
City Hall Council Chambers, 141 W. Renfro, Burleson, TX 76028

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **CITIZENS APPEARANCES**

Each person in attendance who desires to speak to the City Council on an item NOT posted on the agenda, shall speak during this section.

A speaker card must be filled out and turned in to the City Secretary prior to addressing the City Council. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes.

Please note that City Council may only take action on items posted on the agenda. The Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the City Council from deliberating or taking action on an item not listed on the agenda. City Council may, however, receive your comments on the unlisted item, ask clarifying questions, respond with facts, and explain policy.

Each person in attendance who desires to speak to the City Council on an item posted on the agenda, shall speak when the item is called forward for consideration.

3. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

[A.](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff direction regarding the City's legislative program. *(Staff Contact: Janalea Hembree, Assistant to the City Manager)*

4. **RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene in Executive Session in the City Council Workroom in City Hall to conduct a closed meeting to discuss any item listed on this Agenda. The City Council may reconvene into open session and take action on posted items.

A. Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek the advice of the City Attorney pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code

5. **ADJOURN**

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above agenda was posted on this the **9th of August, 2024, by 5:00 p.m.**, on the official bulletin board at the Burleson City Hall, 141 W. Renfro, Burleson, Texas.



Amanda Campos

City Secretary

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Burleson City Hall is wheelchair accessible. The entry ramp is located in the front of the building, accessible from Warren St. Accessible parking spaces are also available in the Warren St. parking lot. Sign interpretative services for meetings must be made 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Call the A.D.A. Coordinator at 817-426-9600, or TDD 1-800-735-2989.

City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office
FROM: Janalea Hembree, Assistant to the City Manager
MEETING: August 15, 2024

SUBJECT:

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff direction regarding the City's legislative program. (*Staff Contact: Janalea Hembree, Assistant to the City Manager*)

SUMMARY:

The City Council has historically developed a legislative program that lists the City's positions and priorities on local government-related issues before the convening of the Texas Legislature.

Burleson and other cities utilize different organizations to help monitor legislation drafted and debated in Austin that may infringe upon local authority. The Texas Municipal League (TML) provides legal, legislative, and training services to city governments in Texas. But they also provide information to state legislators on how bills will affect local government. The city of Burleson also has a legislative consultant, Focused Advocacy, to help bring the city's position on specific issues to legislatures.

Why is it important to develop a legislative program?

Cities and elected officials are occasionally asked to have an opinion on a variety of bills that affect local government. There are also times when elected officials or staff, as subject matter experts, are asked to testify or speak to state legislators on specific issues/proposed legislation, or to pass resolutions in support or opposition to bills.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Council discuss a legislative policy and provide direction for the next steps.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

N/A

REFERENCE:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

Janalea Hembree
Assistant to the City Manager
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817.426.9299

CITY OF BURLESON LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Brandon Aghamalian

August 15, 2024



A full-service public affairs firm delivering modern solutions to traditional challenges



BURLESON DELEGATION

Item A.



Sen. Phil King - R



Rep. Helen Kerwin - R



Rep. David Cook – R
9,100 Burleson citizens



NEW HOUSE MEMBER

Item A.

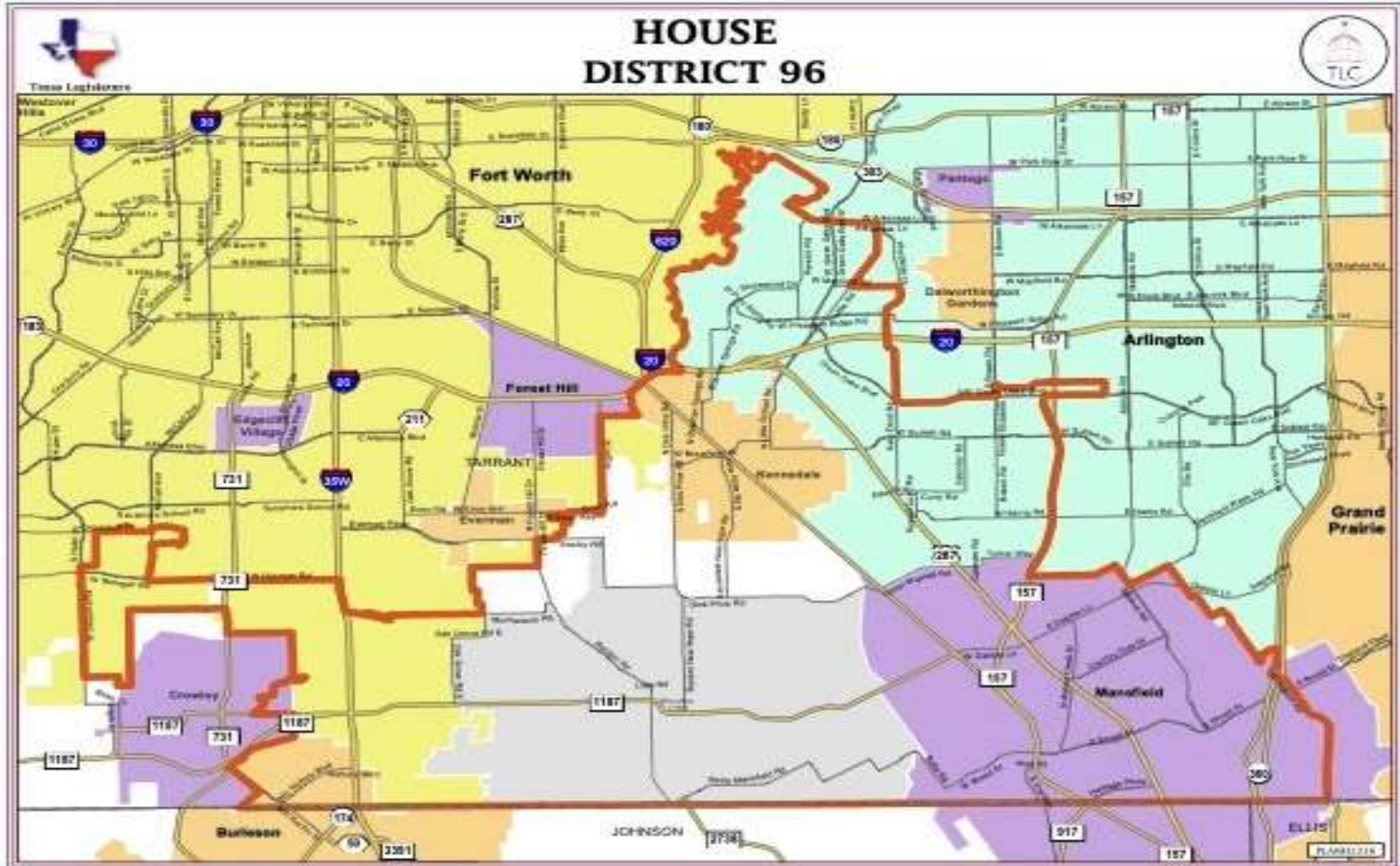
- Helen Kerwin defeated incumbent State Rep. DeWayne Burns of Cleburne for the House District 58 Republican nomination
- Kerwin, a small business owner, former mayor of Glen Rose, and the first Republican Somervell County commissioner, won by more than 10 percentage points
- Kerwin campaigned in favor of school choice and received the backing of Gov. Greg Abbott



8



HOUSE DISTRICT 96





SENATE DISTRICT 10

Map of Texas Senate District 10, showing county boundaries, major highways, and city locations. The district is outlined in red. Major cities include Amarillo, Dalhart, Dalworth, and Amarillo. The map includes the Texas state seal and the text "SENATE DISTRICT 10".



BILL STATISTICS

YEAR	SESSION	FILED	PASSED	FAILED	% PASS	% FAIL	BILLS / DAY (140)
2001	77	5,612	1,601	4,011	28.5%	71.5%	40
2003	78	5,633	1,383	4,250	24.6%	75.4%	40
2005	79	5,512	1,389	4,123	25.2%	74.8%	39
2007	80	6,241	1,481	4,760	23.7%	76.3%	45
2009	81	7,464	1,459	6,005	19.5%	80.5%	53
2011	82	5,938	1,380	4,558	23.2%	76.8%	42
2013	83	5,950	1,437	4,513	24.2%	75.8%	43
2015	84	6,476	1,330	5,146	20.5%	79.5%	46
2017	85	6,800	1,220	5,580	17.9%	82.1%	49
2019	86	7,541	1,439	6,102	19.1%	80.9%	54
2021	87	7,148	1,081	6,067	15.1%	84.9%	51
2023	88	8,345	1,259	7,086	15.1%	84.9%	60



89th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

TIMELINE

Item A.

- April 11, 2024: Senate Interim Charges Announced. (House Charges TBD).
- May 28, 2024: Primary Runoff Election
- November 5, 2023: Election Day
- **November 11, 2024: Bill Pre-Filing Begins**
- **January 14, 2025: Session Convenes** (Speaker elected in the first 2 days)
- Late January / Early February 2025: Senate and House Committees named
- **March 14, 2025: Bill Filing Deadline**
- Early May Committee bill passage deadlines means committee process ends.
- June 2, 2025: Legislative Session Adjourns—**Sine Die!**



PREPARING FOR THE 86TH SENATE INTERIM CHARGES

Item A.

1. Review of entire property tax system with recommendations and study of impacts of eliminating **ALL** property taxes and replacing revenue with a statewide funding system (Senate Finance Committee and Committee on Local Government);
2. Review of issues arising from SB 2038 (ETJ Release bill) “make recommendations to secure and enhance the protection of landowners’ property rights.” (Local Government);
3. Housing Affordability study that will make recommendations to reduce city “regulatory barriers” (Local Government);
4. Secure Texas Against “Squatters”: Review current laws relating to “squatters” or those claiming adverse possession of property. Make recommendations to streamline the process for the immediate removal of “squatters” and to strengthen the rights of property owners’



PREPARING FOR THE 86TH HOUSE INTERIM CHARGES

Item A.

- H.B. 14, relating to third-party review of plats and property development plans, permits, and similar documents and the inspection of an improvement related to such a document;
- S.B. 929, relating to the notices and compensation a municipality must provide before revoking the right to use property for a use that was allowed before the adoption of or change to a zoning regulation or boundary; and
- S.B. 2038, relating to release of an area from a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction by petition or election.
- Housing Affordability: Examine factors affecting housing affordability in Texas, including state and local laws impacting supply and demand for housing, barriers to construction resulting from zoning practices, and the availability and costs of housing inputs.



PREPARING FOR THE 88TH HOUSE INTERIM CHARGES

Item A.

- Property Tax Relief: Study and make recommendation to build on the historic property tax relief provided by the 88th Legislature, including:
- Whether Texas' economic performance and state tax revenues support further compression of school district tax rates;
- Whether to extend the limitation on appraised value of certain non-homestead real property past the current expiration date of December 31, 2026;
- Whether to maintain the homestead exemption at its current rate; and
- Whether to reduce the limit on appraised value of homesteads.



CITY ADVOCACY PROCESS

Item A.

- The goal today is to develop a framework for a legislative program they can adopt – which will give Council and staff direction on bills to advocate for/against, etc.
- Ideal to adopt by September/October.
- Council must authorize a position an official agenda to guide our efforts in Austin. We only take our direction from city management via the adopted council positions.
- Need active involvement during Session (testimony, letters, phone calls to delegation office, visits to Austin)



CITY ADVOCACY PROCESS

Item A.

- Develop an agenda that covers
 - anticipated issues (property taxes, debt, land use, water, preemption, TMRS); and
 - Council priorities (i.e., – roads, economic development projects, hot button issues).
- See handout
- Last week, Focused Advocacy spent two days meeting with council and city staff.
- Very productive effort and identified several issues



POTENTIAL ISSUES: QHP

Item A.

- Qualified hotel project (QHP); Chapter 351 Tax Code
- Applies to 70+ cities (several in DFW)
- Used to build several area convention center hotels (Omni Fort Worth and Dallas, Irving Westin, Epic Grand Prairie Conference Center, Frisco PGA, etc.)
- Authorizes the City to receive a rebate of the state hotel and some state sales taxes for 10 years collected at the new hotel
- Must pass a bill to qualify Burleson
- City does not have to use the tool



POTENTIAL ISSUES

Item A.

- Explore state sales tax “loan”
- Allow cities to reduce speed limits in residential areas
- Definition of an “agricultural operation” is too broad (multi-family or size of lot exemption)
- Several workers’ comp and cancer presumption issue (Texas Fire Chiefs Association agenda)



RECOMMENDATION

Item A.

- Adopt a position to “seek introduction and passage” of QHP and to limit the definition of an “agricultural operation” (multi-family or size of lot exemption)
- Adopt a flexible position to explore additional funds for transportation improvements
- “Support” cities to reduce speed limits in residential areas
- Monitor the Texas Fire Chiefs Association agenda and re-visit

**THANK YOU
QUESTIONS?**

