LEGISLATIVE / INTERGOVERNMENTAL OVERVIEW

LEGISLATIVE AD HOC COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016
The City of Dallas’ intergovernmental/legislative program is designed to:

- Enhance the City’s ability to influence legislative issues that impact local government
- Support passage of the City’s federal and state legislative programs
- Maximize federal and state support/resources for programs and special projects unique to the City
- Increase the City’s influence and presence with advocacy organizations, including the National League of Cities (NLC), the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the Texas Municipal League (TML), and others
- Link the City with federal and state governments by fully utilizing the City’s most effective lobbyists - the Mayor and City Council
In order to achieve the City’s legislative goals, many parties are involved in the legislative process:

- Mayor and City Council
- Office of Intergovernmental Services
- City Attorney’s Office
- Contract Lobbyists
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

- Provide direction and policy formulation
- Approve federal and state legislative programs
- Regularly meet with legislators / policy makers and provide testimony at committees and public hearings
- Participate in NLC, TML, USCM and other advocacy groups
OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES

- Implements and monitors, in conjunction with the City Attorney’s office, the City’s legislative programs
- Liaisons with federal, state and local governments, foundations, and state and national advocacy groups (NLC, TML, USCM, etc.)
- Provides management and legislative coordination for the City on federal and state issues
- Identifies potential programs and projects for funding based on City Council priorities
- Serves as citywide resource for identifying and submitting grant applications
- Advances miscellaneous special projects and programs
CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

- Directs the City’s State legislative activities
- Provides, in conjunction with the Office of Intergovernmental Services, federal legislative support
- Advances miscellaneous special projects and programs
- Works closely with other “Big Texas Cities” officials and state advocacy groups on issues of common concern
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Mayor and City Council Members have opportunities to serve in a variety of local, state and national organizations
  - offers the Mayor and City Council Members a forum to network with peers, share best practices, and impact public policy at the local, state and national level
- Dallas has historically had strong representation in these organizations, and many current and former Mayors and City Council Members have served in leadership roles
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION

- United States Conference of Mayors (USCM)
- National League of Cities (NLC)
- Texas Municipal League (TML)
- North Central Texas Council of Governments (COG)
- Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition (DRMC)
- North Texas Commission (NTC)
- Other local, state and national organizations
The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) is a nonpartisan organization of mayors of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,401 such cities in the country today. Each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official - the mayor.

The primary role of The USCM is to:
- Promote the development of effective national urban/suburban policy
- Strengthen federal-city relationships
- Ensure that federal policy meets urban needs
- Provide mayors with leadership and management tools
- Create a forum in which mayors can share ideas and information
The National League of Cities (NLC) is the oldest and largest national organization representing municipal governments throughout the United States. Its mission is to strengthen and promote cities as centers of opportunity, leadership, and governance.

Working in partnership with the 49 state municipal leagues, NLC serves as a resource to and an advocate for the more than 19,000 cities, villages, and towns it represents. More than 2,000 municipalities of all sizes pay dues and actively participate as leaders and voting members in the organization.
The Texas Municipal League (TML) exists solely to provide services to Texas cities. Since its formation in 1913, TML’s mission has remained the same: to serve the needs and advocate the interests of its members.

The TML constitution states that the purpose of the League is to "render services which individual cities have neither time, money nor strength to do alone.”
The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is an association of, by and for local governments, and was established to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for sound regional development. NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions.

NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered around the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. NCTCOG has over 230 member governments including all 16 counties, numerous cities, school districts, and special districts.
The Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition (DRMC) is an organization of cities, counties and public transportation agencies in a five-county region that advocates for transportation policy, funding and solutions on a local, state and federal level.

The Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition has four critical objectives:

- Invest in infrastructure to keep our region competitive with other state and foreign markets
- Achieve more efficient movement of people and goods
- Improve our air quality by reducing congestion
- Recognize that our quality of life depends on adequate and efficient transportation
The North Texas Commission (NTC) is a regional non-profit consortium of businesses, cities, counties, chambers of commerce, economic development entities and higher education institutions in the North Texas Region.

The purpose of the North Texas Commission is to enhance and promote the economic vitality and quality of life of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex by providing leadership; acting as the catalyst for regional cooperation; and identifying regional concerns and helping create solutions.
The City Council adopts a legislative program for both the Congressional and State Legislative session.

Development of the legislative programs is an ongoing process with input from several groups.

The legislative programs provide policy direction to the city's legislative team.
Congress and the Texas Legislature address a number of issues that impact City of Dallas operations

The City adopts a legislative program prior to the beginning of each Congressional and State Legislative session

The City has a comprehensive intergovernmental program involving a number of individuals.

The Mayor and the City Council = most effective lobbyists

There are a number of opportunities to serve in various local, state, and national organizations

Participation in these organizations allows the City to stay at the forefront of issues, provides an opportunity to network with peers and share best practices.
PROPOSED TIMELINE

- September 12, 2016 – Legislative Ad Hoc Committee - State and Federal Update and Outlook
- October 10, 2016 – Legislative Ad Hoc Committee – Review Proposed State Legislative Program and Lobbyist Contracts
- October 4-7 – Texas Municipal League Conference
- October 19, 2016 – Council Briefing – Review Propose State Legislative Program and Lobbyist Contracts
- October 26, 2016 – Council Agenda – Approve State Legislative Program and Lobbyist Contracts
- January 2017 – State Legislative Session Begins / President and new Congress sworn in
- February 2017 – Legislative Ad Hoc Committee – Review Proposed Federal Legislative Program
- February 2017 – Council Agenda – Approve Federal Legislative Program
- March 2017 – National League of Cities Congressional City Conference