

2018-19 City of Lubbock Legislative Agenda

Background:

Communicating with state and federal representatives and tracking legislative issues are important to ensure the City Council has a strong voice in legislation and rulemaking that impacts City governance and operations.

The Lubbock City Council affirms to all necessary persons and parties the following City legislative positions, based on the following principles:

- The City will work to pass its priority legislation.
- The City will oppose any legislation that would erode the governing authority of the duly elected Lubbock City Council.
- The City will monitor proposed legislation and take appropriate action to assure the City is able to meet its obligations under the Charter, applicable law and to provide local services as approved by the City Council.
- The City will oppose the imposition of any state mandates that do not provide for a commensurate level of compensation.

The City Council recognizes the speed with which the legislative process moves. In order to respond in a timely manner to issues that fall outside the Council's approved principles, the Mayor will consult with two Council members to direct legislative efforts through the City Manager and City Attorney offices.

The Lubbock City Council identifies the following legislative priorities for 2018-19:

The Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature

The City will initiate:

Efforts to cause the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to fund and take action to remove materials at the closed TCEQ-permitted recycling center on I-27

Legislation to allow Lubbock the authority to create a Tourism Public Improvement District at such time as the need is identified and approved by the local Hotel Association

The City will support:

Efforts to expand Interstate-27 south from its current limits to support growth throughout the state, to enhance passenger and freight mobility and to support international trade through Texas.

The Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organizations efforts to secure funding for identified transportation projects as identified in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

Efforts to ensure long-term funding for the development and construction of Loop 88

Lubbock Power & Light's efforts to transition to ERCOT

Changes to Chapter 143, Local Government Code that would enhance Police Chiefs' authority in personnel matters.

Efforts to improve the vehicular and pedestrian safety along Avenue Q (Highway 84) within the City limits

Efforts to ensure cities can appropriately manage utility installations within City rights-of-way

Funding for Texas Tech University, the Texas Tech University Veterinary School in Amarillo and the Texas Tech University Mental Health Institute

Efforts to appropriately distribute online sales tax to points of destination

Reauthorization of Chapter 312 ad-valorem tax abatements

Efforts to more effectively regulate Game Room operations for public safety purposes.

Full funding for the Texas Recreation & Parks Account local grant program

Restoration of state funding for mental health treatment

Creation and funding of state programs to address chronic homelessness

The City will oppose:

New limits on City authority including appraisal or revenue caps and lowered rollback requirements

Limits on municipal Home Rule authority

Increased pass-through or regulatory fees on cities that are collected for or on-behalf of the state

Removal of city original jurisdiction in utility rate-making proceedings or removal of the ability to recover reasonable expenses involved in rate-making proceedings, including contested cases

Further erosion of municipal annexation authority

Limits or diminution of the State or Regional Water planning process

Reduction or limits on the Event Trust Fund program

Mandatory turn-back program for the Texas Department of Transportation

The 115th United States Congress

The City will support:

Additional funding for mass transportation and highway systems

Designation of U.S. Highway 87 from Lubbock south as the continuation of Interstate 27 with associated design standards and funding. This designation supports international trade, freight mobility and agriculture.

Continued funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Partnership Programs

Resolution No. 2018-R0414

Item No. 6.21

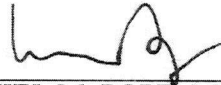
November 15, 2018

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUBBOCK:

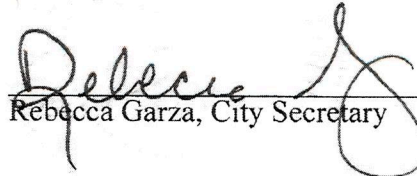
THAT the City Council of the City of Lubbock hereby adopts a Legislative Package for the 86th Texas Legislative Session and 116th United States Congress for the purpose of defining the position of the City of Lubbock on State and Federal Legislative issues, respectively. Said Legislative Package is attached hereto and incorporated in this resolution as if fully set forth herein and shall be included in the minutes of City Council.

Passed by the City Council this 15th day of November, 2018.




DANIEL M. POPE, MAYOR

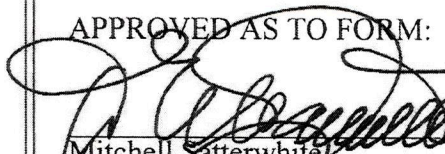
ATTEST:


Rebecca Garza, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:


W. Jarrett Atkinson, City Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Mitchell Satterwhite
First Assistant City Attorney