



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Town of Addison 2017 Legislative Priorities

The Town of Addison, through its various governmental agencies and business community, promote the following legislative priorities in an effort to collaborate and maintain a good working relationship with our state legislators.

LOCAL CONTROL

- Oppose any measures that would limit, reduce, or remove the local control that municipalities have today regarding their respective abilities to govern, finance, or otherwise make decisions on behalf of the communities we serve.
- Support legislation which promotes the authority of home rule cities to govern themselves as a sovereign entity.
- Support legislation which states appraisals should reflect the true market of the value of property
- Support legislation which assists the Town of Addison with exponential growth while giving due consideration to family and/or business budgets
- Encourage and support local participation in issues that directly impact local government operations
- Oppose unfunded state mandates that place a fiscal burden on municipalities

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support tax abatements and other economic development incentives
 - Continue to support local control and flexibility in the use of tax abatements, tax increment financing, reinvestment zones, and other incentives to promote economic development and job creation
 - Continue to support the Texas Enterprise Fund
- Support including Fortune 500 Corporate Headquarters as an eligible project for Chapter 313 value limitation from the school district
- Support for streamlining the Texas process for economic development

- incentives
- Support incentives for high-tech, innovation-driven startup companies

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

- Support efforts that would more adequately fund education from state revenue funds that would also decrease the amount of recapture currently required of districts such as the Dallas Independent School District.
- Support local control of the education system
- Support the Skills Development Fund

TRANSPORTATION

- Support further increase Texas Department of Transportation funding
- Support legislative plan to fund the state's transportation needs through the current motor vehicle sales tax and the associated transportation related debt.
- Support the Regional Transportation Council's legislative agenda. Making real, meaningful progress on DART initiatives is vital as north Texas continues to grow rapidly. More specifically, the DFW region continues to grow at a rate that is simply overwhelming the transportation system.
- Support opportunities to link transportation and land use surrounding public use and general aviation airports
- Support increased funding to foster airport development for public use and general aviation airports to meet future demands
- Support high-speed rail access between major metro areas

TAXES & SPENDING

- Support amendments to the hotel occupancy tax statute that would rebate a portion of the state Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) revenues to Texas cities for use in the development, maintenance, and operations of convention centers and other meeting facilities
- Oppose any attempt to adopt the Streamlined Sales Tax (SST) measure as has been discussed in past sessions unless the State of Texas maintains origin sourcing.
- Oppose any further changes in the sourcing of sales tax remittance from the current origin of sale method to any method that would include destination as the manner in which sales tax remittance is calculated.
- Oppose any legislation that would limit the elected Mayors and City Councils of Texas municipalities from adopting budgets that they deem appropriate for their respective communities or that would require voter approval for increases in expenditures.
- Oppose any legislation or attempt to alter the manner in which municipalities in the State of Texas currently generate revenues or to require voter approval of revenue increases.
- Oppose any and all efforts to implement ad valorem property tax caps.

WATER

- Support efforts and legislation that would allocate state funding to increase water supply within the state including, but not limited to:
 - the development of additional reservoirs
 - the extension of pipelines/pumping systems to transport available water from outside the region/state
 - the development of non-conventional water supply resources, such as desalination, water reuse, etc.
- Support legislation which promotes maintaining local control of water conversation efforts within individual districts and/or municipalities
- Support legislation to streamline water project permitting process at both the state and federal level

ELECTIONS

- Support efforts and legislation to maintain the May and November Uniform Election dates

OPEN GOVERNMENT

- Support efforts to allow for internet publication of legal notices rather than requiring publication in a paper of record.

OIL AND GAS WELLS

- Support any efforts that would provide municipalities more ability to control the site of oil and gas wells as they relate to residential developments, any occupied buildings, and environmental sensitive areas such as creeks, rivers and drainage ways.