

RESOLUTION NO. 51-2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, ADOPTING THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS; AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACT WITH REGARD TO THE CITY'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Legislative activities are ongoing with the State Legislature; and

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

WHEREAS, City staff prepared the recommended City of Mesquite 2025 Legislative Program, attached hereto as Exhibit A, and the Legislative Program has been reviewed by the City Council of the City of Mesquite; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that such Legislative Program is in the best interest of the City and its residents, 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 Manager or his designee should be directed to take action with regard to the Legislative Program as outlined below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Mesquite 2025 Legislative Program that is attached hereto as Exhibit A is hereby adopted and approved as the Legislative Program for the City of Mesquite.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager or his designee is directed to communicate the items included in the City's Legislative Program to members of the Texas Legislature, in general, and/or to the appropriate legislative committees, committee members and others designated by the City Manager.

SECTION 3. That for those items designated as "support," the City Manager or his designee is directed to actively pursue passage of the appropriate legislation if it is introduced. The City Manager's efforts to obtain passage of this legislation may include drafting appropriate legislation, seeking a sponsor and actively pursuing the passage of such legislation by providing testimony and through other means.

SECTION 4. That for those items designated as "oppose," the City Manager or his designee is directed to attempt to impede the passage of any such legislation.

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SECTION 5. That it is recognized that this policy 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 program.

SECTION 6. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 4th day of November 2024.

Signed by:
Daniel Aleman Jr
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Daniel Alemán, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Sonja Land
C2518095973F46A...

Sonja Land
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

DocuSigned by:
David L. Paschall
666E18891208434...

David L. Paschall
City Attorney



City of Mesquite 2025 Legislative Program 89th Texas Legislative Session

The City of Mesquite has identified the listed legislative priorities that are based around the City's Strategic Goals to help guide the City in support or opposition of certain legislation that is filed in this next legislative session.

Local Control

The City of Mesquite strongly supports local control and preserving the ability of elected officials to govern in the best interest of Mesquite Citizens.

- Oppose any legislation that imposes additional revenue caps or reductions in the voter approval rate.
- Oppose any legislation that reduces the appraisal growth cap currently established by law.
- Oppose legislation that preempts municipal authority over land use and zoning, local amendments to building codes, permitting fees, and eminent domain.
- Oppose any attempt to reduce or eliminate municipal authority over rights-of-way or the compensation for the use of rights-of-way.
- Support legislation that reigns in the use of Public Facility Corporations, created by legislatively created special districts, to engage in residential development outside the geographic boundaries of the special district, removing such developments from the tax rolls and splitting the tax savings with developers.

Safe Community

The City of Mesquite strongly supports legislation that enhances the ability of police and fire departments to effectively make communities safer.

- Support legislation that increases the penalties and fines for the burglary of a motor vehicle and auto thefts.
- Support legislation that increases the penalties for unlawfully discharging firearms in public and on a residential property in Mesquite.
- Support legislation that provides grant funding or resources for equipment and training for local police and fire departments.
- Oppose legislation that limits asset forfeiture or the use of forfeiture funds for police departments.
- Support legislation that prioritizes the manufacture of public safety vehicles.
- Support legislation for mental health services and homeless populations.

Attractive Neighborhoods

The City of Mesquite requires the ability to effectively address nuisance issues and maintain quality development and infrastructure in neighborhoods.

- Support legislation that allows cities to utilize job order procurement for infrastructure projects.
- Support legislation that clearly defines operating standards for group homes within residential zoned areas.
- Oppose legislation that imposes additional time limitations and standards for the development process.
- Oppose legislation that limits or eliminates the city's ability to regulate dwelling lot size or regulation for Accessory Dwelling Units.

Improved Transportation and Mobility

The City of Mesquite strongly supports legislation that provides for the maintenance and enhancement of the local transportation infrastructure system.

- Support funding for highway improvements with a focus on projects that impact congestion and safety.
- Support legislation that increases transportation funding options and identifies a sustainable method of generating additional transportation revenues.
- Support funding that expands regional transportation options for transit services like Star Transit and provides enhanced services at lower costs for communities.
- Support legislation that increases funding for mobility projects that include trails, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Support legislation and funding for initiatives/projects that increase transportation access for all citizens with emphasis on disadvantaged populations such as low-income residents, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

Vibrant Economy

The City of Mesquite supports legislation that provides local governments with the tools and abilities to attract, retain and enhance businesses in Texas.

- Support legislation that continues support for the Texas Enterprise Fund, Chapter 312 & 313 of the Tax Code, Skills Development Fund, Tax Increment Financing and Section 380 Agreements.
- Support Legislation that continues local control of Type 4B/4A sales taxes and its current use categories.
- Oppose legislation that limits the City's existing economic development authority.
- Oppose legislation that further erodes the City's ability to accept voluntarily annexation of property or regulate development within a City's extra territorial jurisdiction.
- Support legislation that limits the ability and use of Municipal Utility Districts.
- Support legislation that ensures and protects adequate funding for public school districts to meet the state's education standards.
- Support legislation that funds workforce development and community college programs for workforce training and expansion.
- Support legislation for increased CDBG funding and flexibility in how funds can be used.
- Support legislation that prioritizes funding for housing programs for veterans, homeless individuals, seniors, and individuals with disabilities such as HUD's Housing Choice Voucher and HOME programs.

High Performing/Transparent Government

- Oppose any legislation that further restrict the City's ability to issue debt or fund local projects through municipal bond financing.
- Oppose legislation that erodes local control of pension, insurance, and compensation to public employees.
- Support legislation that allows local governments to post legal ads and notices on the City's web site rather than publishing in a newspaper.
- Support legislation that eliminates the requirement to physically post meeting notices if the city maintains a web site.
- Support legislation that expands the exception of public information to include the name and contact information of a complainant and allow for a governmental body to redact this information without the necessity of an Attorney General opinion.
- Support legislation improving Public Improvement District filing efficiency by providing more efficient options including filing with the City Secretary or online.
- Support revising the Texas Government Code, Chapter 522, the "Public Information Act" Act, Section 552.221 (b-2) to define "conspicuous font."
- Support granting a "special right of access" to records, such as Police Reports, for victims of crimes committed by juveniles.
- Support including dates of birth (DOB) of members of the public and public employees as an actual Mandatory Exception to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 552 and allow the governmental body to redact this information without the necessity of requesting an Attorney General (AG) decision.

Quality Recreation and Culture

- Support legislation that expands the use of Hotel/Motel Occupancy Tax Revenues.
- Support funding for libraries including services that support workforce development, job training and services to residents seeking employment opportunities.
- Support funding for expanded parks and recreation facilities for local governments.