



City of Dallas

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

Presentation Overview



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



Purpose



- 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, 2021



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 87th Session

Next Steps



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





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