

Historical Review of City Council Planning Sessions



City of Dallas

**Ad Hoc Administrative Affairs
Committee
June 2, 2022**

Carrie Rogers
Director
Office of Government Affairs

Overview



- Background
- Historical Review of City Council Planning Sessions
- Peer Cities
- Next Steps



Background



- City Council has held strategic planning sessions, or retreats, for the past several years in or around February of each year
 - Date is adopted through annual City Council calendar
- Participants include City Council, City Manager's Executive Leadership Team, and Council appointees
- External speakers invited



Background



- Agenda developed via input from City Manager's Office, Councilmembers and in coordination with Mayor
- Location identified via input from City Manager's Office, additional staff, Councilmembers and in coordination with Mayor
- Similar process in other cities



Background



- Agenda routinely included review and selection of strategic priorities, update on city manager goals, and a City Council team building activity
- Tactics were brought forward through prior solicitation to City Council and executive staff; priorities were then categorized by strategic priority
- No City Council retreat was held in February 2021; removed as part of adoption of the City Council calendar in October 2020



Summer Planning Sessions



- In 2019, a summer planning session was called by the Mayor shortly after inauguration
 - Held at the Dallas Public Library
 - Staff participated
- In 2020 and 2021, an overnight summer planning session was hosted by the Mayor with City Councilmembers.
 - Focus was team-building
 - Staff did not participate



2017 City Council Retreat



- Date: March 29-30
- Location: Dallas Zoo
- Appointed Officials Update
 - City Manager and City Attorney
- External Presenter
 - Municipal Capital Markets, Infrastructure Investment, and Economic Opportunity – Dr. Daniel Bergstresser
 - Headwinds: Changes as a Process, not an Event
 - Tailwinds: The City's Evolving Role as a Community Builder
 - Our Proverbial Differentiation
- City Council Exercise
 - Strategic Plan
 - Prioritizing Process: Resource/Impact Matrix



2018 City Council Retreat



- Location: Fair Park Briscoe Center
- Appointed Officials Update
 - City Manager and City Attorney
- External Presenter
 - Urban Revival – Dr. Richard Florida
- City Council Exercise
 - Citywide Visioning: Goals for Dallas 2030
 - 2017-18 & 2018-19 Big Rocks – Key Initiatives and Actionable Items



2019 City Council Retreat



- Date: February 2019
- Location: Brain Health Institute
- Appointed Officials Update: City Manager
- External Presenter
 - Grandest Challenge: Brain Health Tactics to Optimize Brain Performance – Dr. Sandra Chapman and Jennifer Zientz, Brain Health Institute
 - The Future of Dallas Through an Equity Lens – Leon Andrews, REAL National League of Cities
 - Effective Leadership in a Diverse Environment, Angeles Valenciano, National Diversity Council



2019 City Council Retreats



- Date: June 2019
 - Location: Dallas Public Library
 - City Council Exercise: 2019-2020 Mid-Year Council Strategic Priorities Check-In and Recalibration
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- Date: August 2019 (Friday and Saturday)
- Location: DFW Airport Grand Hyatt
- City Council Exercise: 2019-2020 Individual Council District and Citywide Priorities



2020 City Council Retreat



- Location: Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum
- Appointed Officials: City Manager
- External Presenters
 - Elliott Stephenson- Icebreaker activity
 - Equity Real Talk – Tim Wise
 - Sharing the Dallas Story – Merrie Spaeth
- City Council Exercise
 - 2020-22 Actionable Initiatives
 - Finalize 2020-21 Strategic Priorities and Actionable Initiatives



2022 City Council Retreat



- Date: February 16
- Location: Trinity Audubon Center
- Appointed Officials
 - City Manager, City Attorney, City Secretary, Administrative Judge
- External Presenter
 - City Council Appointees Performance Review Process
- City Council Exercise
 - Strategic Plan – Vision, SWOT, and Prioritization Discussion



Peer Cities



City	Frequency	Location	Program Development	Common Topics	Speakers
Dallas	at least once a year (pre-pandemic); 1-2 days	Offsite locally	City Council and City Manager collaboration with Mayor guidance, finalize agenda with Mayor	Budget, strategic priorities, city manager goals, team-building	Internal and/or external speakers
Plano	at least once a year (pre-pandemic); one day	Offsite locally	City Council and City Manager collaboration with Mayor guidance, finalize agenda with Mayor	Budget, strategic priorities, team-building	Internal and/or external speakers
Fort Worth	at least once a year (pre-pandemic); one day	Onsite/offsite locally	City Council and City Manager collaboration with Mayor guidance, finalize agenda with Mayor	Budget, strategic priorities, team-building, growth trends, financial outlook	Internal and/or external speakers
San Antonio	at least once a year (pre-pandemic); one day	Onsite/offsite locally	City Council and City Manager collaboration with Mayor guidance, finalize agenda with Mayor	Largely budget-focused	Internal speakers
Phoenix	at least once a year (pre-pandemic); one day	Onsite/offsite locally	City Council and City Manager collaboration with Mayor guidance, finalize agenda with Mayor	Policy session	Internal speakers
Kansas City	at least once a year (pre-pandemic); one day	Onsite/offsite locally	City Council and City Manager collaboration with Mayor guidance, finalize agenda with Mayor	Budget, strategic priorities, team-building	Internal and/or external speakers



Next Steps



- Feedback from City Council
- 2023 City Council calendar adoption expected in October 2022



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