



City of Dallas

Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities

**Transportation and
Infrastructure Committee
August 15, 2024**

Carrie Rogers
Director

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Office of Government Affairs

Overview



- Legislative Process
- Proposed legislative priorities for the 89th Texas Legislative Session and the 119th Congress
- Next steps



City of Dallas Legislative Process



- Prior to each legislative session, the City Council adopts a state and federal legislative agenda outlining official City of Dallas positions on various legislative issues.
- Input is sought from the Mayor and City Council, City executive leadership, City departments, and external organizations.
- The program serves as guiding principles for City elected officials, City staff, and the legislative team engaged in outreach and policy discussions. (See Appendix A)
- The agenda is communicated to elected offices upon adoption.



2025 Proposed TRN. Priorities



Item	State/Federal
Permit greater flexibility in lowering of the prima facie speed limit in residential areas from 30 to 25 miles per hour	State
Permit roadway signage identifying High-Injury Network areas and allow municipalities to add a surcharge either fixed or % to regular citations	State
Clarify Texas Local Government code to improve the competitive bid process for public works projects	State
Establish regulation and reporting for autonomous vehicles	State
*Pursue legislation to set and enforce standards for the conditions, maintenance and speed control measures of state highways and adjacent properties	State
TxDOT to pay in full annually for mowing, cleaning, sweeping, their right of way as well as funding for cleanup up for encampments in overpasses and/or hardening/fencing	State

*Indicates items brought forward at the June 25 QOL committee for TRNI consideration



2025 Proposed TRN. Priorities



Item	State/Federal
Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control	Both
Support funding for new technology use for traffic control systems and upgrades of antiquated equipment	Both
Pursue funding for streetlamps on major highways	Both
Support mobility safety enhancements outlined in the City's Vision Zero Plan	Both
Work with regional, state and federal agencies to address programs and funding strategies for the maintenance, repair and renewal of water, wastewater and storm drainage systems	Both
Support legislation, if needed, for high-speed rail, street cars and other potential new transportation and related funding	Both
*Support rail safety legislation to ensure transparency and protection of local communities	Both
*Support legislation that guarantees transparency in utility operations, ensures reliable service delivery to all consumers, and creates sustainable communities	Both

*Indicates items brought forward at the June 25 QOL committee for TRNI consideration



Key Dates and Next Steps



- Receive and incorporate Committee feedback
- Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs – Aug. 27
- City Council Briefing on State and Federal Priorities – Sep. 4
- Dallas State Legislative Luncheon – Oct. 17





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Appendix:

88th Texas Legislature Legislative Priorities (2023)

118th Congress Legislative Priorities (2023)



2023 CITY OF DALLAS STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

PUBLIC SAFETY IS THE TOP PRIORITY FOR DALLAS.

Support legislation that provides additional resources for local governmental law enforcement agencies for public safety.



- Address unauthorized production and distribution of temporary tags.
- Fund a new Dallas police training facility, body-worn cameras, and additional public safety equipment.
- Prioritize emergency vehicle production for first responders.
- Address responsibility of school crossing guards and related equipment for large cities.
- Expand Monica's Law, a statewide protective order database, to include family violence convictions.
- Implement a statewide 9-1-1 fee to reinvest in emergency response systems.
- Amend the definition of reflexology businesses as massage parlors.
- Continue funding for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice re-entry services program.
- Pursue revenue streams that could support future public safety pension obligations.

ECONOMIC VIBRANCY AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE FUTURE OF DALLAS.



Support legislation that promotes job creation and private investment to grow the tax base and create economic opportunities for all members of our community.

- Secure additional options for property tax relief for Dallas residents.
- Strengthen Dallas' workforce development pipeline through investments in reskilling programs in high-demand fields and improved coordination between state agencies.

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT GOVERNANCE IS AT THE HEART OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

Support legislation that allows the City to deliver effective and efficient government services, while being fiscally responsible.



- Ensure privacy and security of resident and commercial data.
- Require mandatory disclosure of residential and commercial real estate prices.
- Establish a database of homestead exemptions.
- Preserve local authority to collect franchise fee revenues.
- Expand options for publication of legal notices.
- Amend Government Code Chapter 2274 regarding prohibition from service contracts with institutions that have policies that may restrict gun or ammunition sales and fossil fuels investments.

HOUSING STABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY MUST BE WITHIN REACH FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF DALLAS.

Support legislation that ensures tenant protections for residents at greatest risk of displacement.



- Advance income-based property tax abatements for homeowners in neighborhoods experiencing rapidly rising property values.
- Prevent Housing Finance Corporations and Public Facility Corporations from providing property tax exemptions outside their jurisdictions.
- Require transportation entities to harden underpasses and fund the engagement and cleaning of areas affected by those who are unsheltered.
- Establish a "Know Your Rights" document that all landlords must include in eviction notices.



2023 CITY OF DALLAS STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

221637



SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE DRIVES ECONOMIC GROWTH IN DALLAS.

Support legislation that protects and enhances the City's infrastructure network while continuing to deliver innovative, safe, and equitable solutions.

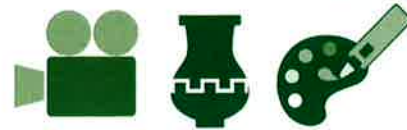
- Enhance and fund mobility infrastructure, including but not limited to bike and pedestrian improvements.
- Improve water, stormwater, and wastewater infrastructure through dredging and other sustainable practices.
- Allow municipalities to lower the *prima facie* speed limit in residential areas from 30 to 25 miles per hour.
- Elevate broadband service as a critical utility.
- Strengthen the state's electric grid.



NATURAL RESOURCES MUST BE SUSTAINED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF DALLAS.

Support legislation that focuses on resource sustainability, conservation, climate change, and environmental equity to build a more resilient city.

- Require local approval of standard permits for polluting industries and impose minimum distances from schools, hospitals, and residences.
- Advance the deployment of – and infrastructure for – solar power and electric vehicles.



A THRIVING COMMUNITY ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS.

Support legislation that fosters clean and appealing neighborhoods while offering recreational, educational, and cultural activities.

- Increase funding for Dallas parks, trails, and playgrounds.
- Increase funding for the Texas Cultural Association's Cultural District Grant Program.
- Increase funding for the Texas State Library Archives Commission relating to technology and digital inclusion.
- Decriminalize fentanyl testing strips.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF OUR DALLAS COMMUNITY.

Support legislation that ensures Dallas is a welcoming community for all residents, businesses, and visitors.

- Protect the rights of all vulnerable communities, including LGBTQIA+ individuals, seniors, and refugees.
- Increase funding for the Department of Family and Adult Protective Services.
- Expand Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Women, Infants and Children Program benefits to include diapers and period products and improve digital access for applicants.

Clifford Sparks

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SCAN ME

As approved by the Dallas City Council on
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2023 CITY OF DALLAS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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PUBLIC SAFETY IS THE TOP PRIORITY FOR DALLAS.

Support legislation that provides additional resources for local governmental law enforcement agencies for public safety.



- Increase existing and create new grant programs to support a new policy training facility, body-worn cameras, and additional public safety equipment.
- Prioritize emergency vehicle production for first responders.
- Pursue revenue streams which could support public safety and re-entry services.

ECONOMIC VIBRANCY AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE FUTURE OF DALLAS.



Support legislation that promotes job creation and private investment to grow the tax base and create economic opportunities for all members of our community.

- Strengthen Dallas' workforce development pipeline through investments in reskilling programs in high-demand fields and improved coordination between agencies.

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT GOVERNANCE IS AT THE HEART OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

Support legislation that allows the City to deliver effective and efficient government services, while being fiscally responsible.



- Ensure privacy and security of resident and commercial data.
- Maintain the tax exemption for municipal bonds, including private activity bonds, and reinstate advance refunding for municipal bonds.



CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

221629

HOUSING STABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY MUST BE WITHIN REACH FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF DALLAS.

Support legislation that ensures tenant protections for residents at greatest risk of displacement.

- Expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program to include blight remediation.
- Continue and expanding funding for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program.
- Increase funding for homelessness services.



SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE DRIVES ECONOMIC GROWTH IN DALLAS.

Support legislation that protects and enhances the City's infrastructure network while continuing to deliver innovative, safe, and equitable solutions.

- Enhance and fund mobility infrastructure, including but not limited to bike and pedestrian improvements.
- Improve water, stormwater, and wastewater infrastructure through dredging and other sustainable practices.

Carrie Rogers
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City of Dallas

2023 CITY OF DALLAS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



NATURAL RESOURCES MUST BE SUSTAINED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF DALLAS.

Support legislation that focuses on resource sustainability, conservation, climate change, and environmental equity to build a more resilient city.

- Mitigate the impact of climate change through adaptation actions.
- Advance the deployment of – and infrastructure for – solar power and electric vehicles.



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Support legislation that fosters clean and appealing neighborhoods while offering recreational, educational, and cultural activities.

- Increase funding for Dallas parks, trails, and playgrounds.
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Support legislation that ensures Dallas is a welcoming community for all residents and visitors.

- Protect the rights of all vulnerable communities, including LGBTQIA+ individuals, seniors, and refugees.
- Increase funding for the Department of Family and Adult Protective Services.
- Expand Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Women, Infant and Children Program benefits to include diapers and period products and improve digital access for applicants.
- Ensure proper healthcare for all residents of Dallas.
- Support funding and resources for local government and non-profit services for immigrants and humanitarian responses.



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