

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 2, 2024

TO Cara Mendelsohn, Clifford Sparks, Tammy Palomino

SUBJECT **Parks, Trails, & the Environment Committee State Legislative Priorities**

On November 29th, 2023, Chair Mendelsohn sent out a memo requesting to hear what our legislative priorities are, respective to our individual committees, that we wish to be considered by the Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs. Our legislative priorities for the Parks, Trails, & the Environment committee are:

1. Pursue legislation similar to what is outlined in CECAP
 - Quickly and significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions.
 - Expedite the phasing in of electric vehicles and charging stations.
 - **Advocate for State-wide incentives for solar and solar battery storage.**
 - Incentivize the adoption of electric lawn equipment.
 - Investigate ways to monetize methane gas levels.
 - Increase severe weather preparedness.
 - Implementation of policies to reduce the amount of clothing **and organic waste** that ends up in landfills.
 - **Encourage weatherization and utilities efficiencies.**
 - Increase public transportation.
2. Request funding at the state level for more open green space, and leverage relationships with organizations such as Texas Land Conservancy, for the management and conservation of said open green space in perpetuity.
3. **Seek legislation that increases collaboration between the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, local governments, and residents during permitting processes.**
4. Search for funding that can help add more trails.
5. Capture a portion of the short-term car rental tax for the park system.

There is a lot of important work ahead of us. I anticipate a strong partnership with our state counterparts as we guide policy to move Dallas closer toward our environmental and recreational goals.

If you have any questions, please contact my office at 214-670-5958.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Stewart'.

Kathy Stewart

Chair, Parks, Trails, & the Environment Committee