WHEREAS, the same protection is not afforded in the Act to members of advisory committees, boards or commissions (collectively “committees”) since they are not technically “officers” of a municipality, as they do not exercise any sovereign function of the city but serve only in an advisory capacity; and

WHEREAS, these volunteers’ private information is subject to disclosure to the public; and

WHEREAS, citizens may not desire to volunteer for various committees, a service which is vital to the operations and functions of municipalities across the state, if they know their personal information is subject to disclosure; and

WHEREAS, personal information of persons who graciously volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities should be protected to the same extent officers’ and employees’ information is protected so that they can serve without fear of harassment, intimidation or injury.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would protect the personal information of members of city advisory committees to the same extent such protections are afforded to city officers and employees.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Friendswood

Brief Background: In 2022, an appellate court held that a city was required to send upwards of 250,000 notices for the proposed comprehensive amendments to its zoning ordinance even though such notices were not required when the city adopted its original zoning regulations and district boundaries.³ As such there is a need for clarity as to what notice will be required for zoning map and zoning text amendments.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The proposed resolution is intended to provide clarity as to when notice is required to be given to owners of real property within 200 feet of the property subject to a zoning change.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution provides clarity for all cities that have adopted zoning regulations.

Statewide Importance: Texans and Texas cities throughout the state are better served by clearer statutory notice requirements for amendments to official zoning maps.

Submitted By: Mike Foreman, Mayor, City of Friendswood
mayor@friendswood.com

³ *City of Austin v. Acuña*, 651 S.W.3d 474 (Tex. App. – Houston [14th Dist.] 2022, *no pet.*).

11.

RESOLUTION RELATING TO NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR ZONING AMENDMENTS

WHEREAS, cities are required to send notices to property owners within 200 feet of property for which a zoning classification change is proposed; and

WHEREAS, recently, an appellate court held that a city was required to send upwards of 250,000 individual notices for a proposed comprehensive zoning classification amendment, although such notices were not required when the original zoning district boundaries were adopted; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for clarity regarding when such notices are required to be sent to owners of real property within 200 feet of a property subject to a zoning classification change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would clarify notice requirements for zoning classification changes.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Friendswood

Brief Background: In eminent domain proceedings, cities and other governmental entities are required to provide relocation assistance to persons permanently or temporarily displaced by actions of the government. Prior to 2011, such relocation assistance was not mandatory but was permissive. However, in 2011, when changing the may's to shall's, the legislature failed to make any further changes – specifically regarding code enforcement actions. As a result, a person or entity which allows its property to become substandard and unfit for human use and habitation, and thus requiring code enforcement action, is entitled to relocation assistance at the expense of the governmental entities. This result appears to be not only unintended (as there is no reference in the 2011 bill analysis to code enforcement actions) but also against public policy (as persons or entities should not be rewarded for allowing their property to become in such disrepair as to require code enforcement actions).

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: This proposed resolution is meant to allow, but not require, governmental entities to provide relocation advisory services to persons who are displaced as a direct result of code enforcement actions.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution proposes to no longer require cities to provide a benefit in the form of relocation assistance to persons who fail to maintain their property to such an extent that it is dangerous and subject to demolition. Years of neglect and ignoring code enforcement attempts at voluntary compliance should not result in a windfall to property owners.

Statewide Importance: The proposed resolution aligns public policy with the appropriate expenditure of public funds. It affects not only cities but all governmental entities who enforce various codes and regulations to protect the public health and safety of their citizens.

Submitted By: Mike Foreman, Mayor, City of Friendswood
mayor@friendswood.com

12.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELIMINATION OF RELOCATION ASSISTANCE
FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

WHEREAS, in eminent domain proceedings, cities and other governmental entities are required to provide relocation assistance to persons permanently or temporarily displaced by actions of the government; and

WHEREAS, prior to 2011, such relocation assistance was not mandatory but was permissive; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, when changing the may's to shall's, the legislature failed to make any further changes – specifically regarding code enforcement actions; and

WHEREAS, as a result of such drafting, a person or entity, which allows its property to become substandard and unfit for human use and habitation, and thus requiring code enforcement action, is entitled to relocation assistance at the expense of the governmental entities – a result, which was both unintended (as there is no reference in the 2011 bill analysis to code enforcement actions) and against public policy (as persons or entities should not be rewarded for allowing their property to become in such disrepair as to require code enforcement actions); and

WHEREAS, municipalities should have the ability to provide relocation assistance, but not have the obligation to do so, to persons who are displaced as a direct result of code enforcement actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would eliminate required relocation assistance to persons and entities that allow their property to become substandard and unfit for human use or habitation and allow cities to provide such assistance in order to promote a public purpose with an appropriate use of public funds.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Horseshoe Bay

Brief Background: Support legislation to repeal 2019 legislation allowing a certificated telecommunications provider to elect to pay compensation for use of the right of way for internet or cable but not both and to amend the definition of “video service” in Chapter 66 of the Utilities Code to mean video programming services provided by a video service provider through wireline facilities located, at least in part, in a public right-of-way without regard to what technology was used to deliver such services, including via internet service.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Allows cities to be compensated for use of the right-of-way by certificated telecommunications and cable providers for use of the right-of-way for internet, cable and video service providers.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Recovers compensation for use of right of way.

Statewide Importance: Allows all cities to receive compensation for use of the right of way by internet, cable and video service providers.

Submitted By: Kerri Craig, Legislative Services Director, City of Horseshoe Bay
kcraig@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov

13.

A RESOLUTION A RELATING TO COMPENSATION OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY BY VIDEO SERVICES

WHEREAS, City of Horseshoe desires to submit this resolution at the 2024 TML Annual Conference in Houston to amend state law to provide that both cable and internet providers pay compensation to cities for use of the right of way and that video programming accessed via a service that enables users to access content, information, e-mail, or other services offered over the Internet, including streaming content be included in compensation to be paid to cities for use of the right of way.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would: (1) repeal S.B. 1152 (2019), allowing a certificated telecommunications provider to elect to pay compensation for use of the right of way for internet or cable but not both; and (2) amend the definition of “video service” in Chapter 66 of the Utilities Code to mean video programming services provided by a video service provider through wireline facilities located, at least in part, in a public right-of-way without regard to what technology was used to deliver such services, including via internet service.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Josephine

Brief Background: The City of Josephine is a small general law city in southeastern Collin and Hunt Counties with a population of 3,500. Josephine was approached several years ago by a developer seeking to create a Municipal Utility District (MUD) partially within the city's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). Josephine, having planned well for utilities, agreed to provide services to the new MUD through a development agreement. Over time, the initial MUD expanded, and additional MUDs were established, leading to nine existing and proposed MUDs surrounding Josephine on all sides. Currently, about 12,000 new homes are in various stages of development.

The City of Josephine has identified significant deficiencies with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) MUD application process. TCEQ accepts applications without verifying critical factors such as water supply and wastewater capacity, and TCEQ does not require provisions for essential services such as police, fire, ambulance, animal control, or waste removal. Moreover, MUDs are not mandated to set aside land or funds for schools. Furthermore, the MUD creation process has allowed the issuance of billions of dollars in debt based on elections decided by a single voter strategically placed by developers, raising concerns about election integrity.

While MUDs are promoted as a means to provide affordable housing, they often result in higher taxes that make housing less affordable in the long run, benefiting developers more than residents. MUDs also strain neighboring cities by using limited resources without contributing to city property taxes, forcing city taxpayers to subsidize them. Additionally, school districts struggle to keep pace with the rapid student population growth due to these developments. MUD residents often purchase homes unaware of their status outside city limits and mistakenly believe that their MUD taxes are city taxes. They are surprised by higher utility bills, charges for public safety services, and their inability to vote in city elections. Once developers leave, cities and MUD residents are left to navigate these challenges, leading to frustration and resentment.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The resolution seeks the introduction and passage of a bill to reform the Municipal Utility District (MUD) creation process within the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) of an incorporated city. These reforms are designed to address deficiencies in the current application process, ensuring that MUD creation promotes responsible and sustainable development. The goal is to respect the property rights of developers while minimizing harm to existing cities and protecting both city and MUD taxpayers.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: The resolution proposes specific changes to the Municipal Utility District (MUD) creation process, introducing new procedures designed to safeguard a city's limited and valuable resources as MUDs are established within its Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). By empowering cities with the ability to hold MUDs fiscally accountable, these changes will provide property tax relief to city taxpayers. Additionally, the resolution prevents MUD applicants from opting out of a city's ETJ or Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN), thereby promoting responsible and sustainable development that aligns with the city's long-term interests.

Statewide Importance: The proposed MUD reform legislation in Texas aims to benefit cities, future MUD residents, and developers statewide by establishing requirements that ensure adequate resources and services for both existing cities and MUD developments. By promoting responsible and sustainable development, this legislation seeks to prevent the depletion of city, county and state resources, fostering a more balanced and equitable growth model across the state.

Submitted By: Lisa Palomba, City Administrator, City of Josephine
lpalomba@cityofjosephinetx.com

14.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS FOR CREATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS (MUDs) LOCATED WITHIN THE EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ) OF AN INCORPORATED CITY.

WHEREAS, Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs) are primarily established through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ); and

WHEREAS, MUDs are frequently situated outside of an incorporated city yet within a city's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ); and

WHEREAS, MUDs can be detrimental to adjacent cities by consuming valuable and limited resources, such as water supply, wastewater capacity, emergency services, and utilizing recreational facilities without contributing to city property taxes, thereby creating a scenario where city taxpayers subsidize MUDs; and

WHEREAS, TCEQ's application process does not require confirmation of sufficient water supply and infrastructure from retail and wholesale water suppliers proposed to serve MUDs; and

WHEREAS, TCEQ's application process does not obligate a MUD to participate in funding facilities for available utility providers if such funding would create a financial hardship for the MUD, resulting in petitions to opt out of existing utility CCNs, wasted capital improvement planning efforts and creating a veritable landscape of insufficient wastewater treatment facilities; and

WHEREAS, TCEQ's MUD application process does not mandate that a MUD provide essential services such as police, fire, ambulance, and animal control, thus imposing a financial burden on counties and adjacent cities that have mutual aid agreements with counties; and

WHEREAS, TCEQ's application process does not require MUDs to provide adequate land dedication, or advance funding to school districts to ensure proper educational facility planning, thereby causing financial and logistical burdens for school districts accommodating rapidly growing student populations; and

WHEREAS, only one registered voter residing within a MUD district is required to vote in favor of significant debt issuance to fund a MUD, with no oversight regarding the validity of MUD elections; and

WHEREAS, MUD property owners are permitted to petition for removal from a city's ETJ thus avoiding financial participation for infrastructure and development standards when creating a MUD; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs) are frequently considered a means to provide affordable housing, the reality is that high and ongoing MUD taxes can undermine this goal,

making housing less affordable over time, while the primary beneficiaries of MUDs are the developers rather than the residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seek introduction and passage of legislation that would change the municipal utility district (MUD) application and creation process by supporting the following reforms:

1. removing TCEQ from the creation process transferring all MUD creation powers to the Texas legislature;
2. requiring MUDs to provide sufficient evidence of the availability of water supply, wastewater capacity, and road infrastructure to meet the needs of MUD developments without depleting resources of existing and entitled city and county developments;
3. requiring MUDs obtain city and/or county acceptance of MUD engineering and market data analysis, verified by agreed upon third party reviewer, to protect city and county taxpayers from poorly planned MUDs that may potentially harm existing or planned developments or interfere with planned capital improvements;
4. removing a MUD’s ability to use powers of eminent domain;
5. requiring proposed MUDs to provide adequate notice, land dedication, and advance funding to school districts accommodating a fast-growing student population;
6. setting new criteria limiting the amount of MUD debt issuance and placing caps on ongoing administrative costs to protect future MUD residents from exorbitant ongoing MUD taxes;
7. requiring MUDs to contract for police, fire, ambulance, animal control, and solid waste removal ensuring services are provided to MUD residents at actual cost and not subsidized by other entities;
8. changing the MUD debt issuance election process to increase transparency and oversight;
9. exempting MUDs from the ability to petition out of a city’s ETJ and/or CCN to avoid financial obligations and standards required for responsible land development; and
10. providing for an exception to allow city annexation in lieu of MUD creation if taxes created for proposed MUD financing exceed an adjacent city’s stacked tax and city is able and willing to provide all essential services.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Recent legislative efforts such as S.B. 1412 have sought to weaken local control over land use and zoning, particularly by limiting a municipality's ability to regulate accessory dwelling units (ADUs). These efforts could undermine local governments' ability to address the unique needs and priorities of their communities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Oppose bills that weaken local control over land use and zoning, including those limiting a municipality's ability to regulate accessory dwelling units.

How the Resolution is City-Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Weakening local control over land use and zoning can lead to inappropriate or incompatible development that disrupts neighborhood character, strains infrastructure, and reduces the quality of life for residents.

Statewide Importance: Weakening local control over land use and zoning can have statewide consequences, leading to uncoordinated and haphazard development that could strain regional resources, infrastructure, and ecosystems.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

15.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO LAND USE AND ZONING INCLUDING ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League oppose legislation that would weaken local control over land use and zoning, including legislation limiting a city's ability to regulate accessory dwelling units.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Many areas in Texas rely on aquifers as a primary source for agriculture and farming. Over-reliance on these aquifers for residential development is causing significant depletion. Existing laws do not sufficiently address the protection of aquifers from over- extraction caused by rapid residential growth. Current regulations focus more on individual water rights rather than regional sustainability.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Seek introduction and passage of bills that protect aquifers from depletion by residential development by encouraging cooperation with local municipalities and districts to utilize regional surface water

How the Resolution is City- Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Cities and municipalities that rely on aquifers are also impacting the surrounding agricultural areas, which depend on these same water sources for irrigation. Decreased aquifer levels can lead to reduced water availability for farming, affecting crop yields and potentially leading to higher food prices and economic instability in agricultural communities.

Statewide Importance: Agriculture is a major sector in Texas, with significant contributions to the state's economy. Depletion of aquifers threatens the viability of farming operations across the state, affecting food production and rural economies.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF AQUIFERS

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seek introduction and passage of legislation that would protect aquifers from depletion by residential development by encouraging cooperation between cities and districts to utilize regional surface water.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Watersheds are essential for collecting and distributing water to various ecosystems and communities. However, residential development that relies on septic systems can lead to pollution, contaminating these vital water sources with harmful bacteria, nitrates, and other pollutants. Current regulations often fail to adequately address the cumulative impact of multiple septic systems on a watershed, particularly in rapidly developing areas.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Seek introduction and passage of bills that protect watersheds from pollution by residential development by encouraging cooperation with local municipalities and districts to utilize regional wastewater treatment systems.

How the Resolution is City- Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Municipalities with growing residential development face increased risks of watershed contamination from improperly managed or aging septic systems. This can lead to deteriorating water quality, affecting drinking water supplies, recreational waters, and local ecosystems.

Statewide Importance: Watershed pollution from septic systems is a statewide concern, as contaminated water can flow across municipal and county boundaries, affecting multiple communities and ecosystems.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

17.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO PROTECTION OF WATERSHEDS

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seek introduction and passage of legislation that would protect watersheds from pollution by encouraging cooperation with cities and districts to utilize regional wastewater treatment systems.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Current tax law limits the amount of revenue that municipalities can capture by (1) imposing a No-New-Revenue Rate – the tax rate that would produce the same amount of taxes if applied to the same properties taxed in both the prior and current years – and (2) limiting municipalities to adopting at or below the Voter Approved Rate, a rate that represents an increase of 3.5 percent over the No-New-Revenue maintenance and operations rate. Any increase above the voter approved rate must be approved by voters. The challenge for Texas municipalities is that inflation has caused a rise in the price of municipal goods and services for maintenance and operations that is greater than 3.5 percent.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Seek introduction and passage of bills that support recalculating the “No-New-Revenue” rate based on inflation of typical municipal costs, such as public safety personnel salaries and construction materials.

How the Resolution is City-Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Cost increases for typical municipal goods and services due to inflation have not been matched by similar increases in property tax revenue due to current tax law. The inability to generate revenue at a rate that matches inflation negatively impacts and limits a municipalities ability to continue to provide existing services. Recalculating the No-New-Revenue rate based on inflation of typical municipal costs would allow municipalities to generate the revenues needed to maintain services levels.

Statewide Importance: Generating the revenues needed to maintain and provide existing services in the face of inflation ensures long-term stability within Texas municipalities and that essential services, such as public safety or public infrastructure maintenance, are provided to Texas residents.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

18.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE CALUCATION OF THE NO NEW REVENUE RATE

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League seek introduction and passage of legislation that would recalculate the no-new-revenue rate based on inflation of typical municipal costs, such as public safety personnel salaries and construction materials.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: S.B. 267 was vetoed by the Governor. The bill would have established a grant program administered by the Texas Comptroller to provide financial assistance to law enforcement agencies with fewer than 250 peace officers to become accredited. The bill would have required all law enforcement agencies in Texas to become accredited by September 1, 2029, through approved accrediting entities like the Texas Police Chiefs Association or the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement is tasked with implementing a program to assist agencies in becoming accredited and designating additional accrediting entities. The bill would have also required agencies to report their accreditation status to the Commission annually.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Support bills that seek alternatives to the vetoed S.B. 267 to make police department accreditation more palatable.

How the Resolution is City-Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Smaller police departments may struggle with the costs and administrative burden of accreditation, making it essential to find more flexible and supportive approaches that allow all municipalities to benefit from accreditation without being unduly burdened.

Statewide Importance: A statewide accreditation process, if designed to be more flexible and supportive, can lead to more consistent and effective policing practices across Texas, enhancing the overall safety and security of the state.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would seek alternatives to S.B. 267 (2023) to make police department accreditation more palatable.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Delta 8 and Delta 9 THC, derived from hemp, have become increasingly popular as legal alternatives to marijuana. However, the lack of comprehensive regulation has led to concerns about the safety, potency, and marketing of these products, particularly when sold to minors.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Support bills that further regulate the sale of intoxicating hemp products such as Delta 8 and 9 and to stop retailers from marketing these products to children.

How the Resolution is City-Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Municipalities are facing increasing challenges in managing the proliferation of these products, particularly in terms of ensuring that they are not sold or marketed to minors.

Statewide Importance: Without stricter regulations, the widespread availability and marketing of intoxicating hemp products like Delta 8 and 9 can pose significant public health risks across Texas, particularly to children and teenagers.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF DELTA 8 AND 9

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would further regulate the sale of intoxicating hemp products such as Delta 8 and 9 and to stop retailers from marketing these products to children.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Law enforcement agencies are increasingly tasked with responding to mental health crises, a role for which they often lack the specialized training, resources, and support needed to handle effectively. This has led to challenges such as increased incidents of use of force, officer burnout, and strained relationships between law enforcement and communities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Support bills that provide solutions for funding, processes, and systems to address the growing, yet chronic challenges for law enforcement in the mental health arena.

How the Resolution is City-Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Municipalities can benefit from statewide initiatives that promote collaboration between law enforcement, mental health providers, and community organizations, leading to more effective and compassionate responses to mental health incidents.

Statewide Importance: Statewide legislation that provides funding and creates standardized systems for mental health crisis intervention can lead to more consistent and effective responses, reducing the strain on law enforcement and improving public trust in these agencies.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

21.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO SOLUTIONS FOR THE CHALLENGES OF LAW
ENFORCEMENT IN THE MENTAL HEALTH ARENA

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would provide solutions for funding, processes, and systems to address the growing yet chronic challenges for law enforcement in the mental health arena.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: Currently, the authority to complete Emergency Detention Orders (EDOs) is often limited to law enforcement officers or specific mental health professionals. This can lead to delays in care, as EMS personnel, who are frequently the first to respond to mental health crises, may have to wait for law enforcement or other authorized individuals to arrive and initiate the EDO process.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Support bills that allow emergency medical services personnel to complete emergency detention orders for those who are a danger to self and others.

How the Resolution is City- Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Cities rely heavily on EMS personnel to respond quickly to emergencies, including mental health crises. Without the authority to complete EDOs, EMS personnel are sometimes unable to take necessary actions to protect individuals and the community, potentially leading to more dangerous situations.

Statewide Importance: Allowing EMS personnel to complete EDOs would provide a more cohesive and responsive system for addressing mental health crises across Texas, ensuring that individuals who are a danger to themselves or others receive the care they need without unnecessary delays.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO EMS PERSONNEL TO COMPLETE EMERGENCY
DENTENTION ORDERS

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would allow emergency medical services personnel to complete emergency detention orders for those who are a danger to themselves and others.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Town of Northlake

Brief Background: While some police departments have incorporated less-lethal devices into their options of less-lethal force, there is inconsistency in their availability, training, and use across Texas. Current laws do not sufficiently encourage or mandate the adoption of less-lethal options, leaving many officers without access to these tools during critical incidents. Also, some less lethal options are classified as a firearm, specifically Taser 10 and should be changed to ensure its' use is classified as less lethal to reduce the liability on officers and municipalities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Support bills that consider methods to increase the use of less-lethal devices among law enforcement for the safety and benefit of all parties.

How the Resolution is City- Related/ How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: Municipalities are directly affected by the outcomes of law enforcement interactions, including the potential for lawsuits, public outcry, and strained community relations when force is used inappropriately. Increasing the use of less-lethal devices can help reduce the risk of serious injury or death, improving public trust and safety.

Statewide Importance: Statewide legislation can create uniform standards and expectations for the use of less-lethal devices, ensuring that all communities in Texas benefit from safer law enforcement practices.

Submitted By: Brian G. Montini, Mayor, Town of Northlake
bmontini@town.northlake.tx.us

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO LESS-LETHAL DEVICES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake recognizes the need for an active legislative program to ensure that the interest of the Town and its citizens are protected and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northlake will participate in the 89th Texas Legislative Session in 2025 through monitoring and actively advocating for or against legislation to support and safeguard the interest of the Town and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would increase the use of less-lethal devices among law enforcement for the safety and benefit of all parties.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Rowlett

Brief Background: Over recent years, institutional investors have significantly increased their acquisition of single-family homes in Texas. In 2021, nearly 30% of single-family homes sold in Texas were purchased by these investors, representing one of the highest rates in the country. This trend was particularly pronounced in counties like Tarrant and Rockwall, where institutional buyers accounted for up to 52% of home sales. When institutional investors buy homes in bulk, they often outbid individual homebuyers, driving up prices. This makes it difficult for first-time buyers and lower-income families to afford homes. Homeownership is a primary means of building wealth for families. It is part of the American dream. When institutional investors dominate the market, this opportunity is diminished for individual buyers, potentially exacerbating wealth inequality.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: In March of 2024, Governor Abbott called on state lawmakers to try to limit Wall Street’s presence in the Texas housing market. The resolution intends to support any legislative effort to limit or regulate the buy-up of single-family homes by institutional investors in Texas.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: The increasing presence of institutional investors in our communities is directly a city issue, not just in Texas, but in the United States. Institutional investors prioritize returns, not being a good neighbor. This impacts home values, which in turn, impacts our cities property tax revenues.

Statewide Importance: Cities across the entire State of Texas and the United States have been impacted by the increasing presence of institutional investors in their communities. An important part of the American dream is being able to own your home. Institutional investors buying up blocks of single-family homes to turn into rental or short-term rentals threatens that American dream by making it harder for the middle and lower class to purchase a home.

Submitted By: Blake Margolis, Mayor, City of Rowlett
mayor@rowlett.com

RESOLUTION RELATING TO ADDRESSING THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF
INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS ON THE SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING MARKET IN
TEXAS

WHEREAS, institutional investors are companies, corporations, or limited liability companies (LLCs) as defined by the National Association of Realtors (NAR); and

WHEREAS, institutional investors in some cases are not subject to the same restrictions as individual homebuyers and benefit from tax advantages; and

WHEREAS, cities across Texas have observed a significant increase in the acquisition of single-family homes by institutional investors in recent years; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, nearly 30% of all single-family homes sold in Texas were purchased by these investors, with certain areas experiencing even higher rates, such as Dallas and Rockwall counties where institutional buyers accounted for up to 43% and 45% of home; and

WHEREAS, institutional investors, often outbidding individual homebuyers, can drive up home prices, making it difficult for first-time buyers and lower-income families to afford homes, thus diminishing opportunities for homeownership, which is a primary means of building wealth for families and a key component of the American dream; and

WHEREAS, the dominance of institutional investors in the housing market potentially exacerbates wealth inequality and impacts community stability, as these investors prioritize returns over being good neighbors, leading to potential neglect of property maintenance and reduced civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, although in the short term, institutional investment may increase home prices, in the long term the increased presence of institutional investors negatively impacts home values as the rental properties they acquire may deteriorate quicker, which in turn affects cities' property tax revenues that are crucial for funding local services and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, in March 2024, Governor Abbott called on state lawmakers to limit Wall Street's presence in the Texas housing market, acknowledging the need to address this pressing issue; and

WHEREAS, cities across Texas and the United States have been similarly impacted by the rising numbers of institutional investor-owned homes in their communities, threatening the ability of middle and lower-class families to purchase homes and achieve the American dream of homeownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would limit or regulate the acquisition of single-family homes by institutional investors.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Rowlett

Brief Background: In recent years, there has been increasing concern among national security officials and policymakers about the vulnerabilities posed by microelectronics and printed circuit boards (PCBs) manufactured in China. These concerns stem from the potential for these components to contain “kill switches” or other malicious features that could be exploited to disrupt, damage, or control critical infrastructure and defense systems. The United States heavily relies on foreign-made microelectronics, with 90% of the world’s PCBs being manufactured in Asia, primarily in China (National Defense Magazine) (Global Policy Institute). This dependence on foreign supply chains for critical components presents a significant risk to national security, as these components are integral to the operation of essential services and military systems (Astute Group). To address these risks, Congress has enacted legislation such as the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2023, which mandates that the Pentagon develop a plan by 2027 to eliminate the use of Chinese-made microelectronics in the defense supply chain (National Defense Magazine) (Global Policy Institute). Additionally, the Protecting Critical Boards and Electronics Through Transparency and Enduring Reinvestment (PCBETTER) Act, introduced by Senator Josh Hawley, aims to secure the Department of Defense’s PCB supply chains by strengthening domestic manufacturing and establishing measures to detect and mitigate vulnerabilities (Astute Group). Given the strategic importance of secure and reliable microelectronics, this resolution supports legislative efforts to prohibit the acquisition of technology containing microelectronics or PCBs made in China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran for critical utility infrastructure. By prioritizing the procurement of secure and reliable alternatives, municipalities can help safeguard the integrity of essential public services and enhance national security.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: This resolution aims to support legislative efforts to prohibit the acquisition of technology containing microelectronics or printed circuit boards (PCBs) made in China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran for critical utility infrastructure. It seeks to ensure the security and integrity of essential public services by encouraging the procurement of secure and reliable alternatives, thereby safeguarding against potential vulnerabilities and national security risks associated with foreign-made components from adversarial countries.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution directly impacts municipalities by ensuring the security and reliability of critical utility infrastructure such as water, wastewater, and electrical grids. By prohibiting the acquisition of technology containing potentially compromised microelectronics or PCBs from adversarial countries, cities can protect their essential services from disruptions, enhance public safety, and maintain stable community operations.

Statewide Importance: This resolution is crucial for ensuring the security and resilience of critical infrastructure across Texas. By preventing the use of potentially compromised technology in public utilities, it protects the state’s essential services, public safety, and economic stability from foreign threats, reinforcing the integrity of municipal operations statewide

Submitted By: Blake Margolis, Mayor, City of Rowlett
mayor@rowlett.com

A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING ACQUISITION OF TECHNOLOGY CONTAINING MICROELECTRONICS OR PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS (PCBs) MADE IN CHINA, RUSSIA, NORTH KOREA, OR IRAN FOR CRITICAL UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, microelectronics and printed circuit boards (PCBs) are integral components of critical utility infrastructure, including water, wastewater, and electrical grids, which are essential for the functioning of public services and the well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, there is growing concern among national security officials that microelectronics and PCBs manufactured in China, of which 56% of PCBs in the world are made, may contain “kill switches” or other vulnerabilities that could be exploited to disrupt, damage, or control critical infrastructure (“Kill-Switch” Capability); and

WHEREAS, such vulnerabilities pose a significant risk to national security, potentially compromising the safety, reliability, and resilience of essential public services; and

WHEREAS, the presence of these vulnerabilities in critical utility infrastructure could have devastating effects on public health, safety, and economic stability, particularly in the event of a cyber-attack or other hostile actions by foreign adversaries; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, along with state and local governments, has a vested interest in ensuring that the technology used to support critical infrastructure is secure, reliable, and free from foreign interference or control; and

WHEREAS, Congress has recognized the severity of this issue and is requiring the Pentagon to develop a plan by 2027 to replace all microelectronics made in China within the defense supply chain to mitigate the risks associated with foreign-made components as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Protecting Critical Boards and Electronics Through Transparency and Enduring Reinvestment (PCBETTER) Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate in 2021, which aimed to secure the Department of Defense’s PCB supply chains by authorizing funds to strengthen American PCB manufacturing, requiring contractors to disclose the use of Chinese PCBs, and establishing a regime to detect and mitigate vulnerabilities; and

WHEREAS, state and local level governments should take steps to assess and mitigate risks associated with existing technology and prioritize the procurement of secure, domestically sourced alternatives; and

WHEREAS, prohibiting the acquisition of technology containing microelectronics or PCBs made in China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran is a prudent measure to protect our critical infrastructure and ensure the security and integrity of public services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would prohibit the acquisition of technology containing microelectronics or printed circuit boards made in China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran by both the public and private sectors if the technology is to support the function of critical utility infrastructure servicing the public.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: Texas Recreation and Park Society (TRAPS)

Brief Background: Parkland dedication ordinances are critical tools used by municipalities to ensure that new developments contribute to the provision of public parks and recreational spaces. These ordinances typically require developers to dedicate a portion of land or pay a fee in lieu of land dedication, which is then used to acquire and develop parkland. This practice helps maintain the quality of life in growing communities by ensuring that residents have access to adequate green spaces and recreational facilities.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The resolution aims to support the Texas Municipal League (TML) in opposing any legislation that would undermine municipal authority over parkland dedication ordinances. By doing so, it seeks to preserve the ability of cities to manage growth effectively and ensure that new developments contribute to the community's recreational infrastructure.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: This resolution addresses a municipal issue by protecting the local government's authority to implement and enforce parkland dedication ordinances. These ordinances are essential for cities to manage urban growth, provide adequate recreational spaces, and maintain the quality of life for residents. Eroding this authority would limit a city's ability to plan for and accommodate future growth, potentially leading to a shortage of public parks and recreational facilities.

Statewide Importance: The preservation of municipal authority over parkland dedication ordinances has statewide importance as it affects all growing communities in Texas. Ensuring that cities retain the power to require parkland dedication helps promote sustainable development and equitable access to recreational spaces across the state. This is crucial for the well-being of residents and the overall quality of life in Texas communities.

Submitted By: Jeff Achée, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation, City of Pflugerville, TRAPS Legislative Chair
JeffA@pflugervilletx.gov

RESOLUTION RELATING TO PARKLAND DEDICATION ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the Texas Municipal League (TML) is committed to protecting the interests and authority of municipalities across the state of Texas; and

WHEREAS, parkland dedication ordinances are essential tools for municipalities to ensure the provision of adequate parkland and recreational facilities for their residents; and

WHEREAS, any legislation that undermines municipal authority related to parkland dedication ordinances would negatively impact the ability of municipalities to manage growth and development effectively; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Recreation and Park Society recognizes the importance of maintaining local control over parkland dedication ordinances to meet the unique needs of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League oppose legislation that would erode municipal authority related to parkland dedication ordinances.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO THOSE WHO
CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE
2024 TML ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

WHEREAS, the Texas Municipal League is holding a conference that is highly informative and enjoyable; and

WHEREAS, the conference attendees wish to express their sincere appreciation to the city officials and citizens of the City of Houston and to others who contributed to the success of the conference;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the attendees assembled at this 2024 Texas Municipal League Annual Conference and Exhibition that the following officials and organizations be given particular thanks and appreciation for time and services rendered abundantly before and during the event:

1. The Honorable John Whitmire, Mayor of the City of Houston; members of the Houston City Council; and other officials and employees of the host city, all of whom contributed to the success of the 2024 TML Annual Conference and Exhibition.

2. Speakers and program participants who so ably addressed the various sessions and served as discussion leaders, the city officials who presided over sessions of the League and affiliate organizations, sponsors and exhibitors who supported and educated attendees, members of committees and the Board of Directors of the Texas Municipal League, members of the League staff, and all others who participated in the preparation of the conference program.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League on this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin
Executive Director

The following resolution was submitted late.

2024 TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Pilot Point

Brief Background: Use of Limited Purpose Annexation for Economic Development

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: Amend Chapter 212 of the Texas Local Government Code to specifically authorize infrastructure agreement where, at the request of a property owner in the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), the municipality constructs the infrastructure and is reimbursed through sales tax collected from the property following limited purpose annexation.

How the Resolution is City-Related/How it Addresses a Municipal Issue: In the city's growing community, property owners located in the ETJ desire to develop property with city utilities but without full purpose annexation. Economic development is being hindered because ETJ property do not have financially feasible ways to access municipal water and sewer infrastructure.

Statewide Importance: Municipal sales tax collection through limited purpose annexation provides a finance mechanism for the city to design and construct the infrastructure without direct cost to the property owner and encourages economic development along the new constructed infrastructure.

Submitted By: Elisa Beasley, Mayor, City of Pilot Point
ebeasley@pilotpointtx.gov; msanchez@pilotpointtx.gov;
lcox@pilotpointtx.gov; or blusk@pilotpointtx.gov

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE USE OF LIMITED PURPOSE ANNEXATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Texas Comptroller’s office has determined that the only method of limited purpose annexation is through the procedure set for in Chapter 43 of the Texas Local Government Code between a municipality and a utility district; and

WHEREAS, today, in growing communities, property owners located in the ETJ desire to develop property with city utilities but without full purpose annexation; and

WHEREAS, cities and ETJ property owners should be encouraged to execute Ch. 212 development agreements through the provision of infrastructure.; and

WHEREAS, economic development is being hindered because ETJ property do not have financially feasible ways to access municipal water and sewer infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, municipal sales tax collection through limited purpose annexation provides a finance mechanism for the city to design and construct the infrastructure without direct cost to the property owner and encourages economic development along the newly constructed infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at this 2024 Annual Conference of the Texas Municipal League that the League support legislation that would authorize infrastructure agreements where, at the request of a property owner in a city’s extraterritorial jurisdiction, the municipality constructs the infrastructure and is reimbursed through sales tax collected from the property following limited purpose annexation.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the membership of the Texas Municipal League this 10th day of October, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

APPROVED:

Tito Rodriguez,
President

ATTEST:

Bennett Sandlin,
Executive Director