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CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TEXAS

## City of Dallas

1500 Marilla Street, Room 6ES  
Dallas, Texas 75201

## Public Notice

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POSTED CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TX



### Ad Hoc Legislative Committee

**REVISED**

**September 29, 2020**

**1:00 PM**

The Ad Hoc Legislative Committee meeting will be held by videoconference. The meeting will be broadcast live on Spectrum Cable Channel 95 and online at [bit.ly/cityofdallastv](https://bit.ly/cityofdallastv).

The public may also listen to the meeting as an attendee at the following videoconference link: <https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/onstage/g.php?MTID=edb8a2c66f2aebdea7198a0e826bd6312>

## **2020 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS**

<b>COUNCIL COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b> Atkins (C), Blewett (VC), Gates, McGough, Narvaez, Resendez, West	<b>ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY</b> Narvaez (C), Atkins (VC), Blackmon, Blewett, Gates
<b>GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT</b> Gates (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Arnold, Bazaldua, Kleinman, Narvaez, Thomas	<b>HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS</b> West (C), Thomas (VC), Arnold, Blackmon, Kleinman, Mendelsohn, Resendez
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b> McGough (C), Arnold (VC), Bazaldua, Blewett, Medrano, Mendelsohn, Thomas	<b>QUALITY OF LIFE, ARTS, AND CULTURE</b> Arnold (C), Gates (VC), Atkins, Narvaez, West
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</b> Kleinman (C), Medrano, (VC), Atkins, Bazaldua, Blewett, McGough, West	<b>WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND EQUITY</b> Thomas (C), Resendez (VC), Blackmon, Kleinman, Medrano
<b>AD HOC JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE</b> McGough (C), Blewett, Mendelsohn, Narvaez, West	<b>AD HOC LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS</b> Johnson (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Atkins, Gates, McGough
<b>AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 RECOVERY AND ASSISTANCE</b> Thomas (C), Atkins, Blewett, Gates, Mendelsohn, Narvaez, Resendez	

(C) – Chair, (VC) – Vice Chair

Note: A quorum of the Dallas City Council may attend this Council Committee meeting.

**Call to Order****MINUTES**

- A.     [20-1907](#)     Approval of the March 5, 2020 Ad Hoc Legislative Committee Minutes

**Attachments:**     [Minutes](#)

**BRIEFING ITEMS**

- B.     [20-1908](#)     Development of the City of Dallas State Legislative Program for the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature  
[Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director, City Attorney's Office; Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs]

**Attachments:**     [Presentation](#)

- C.     [20-1909](#)     Federal Legislative Update  
[Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs; Ralph Garboushian, Capital Edge Strategies]

**Attachments:**     [Presentation](#)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE**

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

1. seeking the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071]
2. deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.072]
3. deliberating a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the city if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.073]
4. deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee unless the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.074]
5. deliberating the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.076]
6. discussing or deliberating commercial or financial information that the city has received from a business prospect that the city seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the city and with which the city is conducting economic development negotiations; or deliberating the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. [Tex Govt. Code §551.087]
7. deliberating security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology, network security information, or the deployment or specific occasions for implementations of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices. [Tex Govt. Code §551.089]

# Ad Hoc Legislative Committee Meeting Record

The Ad Hoc Legislative Committee meetings are recorded.  
Agenda materials are available online at [www.dallascityhall.com](http://www.dallascityhall.com). Recordings may be reviewed online at <https://dallastx.swagit.com/city-council>

**Meeting Date:** March 5, 2020

**Convened:** 3:15 a.m.

**Adjourned:** 4:10 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

Mayor Eric Johnson, Chair  
CM Paula Blackmon, Vice Chair  
CM Tennell Atkins  
CM Cara Mendelsohn  
CM Jennifer S. Gates

**Committee Members Absent:**

N/A

**Presenters:**

Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships  
and Government Affairs  
Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director, City Attorney's Office  
Ralph Garboushian, Managing Member, Capital Edge Strategies

**Other Council Members Present:**

N/A

## AGENDA

Call to Order (3:15 p.m.)

**A. City of Dallas Intergovernmental Affairs Structure**

**Presenter(s):** Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Mr. Wilkinson provided an overview of the City's intergovernmental affairs structure and process for working with the Mayor and City Council, the City Manager, city staff, state and federal elected officials, and external organizations to determine and meet the City's legislative affairs needs.

**B. Preparing for the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature**

**Presenter(s):** Chris Caso, City Attorney; Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director, City Attorney's Office

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Mr. Caso and Mr. Sparks provided an overview of the City's timeline and process for developing a legislative program in coordination with City Council for the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative session.

**C. Proposed Changes to the City's Legislative Travel Policy**

**Presenters:** Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Mr. Wilkinson provided information regarding the proposed changes to the City's legislative travel policy regarding the approval process for travel related to legislative affairs by city elected officials and staff. A motion was made to approve the proposed change.

Motion made by: CM Gates

Motion seconded by: CM Mendelsohn

Item passed unanimously: X  
Item failed unanimously:

Item passed on a divided vote:  
Item failed on a divided vote:

Adjourn (4:10 p.m.)

**APPROVED BY:**

**ATTESTED BY:**

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**Mayor Eric Johnson, Chair**  
**Ad Hoc Legislative Committee**

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**Nicholas Totin, Coordinator**  
**Ad Hoc Legislative Committee**



**City of Dallas**

# **Proposed Program for the 87<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature**

**Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs  
September 29, 2020**

Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director, City  
Attorney's Office

Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director,  
Office of Strategic Partnerships and  
Government Affairs

# Presentation Overview



- Purpose
- Legislative Session Overview
- Staffing Structure
- Proposed Action
- Next Steps





- Provide an update and overview of the landscape of the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature
- Receive input and feedback from committee members regarding the Proposed Program for the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature

# Background/History



- General Elections – November 3, 2020
- Pre Filing Begins – November 9, 2020
- State Session Begins – January 12, 2021
- State Session Ends (Sine Die) – May 31, 2020



# Legislative Session Overview



- House Speaker Dennis Bonnen is not seeking reelection
- 15 Senate seats up for reelection; in the 86th Session the Senate was made up of 19 Republicans and 12 Democrats
- All 150 House seats up for reelection; in the 86th Session the House was made up of 83 Republicans and 67 Democrats



# Legislative Session Overview



- The City is expecting numerous harmful bills that could preempt local authority including:
  - Funding threats
  - Economic development tools
  - Transportation planning flexibility
  - Housing fees
  - Local policy decisions



# Staffing Structure



- City Attorney's Office (CAO) works in conjunction with the Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs (OSPGA) to pursue the legislative agenda and track thousands of bills that could impact city operations
  - Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director, CAO
  - Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, OSPGA
  - Legislative Manager [Currently Vacant]
  - Nicholas Totin, Sr. Legislative Coordinator, OSPGA





- Receive feedback from Committee on Proposed Legislative Program for the 87<sup>th</sup> Session



- Council consideration of Proposed Program for the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature date TBD



# **Proposed Program for the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature**

**Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs  
September 29, 2020**

Clifford Sparks, State Legislative Director,  
City Attorney's Office

Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director,  
Office of Strategic Partnerships and Government Affairs





# Federal Legislative Update



## Legislative Ad Hoc Committee

September 29, 2020

**Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director**  
**Office of Strategic Partnership & Government Affairs**

**Ralph Garboushian, CapitalEdge**



# Presentation Overview



- 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – City of Dallas Efforts
- 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – Unfinished Business
- 117<sup>th</sup> Congress – Preview



# 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – City of Dallas Efforts



- Secured a direct allocation of \$234 million to the City from the Coronavirus Relief Fund, turning back efforts to limit allocations to the states
- Secured tens of millions of dollars in additional direct funding to the City from the CARES Act and other coronavirus relief bills
- Worked with the Finance Department and national organizations to lead national local government efforts to secure the broadest possible use of Coronavirus Relief Fund funds allowed by law



# 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – City of Dallas Efforts



- Worked with the House Appropriations Committee and the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee to secure additional Surface Transportation Block Grant funding for the Metroplex in the FY 2019, FY 2020, and pending FY 2021 Transportation Appropriations Act
- Secured an increase in the local funding share of Surface Transportation Block Grant and Transportation Alternatives Program in the House-passed surface transportation reauthorization bill
- Increased funding for several core local government grant programs, including Community Development Block Grants, HOME, public safety grants, and the Urban Area Security Initiative in the FY 2020 and pending FY 2021 appropriations bills,



# 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – City of Dallas Efforts



- Turned back the Administration's proposal to eliminate the Transit Capital Investment Grants Program
- Supported efforts for the Federal Railroad Administration and the Surface Transportation Board to move the Texas Central high-speed rail project through the federal review process
- Promoted legislation sponsored by Representative Veasey to reauthorize the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant; the House leadership subsequently included it in the House-passed infrastructure package





# 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – City of Dallas Efforts



- Continued progress on Hensley Field, including visits from White House and Navy officials
- Continued to educate and lobby the City's delegation on municipal finance in order to protect the tax exemption for municipal bonds and to build support for the reinstatement of advanced refunding of municipal bonds
- Tracked a wide array of regulations related to fair housing, payday lending, clean water, telecommunications, the Community Reinvestment Act, immigration, nutrition, and Surface Transportation Board review of Texas Central, including preparing and filing the City's comments



# 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – Unfinished Business



## Additional pandemic relief

- State and local government fiscal assistance remains the top sticking point

## FY 2021 appropriations

- The House has passed 11 of the 12 annual appropriations bills; the Senate has not passed any (even at the Committee level)
- Congress will most likely buy time with a Continuing Resolution through December 2020
- The CR will also include extensions of other expiring programs (transportation, health care, flood insurance, etc.)



# 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – Unfinished Business



## Reauthorization of surface transportation programs

- The House has passed a five-year reauthorization of highway, transit, highway safety, and intercity passenger rail programs
- The Senate Environment & Public Works Committee has approved a five-year reauthorization of highway programs
- CR will punt long-term reauthorization to the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress





# 117<sup>th</sup> Congress - Preview



**Agenda largely TBD pending election results, but:**

- Pandemic relief
- Reauthorization of surface transportation programs
- Infrastructure package/stimulus
- Climate change/Energy/Environment
- Police reform
- FY 2022 appropriations
- Housing





## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

**Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director**  
**Office of Strategic Partnerships &**  
**Government Affairs**

**Ralph Garboushian, CapitalEdge**

