



GARLAND

NOTICE OF MEETING CITY OF GARLAND, TEXAS

INTRAGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Work Session Room of City Hall
William E. Dollar Municipal Building
200 N. Fifth Street
Garland, Texas
August 13, 2024
4 p.m.

A meeting of the Intragovernmental Committee of the City of Garland, Texas will be held at the aforementioned location, date, and time to discuss and consider the following agenda items.

NOTICE: The committee may recess from the open session and convene in a closed executive session if the discussion of any of the listed agenda items concerns attorney/client communication, including pending/contemplated litigation, settlement offer(s), and matters concerning privileged and unprivileged client information deemed confidential by Rule 1.05 of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Sec. 551.071, Tex. Gov't Code.

AGENDA:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Review & Approve Minutes

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs, will present the minutes from the June 4, 2024 meeting for approval.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons who desire to address the Committee on any item on the agenda are allowed three minutes to speak. Testimony may be held until the item is considered or given at the beginning of any committee meeting. Invited testimony may also occur at any time, subject to a request of the Member of the Committee and with the approval of the Committee Chairperson.

3. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

a. Review & Discuss State Legislative Agenda

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs, will present the DRAFT 2025 State Legislative Agenda for feedback.

b. Transportation Overview & Discussion

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs, will provide background information on DART.

c. Legislative and Public Affairs Update

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative and Public Affairs, will provide an update on various department initiatives.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

5. ADJOURN



GARLAND

Intragovernmental Affairs Committee

1. a.

Meeting Date: 08/13/2024

Review & Approve Minutes

Submitted By: Ariel Traub, Legislative and Public Affairs

Subject

Review & Approve Minutes

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs, will present the minutes from the June 4, 2024 meeting for approval.

Attachments

IGA Meeting Minutes 6.4.24



GARLAND

MINUTES

The Intragovernmental Affairs Committee of the City of Garland convened in regular session at 4:33 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, in the Work Session Room, William E. Dollar Municipal Building, 200 North Fifth Street, Garland, Texas, with the following members:

Present:

- B.J. Williams, Chair
- Jeff Bass, Mayor Pro Tem

Staff Present:

- Mitch Bates, Assistant City Manager
 - Brian England, City Attorney
 - Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs
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1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approve minutes of the April 6, 2023, meeting.

The motion was made by Councilman Bass to approve the minutes from April 6, 2023, seconded by Chairman Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

2. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

a. Introduction of New Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs

Ariel Traub introduced herself, providing a background of her education and experience. She expressed her enthusiasm for her role and shared personal details about her family and hobbies.

b. Discussion of Preparation Efforts for 89th Legislative Session

Ariel Traub presented her mission statement and goals for the legislative program, including:

- Legislation tracking
- Forward-facing state legislative program
- Stakeholder meetings and relationship building

She highlighted the use of the Quorum software for legislative tracking and communication plans for session updates.

c. Discussion of Recommendations for Engagement

Recommendations included:

- Participation in the Texas Municipal League (TML) and the Municipal Advocacy Coalition.
- Increased monitoring of and participation in regional groups such as DART and the North Texas Municipal Water District.
- Potential membership in the North Texas Commission, with an annual fee of \$22,000 for a board member seat.
- Building and fostering relationships with elected officials.
- Creating a legislative and public affairs page on the city's website for transparency.

d. Discuss & Consider Meeting Schedule

Proposed quarterly meetings, with the next quarterly meeting in September to discuss the legislative agenda, followed by a meeting in December to preview the legislative session. A motion to meet quarterly was approved.

e. Discuss & Consider Name Change

Proposal to change the committee's name from "Intergovernmental Affairs Committee" to "Legislative and Public Affairs" for consistency. The motion to change the name was made by Councilman Bass and seconded by Chairman Williams, passing unanimously. The recommendation will be taken to the full council for approval.

3. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting is scheduled for September, with a proposed meeting in August to review and provide feedback on the legislative agenda draft.

4. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Submitted By:

/s/ Ariel Traub
Staff Liaison



GARLAND

Intragovernmental Affairs Committee

3. a.

Meeting Date: 08/13/2024

Review & Discuss State Legislative Agenda

Submitted By: Ariel Traub, Legislative and Public Affairs

Subject

Review & Discuss State Legislative Agenda

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs, will present the DRAFT 2025 State Legislative Agenda for feedback.

Attachments

DRAFT State Legislative Agenda

2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



CITY OF GARLAND

89TH STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION



GARLAND

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The City of Garland's Legislative & Public Affairs Department advocates, coordinates and advances the City's legislative agenda to enhance the City's ability to govern and provide essential municipal and community services. The purpose of the program is to ensure the City's interests are protected and enhanced through active involvement in the legislative process and strong intergovernmental relationships.

The City of Garland's 2025 State Legislative Program is a product of the City's needs and visionary goals, departmental input, and legislative expertise.

INTRAGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

The City of Garland Intragovernmental Affairs Committee is a Standing Committee, a permanent Committee of the City Council, established to coordinate City policies related to state and federal legislation and local ordinances.

The Committee oversees:

- Development of state and federal legislative agendas
- Positions on local partner ordinances
- Development of position papers
- Policies and programs that promote interagency cooperation
- Advocating activities

2024/25 Intergovernmental Affairs Committee Members:

Councilmember B.J. Williams, District 4

Councilmember (Mayor Pro Tem) Jeff Bass, District 1

Councilmember Chris Ott, District 8

PROTECT CITY OF GARLAND INTERESTS

The City of Garland (City) supports legislation that promotes local decision making such as decisions regarding city services and financial authority.

The City of Garland **opposes** legislation detrimental to the City, including bills that:

- Limit the City's ability to abide by the principle of self-government
- Mandate increased City costs
- Limit the City's ability to advocate on behalf of the community through trade associations and consultants
- Diminish the City's authority to provide for the public's health, safety, and welfare

PRESERVE MUNICIPAL-GOVERNMENT POLICY ENACTMENT

The City supports legislation that protects the rights of elected municipal officials to enact ordinances that address the policy priorities and needs of the City's residents, businesses, and visitors.

The City **opposes** legislation that imposes state preemption of municipal authority in general or specifically erodes Garland's authority to govern locally.

PRESERVE PROPERTY & SALES TAX REVENUE

The City supports transparency regarding property tax rates, property values, and property tax income.

The City supports maintaining provisions for debt financing to allow for the flexibility to make necessary expenditures such as infrastructure and equipment.

The City **opposes** expansion of revenue, tax, or appraisal caps which limit the City's ability to raise sufficient funds to pay for critical municipal public services.

The City **opposes** new property or sales tax exemptions that would substantially erode Garland's tax base.



PROTECTING TAXPAYERS' INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND ASSETS

The City supports legislation that ensures the City can continue to own and operate the City's electric utility - Garland Power & Light (GP&L).

The City supports legislation regarding energy market design that is constructed through open, collaborative efforts with stakeholders, and does not adversely affect GP&L ratepayers.

The City supports legislation that maintains state and regional water plans while preserving the authority to continue to provide a consistent and safe water supply through the City of Garland Water Utility's operational system within its current jurisdictional boundaries.

The City supports legislation that protects municipally owned utilities from any liability regarding PFAS/PFOS lawsuits and holds manufacturing entities liable for additional treatment costs associated with the use and or production of PFAS/PFOS chemicals.

The City **opposes** legislation that would deny the City from being adequately compensated for the use of its rights-of-way, or would erode municipal authority over the management and control of rights-of-way.

The City **opposes** legislation that negatively impacts the service level, stability, or return-on-investment for its residents.

The City **opposes** legislation that would erode current authority with respect to its municipally owned utilities or deny the city from being adequately compensated for the management of and risks associated therein.

KEEPING GARLAND SAFE

The City supports legislation that enhances the safety of first responders while preserving their authority to utilize necessary tools and strategies to ensure the safety of Garland citizens.

The City supports legislation that enhances funding to support disaster preparedness and response initiatives.

The City supports legislation that funds and enhances cybersecurity measures to protect critical infrastructure from cyberthreats.

KEEPING GARLAND COMPETITIVE

The City supports legislation maintaining incentives that supplement local economic development strategies to fund employee recruitment and retention.



The City supports legislation that maintains Type A and Type B sales taxes to pursue and retain primary employer jobs.

The City supports avenues to allow for a local option election on the sale of alcoholic beverages in certain areas within the City.

The City supports legislation that allows municipalities to pursue local decision making related to land use and economic growth.

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GROWTH

The City supports legislation that would allow municipal elected officials, municipal voters, or both to approve city funding options to pay for construction, maintenance, and repair of streets, sidewalks, and transportation authorities.

The City supports legislation that allows local governments to increase restrictive revenue caps to fund essential services including public safety and transportation improvements.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT TO MAINTAIN GARLAND'S UNIQUE CHARACTER

The City supports legislation to maintain the municipal elected officials' authority to regulate city growth and development through city land development ordinances.

Planning & Development:

- The City opposes legislation that imposes mandates on the City's ability to determine construction ordinances or measures that are appropriate for the community. This includes lot size requirements, density, and other general zoning regulations under municipal authority.

Building Codes and Materials:

- The City supports legislation that repeals amendments to House Bill 2439 (86th Regular Session) which preempted cities from regulating building materials.

PARKS AND RECREATION INVESTMENT FOR A HEALTHY GARLAND

The City supports legislation that enhances investment in parks and open spaces, and conserves open spaces that connect communities safely to the mental, social, and physical benefits of outdoor and recreational opportunities.

CONTINUATION OF A VIBRANT ARTS & CULTURE COMMUNITY

The City supports legislation that funds the arts and libraries to support a strong and vibrant City of Garland arts and cultural industry by:

- Preserving the use of Municipality Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) to fund the arts; and
- Maintaining municipality autonomy in allocation of HOT revenue



CITY OF GARLAND

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 89TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE'S REGULAR SESSION IN 2025

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PRESERVE MUNICIPAL-GOVERNMENT POLICY ENACTMENT

- The City supports legislation that protects the rights of elected municipal officials to enact ordinances that address the policy priorities and needs of the City's residents, businesses, and visitors.
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PRESERVE PROPERTY & SALES TAX REVENUE

- The City supports transparency regarding property tax rates, property values, and property tax income.
- The City supports maintaining provisions for debt financing to allow for the flexibility to make necessary expenditures such as infrastructure and equipment.
- The City **opposes** expansion of revenue, tax, or appraisal caps which limit the City's ability to raise sufficient funds to pay for critical municipal public services.
- The City **opposes** new property or sales tax exemptions that would substantially erode Garland's tax base

PROTECTING TAXPAYERS' INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC UTILITIES AND ASSETS

- The City supports legislation that ensures the City can continue to own and operate the City's electric utility - Garland Power & Light (GP&L).
- The City supports legislation regarding energy market design that is constructed through open, collaborative efforts with stakeholders, and does not adversely affect GP&L ratepayers.
- The City supports legislation that maintains state and regional water plans while preserving the authority to continue to provide a consistent and safe water supply through the City of Garland Water Utility's operational system within its current jurisdictional boundaries.
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- The City **opposes** legislation that negatively impacts the service level, stability, or return-on-investment for its residents.
- The City **opposes** legislation that would erode current authority with respect to its municipally owned utilities or deny the city from being adequately compensated for the management of and risks associated therein.

CITY OF GARLAND

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 89TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE'S REGULAR SESSION IN 2025

KEEPING GARLAND SAFE

- The City supports legislation that enhances the safety of first responders while preserving their authority to utilize necessary tools and strategies to ensure the safety of Garland citizens.
- The City supports legislation that enhances funding to support disaster preparedness and response initiatives.
- The City supports legislation that funds and enhances cybersecurity measures to protect critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

KEEPING GARLAND COMPETITIVE

- The City supports legislation maintaining incentives that supplement local economic development strategies to fund employee recruitment and retention.
- The City supports the continuation of Type A and Type B sales tax that can be used to pursue and retain primary employer jobs.
- The City supports and intends to actively pursue avenues to allow for a local option election on the sale of alcoholic beverages in certain areas within the City.

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GROWTH

- The City supports legislation that would allow municipal-elected officials, municipal voters, or both to approve city funding options to pay for construction, maintenance, and repair of streets, sidewalks, and transportation authorities.
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Intragovernmental Affairs Committee

3. b.

Meeting Date: 08/13/2024

Transportation Overview & Discussion

Submitted By: Ariel Traub, Legislative and Public Affairs

Subject

Transportation Overview & Discussion

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative & Public Affairs, will provide background information on DART.



GARLAND

Intragovernmental Affairs Committee

3. c.

Meeting Date: 08/13/2024

Legislative and Public Affairs Update

Submitted By: Ariel Traub, Legislative and Public Affairs

Subject

Legislative and Public Affairs Update

Ariel Traub, Managing Director of Legislative and Public Affairs, will provide an update on various department initiatives.
