

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ADDISON, TEXAS ADOPTING THE TOWN'S 2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACT WITH REGARD TO THE CITY'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Legislative activities are ongoing in Congress and the State Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that many legislative issues affecting local government will be considered; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has reviewed the recommended 2021 Legislative Priorities and is of the opinion that such legislative priorities are in the best interest of the Town and its citizens, should be adopted, and should be forwarded for consideration by the Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is of the further opinion that the City Council, the Town's legislative consultant and the City Manager and his designees should be directed to take action with regard to the legislative priorities as outlined below.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ADDISON, TEXAS, THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Town of Addison 2021 Legislative Priorities, attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is hereby adopted and approved as the 2021 Legislative Priorities for the Town.

**Section 2.** The City Council and each of its members, the Town's legislative consultants and the City Manager or his designees are directed to communicate the items included in the Town's 2021 Legislative Priorities to members of Congress, the Texas Legislature, in general, and/or to the appropriate legislative committees, committee members and others as appropriate.

**Section 3.** For those items designated as "support," the City Manager or his designees are directed to actively pursue passage of the appropriate legislation if it is introduced by some other entity. The City Manager's efforts to obtain passage of the legislation may include drafting appropriate legislation, seeking a sponsor, and actively pursuing passage of such legislation by providing testimony and through other means.

**Section 4.** For those items designated as "oppose," the City Manager or his designees are directed to attempt to impede the passage of any such legislation.

**Section 5.** It is recognized that Addison's legislative priorities will often be implemented in the context of great numbers of legislative proposals being considered within short time periods. City representatives, under the direction of the City Manager, shall be authorized to act on behalf of the City consistent with the necessary broad policy concerns set forth in this list of priorities.

**Section 6.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

**DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the Town of Addison, Texas this 8th day of December, 2020.

**TOWN OF ADDISON, TEXAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Chow, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Irma Parker, City Secretary

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Brenda N. McDonald, City Attorney

## EXHIBIT A

The Town of Addison supports public policies that grow our economy, attract investment, and allow local governments to govern their affairs in accordance with desires and priorities of local communities as represented by the duly elected members of their governing bodies. The Town of Addison recommends the following:

### Generally

- Oppose legislation that would erode municipal authority in any way, would impose an unfunded mandate, or would otherwise be detrimental to cities.
- Oppose legislation that would provide for state preemption of municipal authority in general.
- Oppose legislation that would require candidates for city office to declare party affiliation to run for office.
- Oppose legislation that would 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.

### Revenue, Finance, and Budget

- Support local responsibility for property taxation decisions and appraisals.
- Oppose legislation that would impose a revenue and/or tax rate cap of any type, limitations on overall city expenditures, or exclusion of the new property adjustments in rate calculations.
- Oppose legislation that would erode the ability of a city to issue debt.
- Oppose any legislation that would limit local governments from adopting budgets that they deem appropriate for their respective communities or that would require voter approval for increases in expenditures.
- Support a bill that provides cost of living (COLA) relief options to cities for the Texas Municipal Retirement System.
- Oppose state or federal legislation that would 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 controls of rights-of-way.

### Economic Development

- Support the continuation of economic development tools such as Tax Code Chapters 311 (Tax Increment Financing), 312 (Property Tax Abatement) and Local Government Code Chapters 380 and 381 (Economic Development Incentives), 313 tax abatements and other economic development incentives to promote job creation and capital-intensive investments.

### Education and Workforce

- Support legislation that would improve the public education finance system so that local independent school districts are not required to raise tax revenue to compensate for decreases in state funding.
- Support continued local control of independent school districts.
- Oppose efforts to tie improvements to the public education finance system to revenue/tax/appraisal caps on local governments (i.e. cities, counties, independent school districts, etc.).

### Regulation of Development

- Oppose legislation that would 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.
- Support legislation that makes beneficial amendments to H.B. 2439, the building materials bill.
- Support legislation that makes beneficial changes to H.B. 3167, the subdivision platting shot clock bill.

## Transportation

- Support legislation that would: (1) allow for greater flexibility by cities to fund local transportation projects; (2) amend or otherwise modify state law to help cities fund transportation projects; or (3) provide cities with additional funding options and resources to address transportation needs that the state and federal governments are unable or unwilling to address.
- Support legislation that would: (1) provide additional funding to the Texas Department of Transportation for transportation projects that would benefit cities; and (2) provide local, state and federal transportation funding for rail as one component of transportation infrastructure.
- Support increased funding to foster airport development for public use and general aviation airports to meet future demands.
- Support TxDOT aviation increase.
- Support legislation that ensures adequate funding of statewide and regional efforts to maintain and improve multimodal transportation systems
- Support legislation that discontinues diversion of transportation revenue to non- transportation purposes
- Support legislation that expands and sustains regional transportation funding options that account for economic inflation and enhanced motor vehicle fuel efficiency
- Support legislation that allows all tools necessary for successful planning and development of new and/or expanded multi-modal transportation corridors and technology
- Support legislation that encourages transportation system innovations through technology, autonomous vehicles, autonomous freight, connected vehicle infrastructure and mobility technologies.
- Support legislation that allows a robust national passenger rail system, including a privately financed high-speed rail solution between Dallas and Houston where eminent domain is used as a last resort.
- Support system reliability, congestion relief, and encourage trip reduction strategies
- Support legislation that improves air quality.
- Plan for shared mobility solutions; enable transportation data sharing and accessibility with appropriate privacy protection.
- Increase safety, including but not limited to texting while driving, speed limits, driving under the influence, bicycle, and pedestrian safety.
- Support efforts to utilize performance-based planning to select high-quality transportation projects that are suitable for each region.
- Support the use of State right-of-way for appropriate transportation projects.