



On behalf of Fort Worth, Texas – thank you for your service as we work to move our state forward in 2025. I look forward to working with you on behalf of our great state.

As the nation's fastest-growing large city, Fort Worth continues to play a leading role in shaping the future of Texas. We are currently the 4th largest city in Texas.

With a population rapidly approaching the threshold of one million residents, Fort Worth is truly a city to watch.

As a rapidly growing city, we continually strive to maintain a local government that is responsive, accountable, and fiscally responsible for the residents we serve. Our federal legislative focus continues to include priorities that help maximize the success of those initiatives. As Mayor of Fort Worth, my focus will continue to be on economic development, mobility solutions, education opportunities, thriving families, and safe, prosperous neighborhoods.

In this booklet, you will find a list of legislative priorities that will be most effective for Fort Worth. We hope this information will be a useful reference for you during this legislative session.

As we go forward together, I am confident our partnership will lead to another fantastic year for the City of Fort Worth and the great State of Texas.

Sincerely,

Mattie Parker
Mayor

Fort Worth City Council



Carlos Flores
District 2



Michael Crain
District 3



Charles Lauersdorf
District 4



Gyna M. Bivens
District 5



Jared Williams
District 6



Macy Hill
District 7



Chris Nettles
District 8



Elizabeth Beck
District 9



Alan Blaylock
District 10



Jeanette Martinez
District 11

General Legislative Policy

As a general policy, the City of Fort Worth seeks to **preserve** its authority to responsibly govern the city, its citizens and its property.

The City **supports** any legislation viewed as advancing its comprehensive plan or strategic goals; that improves the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; or that reduces the cost of governing the City.

In addition, the City will **oppose** any legislation viewed as detrimental to its comprehensive plan or strategic goals; that is contrary to the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; that mandates increased costs or decreased revenues; or that would diminish the fundamental authority of the City.



State Appropriations

Support of State Appropriations

- Funding for training for the law enforcement and fire departments.
- Funding to support institutions of higher education, including Tarleton State University in Fort Worth, University of North Texas Health Science Center, and Texas A&M Law School and Fort Worth Campus, and UTA West campus funding.
- Funding to the City of Fort Worth and the UNT Health Science Center for the Economic Development and Technology Commercialization Partnership.
- Funding for transportation.
- Funding for the local parks grant program.
- Funding for library resource sharing.
- Funding for housing retention and supportive services for the homeless.
- Funding for mental health services for the homeless.
- Funding for Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant Program (DEEAG).
- Funding for youth training and youth entrepreneur programs at the local level in an effort to prepare the next generations for financial leadership.
- Funding for developing plans and resources needed for greater broadband connectivity.
- Funding to provide additional protective equipment for the exterior of police vehicles.
- Funding for school resource officers in Texas.
- The City supports funding that allows continued recovery and growth for small businesses.
- Funding that incentivizes or benefits film and TV projects in the City of Fort Worth.

SEEK LEGISLATION

Seek to Amend Portions of SB 2038 (88th Session)

- Protect ratepayer and taxpayer funds.
 - Include other agreements, including development agreements entered into under Section 212.172.
 - Include areas within a municipality's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity.
- Protect national security.
- Expand the radius to 15 miles around NAS-JRB.

SUPPORT LEGISLATION

Support legislation that limits Foreign Housing Finance Corporations (HFC) from operating in the jurisdiction of another HFC

- Amend Chapter 394 to require approval of a local municipality and the HFC in whose jurisdiction the foreign HFC wants to work.
- Alternatively, require notification and approvals by a local unit of government if they operate outside their boundaries.

Support for Economic Development in Texas

- Support legislation that enhances workforce productivity as it relates to quality childcare and availability.
- Support legislation that addresses the rise in cost of insurance and cancelations.
- Support for legislation that incentivizes or benefits film and TV projects in the City of Fort Worth.
- Support legislation that will continue to allow Special Events to be incentivized.

Support for Energy in Texas

- Support legislation that ensures cement production plants are strategically situated while upholding community standards and fostering economic development.
- Support legislation to secure the electric grid.

Support for Public Safety and Law Enforcement Partners

- Support legislative efforts to address and eliminate human trafficking.
- Support legislation to address and eliminate domestic violence in Texas.

Support for the Workforce and Education

- Support legislation that provides adequate state funding for the public-school finance system from early childhood to higher education.
- Support legislation that focuses on improving Reading + Math Readiness in grades K-5.

Support for Public Health and Violence Intervention

- Support legislation regarding social media and protection for children online.
- Support legislation that provides resources and funding for women's health issues.
- Support common-sense firearm regulations and additional resources to help mitigate gun violence in our communities, especially in our public schools.
- Support legislation that expands state funding and access to mental health services.
- Support legislation that studies the root cause of homelessness.

Support for Veteran Services

- Support legislation that strengthens support for accessibility and affordability of veteran housing.
- Support legislation that reviews current programs that provide direct and indirect mental health services to veterans in Texas.
- Support legislation that assists veterans to start small businesses.

Support for Water Legislation

- Support legislation that evaluates water systems to better equip and serve the public.
- Support legislation for state funding for water projects that promote use, conservation, stewardship, supply and water quality.
- Support legislation as it pertains to supporting workforce development in the water industry and trades in general.

- Support legislation and appropriations that implement and adequately fund the Texas State Water Plan to meet the water supply needs associated with future population growth and the economic development of our region and this state.
- Support legislation that modifies state law to require the full disclosure of any known flood risk information for properties located outside of a floodplain to prevent property purchasers from unknowingly purchasing flood prone properties.

Support for Criminal Justice

- Support legislation that promotes bail reform as it relates to repeat offenders and violent individuals.
- Support legislative efforts to address and eliminate human trafficking.
- Support legislation to address and eliminate domestic violence in Texas.

Support for Housing

- Support legislation to address housing affordability challenges in Texas.
- Support legislation that continues to uphold the City of Fort Worth's nondiscrimination ordinance.
- Support legislation to repeal or allow local waiver of the Two Mile/Same Year Rule for federal housing tax credits.

Support for Military Installations in Texas

- Support legislation to address incompatible land use near the NAS-JRB installation boundaries, increased meaningful employment for our veteran community and ongoing education opportunities for veterans.
- Support legislation that enables tools to promote compatible growth around military installations:
- Support legislation that protects the voluntary participation coordinated efforts by municipalities.

Support for Texas Communities

- Support legislation that promotes increased community health and wellness programs.
- Support legislation that promotes healthy work environments and places.
- Support legislation that will give cities and the state greater authority to address illegal recycling facilities.
- Support legislation to enhance the ability of cities to address the prevention and control of graffiti.
- Support legislation seeking to protect the personal information of animal adopters.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE DATES

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025

88th Legislature convenes at 12 noon (1st day)

Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 10-11, 2025

Tarrant County Days in Austin

Monday, June 2, 2025

Last day of the Regular 88th regular legislative session

SEEK • SUPPORT • DEFEND • PRESERVE



T.J. Patterson, Jr.
Government Affairs Liaison

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