

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 2, 2024

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Consideration of 2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities**

In the Fall 2023, the Office of Government Affairs began collecting feedback on potential 2025 legislative priorities from City Councilmembers, City staff, and external stakeholders. Over the last several months, the City Council standing committees have examined the current state and federal landscape and identified key priorities that address critical issues impacting the City of Dallas. The legislative team received more than 150 items for consideration. The standing City Council Committees advanced approximately 80 of those submitted items.

On May 7, 2024, the Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs advanced a draft federal program for the 119th Congress for City Council consideration, as presented by the Office of Government Affairs.

A draft state legislative program for the 89th Texas Legislature is expected to be briefed at a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs on Tuesday, August 27, 2024.

Below is a timeline of actions related to consideration of legislative priorities.

Date	Briefing
September 11, 2023	Initial call for legislative priorities to be submitted by City Council, staff and stakeholders (OGA)
September 18, 2023	Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-OGA)</i>
October 23, 2023	Government Performance and Financial Management Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-OGA)</i>
October 31, 2023	Additional communication to stakeholders on call for legislative priorities (infographics) (OGA)
November 13, 2023	Public Safety Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-OGA)</i>
November 14, 2023	Housing and Homelessness Solutions Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-OGA)</i>
November 14, 2023	Government Performance and Financial Management Committee <i>2025 Legislative Priorities (Memorandum-OGA)</i>
December 4, 2023	Parks, Trails, and the Environment Committee <i>2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability and the Environmental Commission (Memorandum-OGA)</i>

December 11, 2023	Draft list of submitted State and Federal 2025 legislative priorities shared with external stakeholders (OGA)
December 5, 2023	Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-OGA)</i>
December 11, 2023	Public Safety Committee <i>2025 Proposed Legislative Priorities – Public Safety (Memorandum-OGA)</i>
December 11, 2023	Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-OGA)</i>
December 11, 2023	Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs <i>Review of 2025 Legislative Priorities to Date (Briefing-OGA)</i> <i>Materials shared with stakeholders</i>
December 12, 2023	Government Performance and Financial Management Committee <i>2025 Proposed Legislative Priorities – Fiscal Stewardship (Memorandum-OGA)</i>
December 15, 2023	City Council Committees’ Legislative Priorities Deadline
January 9, 2024	Economic Development Committee <i>Economic Development Committee Proposed 2025 Legislative Priorities (Memorandum-OGA)</i>
May 7, 2024	Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs (OGA) <i>2025 Federal Legislative Priorities and Overview of the Process</i> <i>Materials shared with stakeholders</i>
May 10, 2024	Memo to Mayor and City Council regarding next steps on 2025 Federal legislative priorities (OGA)
May 21, 2024	Draft 2025 Federal legislative priorities distributed to Directors (OGA)
May 28, 2024	Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs (OGA) <i>2025 State Legislative Priorities and Overview of the Process</i>
June 3, 2024	Parks, Trails, and the Environment Committee <i>2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities: Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability and the Environmental Commission (Memorandum-CAO)</i>
June 10, 2024	Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee <i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-CAO)</i>
June 10, 2024	Public Safety Committee <i>2025 Proposed Legislative Priorities – DPD / Public Safety (Briefing-CAO)</i>
June 17, 2024	Transportation and Infrastructure Committee <i>Postponed to August 19, 2024 (CAO)</i>
June 21, 2024	Communication to Mayor and City Council regarding next steps on 2025 Federal and State legislative priorities (OGA)
June 24, 2024	Communication to Directors regarding next steps on 2025 Federal and State legislative priorities (OGA)
June 24, 2024	Housing and Homelessness Solutions Committee

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	<i>Consideration of 2025 Legislative Priorities (Briefing-CAO)</i>
June 24, 2024	Government Performance and Financial Management Committee <i>2025 Proposed Legislative Priorities – Fiscal Stewardship (Briefing-CAO)</i>
June 24, 2024	DRAFT Memos prepared and distributed to City Council Standing Committee chairs to communicate proposed 2025 State legislative items to staff (OGA)
June 25, 2024	Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee <i>Review January 2024 QOL memo and receive additional 2025 priorities (Briefing-CAO and OGA)</i>
August 19, 2024	Planned: Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (OGA)
August 27, 2024	Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs (OGA) <i>Affirm May 7th draft 2025 Federal Legislative Priorities and Consider 2025 State Legislative Priorities</i>
September 4, 2024	Planned: City Council Briefing and Action on 2025 State and Federal Legislative Priorities (OGA)
September 25, 2024	Planned: City Council Consideration of Adoption of 2025 Legislative Priorities (OGA)

Next Steps

The Office of Government Affairs anticipates briefing the Mayor and City Council on state and federal legislative priorities in September 2024. In preparation for the September 2024 briefing, the legislative team will begin working through these Committee-advanced items to capture priorities while ensuring clarity and balance while also reducing duplications. A list of *submitted* 2025 state and federal legislative priorities through August 2, 2024, is attached. We will continue working with each Committee Chair, peer departments, and the City Attorney’s Office. The goal is to ensure proposed language retains its original meaning as it moves through the process for City Council consideration in September. Based on the information we have today, City Council action is anticipated for the Wednesday, September 25, City Council voting agenda.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at carrie.rogers@dallas.gov or Jake Anderson, Government Affairs Manager, at james.anderson1@dallas.gov.


 Carrie Rogers
 Director
 Office of Government Affairs

- c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager (I)
- Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
- Mark Swann, City Auditor
- Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
- Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
- Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
- Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)
- Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager (I)
- Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
- Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)

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Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety (I)
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager

Directors and Assistant Directors
Office of Government Affairs

Encl: List of *submitted* 2025 state and federal legislative priorities through standing City Council committees



All Federal legislative items submitted to the Office of Government Affairs through Committee (as of August 2, 2024)

*On May 7, 2024, the Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs advanced a draft federal program for the 119th Congress for City Council consideration, as presented by the Office of Government Affairs. Items in **blue** have already been adopted by the Legislative Affairs Committee on May 7. Additional items have been submitted for consideration since that date for both the state and federal programs.*

Economic Development

- **EDF1.** Strengthen Dallas' workforce development pipeline and support the growth of small business enterprises **(State/Federal)**
- **EDF2.** Prioritize broadband connectivity for all residents **(State/Federal)**
- **EDF3.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**

Government Performance

- **GPF1.** Protect privacy and security of resident and commercial data **(State/Federal)**
- **GPF2.** Fund Artificial Intelligence (AI) Initiatives that will reduce city expenses and support efficient city services **(State/Federal)**
- **GPF3.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control. **(State/Federal)**

Housing and Homelessness

- **HHF1.** Expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program to include blight remediation **(Federal)**
- **HHF2.** Enhance Point in Time Process to ensure homeless population is accurately reflected **(Federal)**
- **HHF3.** Expand funding for housing programs including the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program **(Federal)**
- **HHF4.** Remove barriers to growing the housing stock, including the availability of condos **(State/Federal)**
- **HHF5.** Protect tenant "bill of rights" and right to cure period during eviction process **(State/Federal)**
- **HHF6.** Seek funding for homelessness services, including cost recovery for unsheltered services provided by certain municipalities **(State/Federal)**
- **HHF7.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**

Public Safety

- **PSF1.** Support additional prevention, protections and resources for domestic violence and human trafficking survivors and resources for abusers **(State/Federal)**
- **PSF2.** Increase funding for re-entry services **(State/Federal)**
- **PSF3.** Increase funding for Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) **(Federal)**
- **PSF4.** Create a definition for Less Lethal Devices to ensure law enforcement agencies may utilize the latest and greatest life-saving technologies available **(State/Federal)**
- **PSF4.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority **(State/Federal)**

Parks, Trails, and the Environment

- **PTEF1.** Increase funding for open green spaces, such as parks and urban trails **(State/Federal)**
- **PTEF2.** Support green infrastructure, waste reduction, weatherization and utilities efficiencies, deployment of solar power, electric and hydrogen fueled vehicles **(State/Federal)**
- **PTEF3.** Ensure sustainability of the State's natural resources, including lakes, reservoirs, and water supply **(State/Federal)**
- **PTEF4.** Support growth in industries of sustainability and resiliency, such as reusing materials (e.g., clothing), recycling and methane capture **(State/Federal)**
- **PTEF5.** Increase incentives for technology that protects our residents and business from harsher weather, such as weatherization, energy efficient technology, and solar and solar battery storage **(State/Federal)**
- **PTEF6.** Advance the deployment of – and infrastructure – for cleaner and more sustainable equipment such as electric vehicles and electric/battery-powered landscape equipment **(State/Federal)**
- **PTEF7.** Ensure increased collaboration between state agencies, local governments, and residents during permitting processes to ensure that all communities, particularly historically disadvantaged communities, are protected from environmental hazards **(State/Federal)**

Quality of Life, Arts and Culture

- **QOLF1.** Study, implement, and make accessible harm reduction strategies to combat the opioid epidemic **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLF2.** Protect the rights of all vulnerable communities, including LGBTQIA + individuals, seniors, and refugees **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLF3.** Support legislation that promotes proper mental and physical healthcare for all **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLF4.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLF5.** Reduce barriers to existing opioid and related epidemic response tools, treatment, and overdose prevention **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLF6.** Increase funding for the Texas Cultural Association's Culture District Program **(State/Federal)**

- **QOLF7.** Support the legalization of marijuana **(State/Federal)**

Transportation and Infrastructure *(Subject to change following 8/19 TRN Committee)*

- **TRNF1.** 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 **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF2.** Enhance and fund mobility infrastructure **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF3.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF4.** Support funding for new technology use for traffic control systems and upgrades of antiquated equipment **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF5.** Support legislation, if needed, for high-speed rail, street cars and other potential new transportation and related funding **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF6.** Support rail safety legislation to ensure transparency and protection of local communities **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF7.** Support legislation that guarantees transparency in utility operations, ensures reliable service delivery to all consumers, and creates sustainable communities **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNF8.** Support mobility safety enhancements outlined in the City's Vision Zero Plan **(State/Federal)**

Workforce, Education and Equity

- **WEEF1.** Expand funding and eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Women, Infant, and Children Program benefits **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF2.** Support legislation that protects workplace safety ethics **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF3.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF4.** Protect the rights of all vulnerable communities, including LGBTQIA+ individuals, seniors, and refugees **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF5.** Support legislation to eliminate criminal history inquiries during hiring process **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF6.** Support post incarceration programs and re-entry services **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF7.** Support legislation that expands resources to foster and post foster children **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF8.** Support legislation that promotes proper and mental physical health care for all **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF9.** Increase funding for the Department of Family and Adult Protective Services **(State/Federal)**
- **WEEF10.** Support funding for local government services for immigrants and humanitarian responses **(State/Federal)**



All State legislative items submitted to the Office of Government Affairs through Committee (as of August 2, 2024)

On May 7, 2024, the Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs advanced a draft federal program for the 119th Congress for City Council consideration, as presented by the Office of Government Affairs. Additional items have been submitted for consideration since that date for both the state and federal programs.

Economic Development

- **EDS1.** Expand business opportunities to grow the tax base and generate revenue streams for city priorities, including but not limited to authorization, licensing, and regulation of casino gaming and sports wagering in this state **(State)**
- **EDS2.** Ensure project delivery processes serving residents and industry are effective and transparent **(State)**
- **EDS3.** Support property tax relief for Dallas residents **(State)**
- **EDS4.** Strengthen Dallas' workforce development pipeline and support the growth of small business enterprises **(State/Federal)**
- **EDS5.** Prioritize broadband connectivity for all residents **(State/Federal)**
- **EDS6.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**

Government Performance

- **GPS1.** Pursue revenue streams that could support future public safety and pension obligations **(State)**
- **GPS2.** Seek restructuring of DART sales tax contributions by member cities **(State)**
- **GPS3.** Require mandatory disclosure of residential and commercial real estate prices **(State)**
- **GPS4.** Support legislation to ensure project delivery processes serving residents and industry are effective and transparent **(State)**
- **GPS5.** Establish a database of homestead exemptions **(State)**
- **GPS6.** Preserve local authority to collect franchise fee revenues **(State)**
- **GPS7.** Expand options for publication of legal notices **(State)**
- **GPS8.** Clarify the local government procurement process to include price consideration of purchasing goods **(State)**
- **GPS9.** 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 **(State)**
- **GPS10.** Support flexibility for local government election dates **(State)**
- **GPS11.** Support legislation to authorize ranked choice voting for local government elections **(State)**

- **GPS12.** Expand opportunities to grow the tax base and generate revenue for city priorities and obligations, including but not limited to, authorization, licensing, and regulation of casino gaming, sports wagering, and card rooms in the state **(State)**
- **GPS13.** Protect privacy and security of resident and commercial data **(State/Federal)**
- **GPS14.** Fund Artificial Intelligence (AI) Initiatives that will reduce city expenses and support efficient city services **(State/Federal)**
- **GPS15.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control. **(State/Federal)**

Housing and Homelessness

- **HHS1.** Enhance residential and commercial protections against squatting **(State)**
- **HHS2.** Preserve tools for seniors to age in place and preserve homeownership **(State)**
- **HHS3.** Remove barriers to growing the housing stock, including the availability of condos **(State/Federal)**
- **HHS4.** Protect tenant “bill of rights” and right to cure period during eviction process **(State/Federal)**
- **HHS5.** Seek funding for homelessness services, including cost recovery for unsheltered services provided by certain municipalities **(State/Federal)**
- **HHS6.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**

Public Safety

- **PSS1.** Pursue revenue streams that could support future public safety and pension obligations **(State)**
- **PSS2.** Create a definition for Less Lethal Devices in the Texas Penal Code to ensure law enforcement agencies may utilize the latest and greatest life-saving technologies available **(State/Federal)**
- **PSS3.** Properly align responsibilities and seek funding for school crossing guard programs **(State)**
- **PSS4.** Seek funding for emergency protection equipment accidents in high-density areas **(State)**
- **PSS5.** Consider establishing the Department of Public Safety as the primary first responder on state highways **(State)**
- **PSS6.** Enhance safety for residents of senior facilities **(State)**
- **PSS7.** Expand Baby Moses Law Age **(State)**
- **PSS8.** Amend the Open Records Act to exempt preliminary recommendations derived from early warning software platforms designed to support proactive employee intervention **(State)**
- **PSS9.** Pursue legislation that would allow municipalities to designate roadways as a High Injury Network (HIN) roadway **(State)**
- **PSS10.** Authorize municipalities to install automated speed safety cameras to reduce motor vehicle accidents and fatalities **(State)**

- **PSS11.** Streamline the out of state lateral transfer process for peace officers **(State)**
- **PSS12.** Authorize local law enforcement agencies to conduct driving while intoxicated checkpoints to combat the prevalence of drunk driving, motor vehicle accidents, and fatalities **(State)**
- **PSS13.** Request funding to fund a Weed & Seed Program in the City of Dallas **(State)**
- **PSS14.** Request funding for a childcare center at the new Dallas Police Training Facility **(State)**
- **PSS15.** Create a 10-Year minimum sentence for aggravated assault on a peace officer **(State)**
- **PSS16.** Adopt a statewide minimum cash bail schedule for eligible violent felonies and mandate the revocation of bail of defendants arrested for any violent felony while the defendant is awaiting trial on a previously charged violent felony **(State)**
- **PSS17.** Mandate that judges order participation from high-risk violent offenders in Focused Deterrence programs as a condition of probation or parole **(State)**
- **PSS18.** Support additional prevention, protections and resources for domestic violence and human trafficking survivors and resources for abusers **(State/Federal)**
- **PSS19.** Increase funding for re-entry services **(State/Federal)**
- **PSS20.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority **(State/Federal)**

Parks, Trails and Environment

- **PTES1.** Strengthen the state's electricity grid **(State)**
- **PTES2.** Amend existing legislation to capture a portion of the short-term car rental tax for parks and trails improvements **(State)**
- **PTES3.** Increase funding for open green spaces, such as parks and urban trails **(State/Federal)**
- **PTES4.** Support growth in industries of sustainability and resiliency, such as reusing materials (e.g., clothing), recycling and methane capture **(State/Federal)**
- **PTES5.** Increase incentives for technology that protects our residents and business from harsher weather, such as weatherization, energy efficient technology, and solar and solar battery storage **(State/Federal)**
- **PTES6.** Advance the deployment of – and infrastructure – for cleaner and more sustainable equipment such as electric vehicles and electric/battery-powered landscape equipment **(State/Federal)**
- **PTES7.** Ensure increased collaboration between state agencies, local governments, and residents during permitting processes to ensure that all communities, particularly historically disadvantaged communities, are protected from environmental hazards **(State/Federal)**
- **PTES8.** Support green infrastructure, waste reduction, weatherization and utilities efficiencies, deployment of solar power, electric and hydrogen fueled vehicles **(State/Federal)**

- **PTES9.** Ensure sustainability of the State's natural resources, including lakes, reservoirs, and water supply **(State/Federal)**

Quality of Life, Arts and Culture

- **QOLS1.** Clarify the regulation of public libraries **(State)**
- **QOLS2.** Increase funding for the Texas State Library Archives Commission relating to technology and digital inclusion **(State)**
- **QOLS3.** Support the legalization of gambling as a revenue source to fund pension obligations **(State)**
- **QOLS4.** Support legislation that promotes proper mental and physical healthcare for all **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLS5.** Study, implement, and make accessible harm reduction strategies to combat the opioid epidemic **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLS6.** Protect the rights of all vulnerable communities, including LGBTQIA + individuals, seniors, and refugees **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLS7.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLS8.** Reduce barriers to existing opioid and related epidemic response tools, treatment, and overdose prevention **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLS9.** Increase funding for the Texas Cultural Association's Culture District Program **(State/Federal)**
- **QOLS10.** Support the legalization of marijuana **(State/Federal)**

Transportation and Infrastructure *(Subject to change following the 8/19 TRN Committee)*

- **TRNS1.** Permit greater flexibility in lowering of the prima facie speed limit in residential areas from 30 to 25 miles per hour **(State)**
- **TRNS2.** Permit roadway signage identifying High-Injury Network areas and allow municipalities to add a surcharge either fixed or % to regular citations **(State)**
- **TRNS3.** Clarify Texas Local Government code to improve the competitive bid process for public works projects **(State)**
- **TRNS4.** Establish regulation and reporting for autonomous vehicles **(State)**
- **TRNS5.** Pursue legislation to set and enforce standards for the conditions and maintenance of state highways and adjacent properties **(State)**
- **TRNS6.** 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)**
- **TRNS7.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNS8.** Support funding for new technology use for traffic control systems and upgrades of antiquated equipment **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNS9.** Support legislation, if needed, for high-speed rail, street cars and other potential new transportation and related funding **(State/Federal)**

- **TRNS10.** Support rail safety legislation to ensure transparency and protection of local communities **(State/Federal)**
- **TRN S11.** Support legislation that guarantees transparency in utility operations, ensures reliable service delivery to all consumers, and creates sustainable communities **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNS12.** Support mobility safety enhancements outlined in the City's Vision Zero Plan **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNS13.** 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 **(State/Federal)**
- **TRNS14.** Enhance & fund mobility infrastructure **(State/Federal)**

Workforce, Education and Equity

- **WEES1.** Protect immunization requirements for vulnerable populations **(State)**
- **WEES2.** Protect and strengthen the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman **(State)**
- **WEES3.** Expand funding and eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Women, Infant, and Children Program benefits **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES4.** Support legislation that protects workplace safety ethics **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES5.** Protect constitutional home-rule authority against attempts to reduce local control **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES6.** Protect the rights of all vulnerable communities, including LGBTQIA+ individuals, seniors, and refugees **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES7.** Support legislation to eliminate criminal history inquiries during hiring process **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES8.** Support post incarceration programs and re-entry services **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES9.** Support legislation that expands resources to foster and post foster children **(State/Federal)**
- **WEES10.** Support legislation that promotes proper and mental physical health care for all **(State/Federal)**
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