

2015 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The City of McKinney was recently named the best city in the nation to live by *Money Magazine*, and we strive to maintain a quality of life worthy of that designation.

The City of McKinney, through its various governmental agencies and business community, promote the following legislative priorities in an effort to collaborate and maintain a good working relationship with our state legislators.

LOCAL CONTROL

- Local Finances

As a municipality, the City of McKinney is **opposed** to legislation that would:

- Impose revenue caps of any type, including but not limited to
 - a reduced rollback rate,
 - mandatory tax rate ratification elections,
 - lowered rollback petition requirements,
 - limitations on overall city expenditures, and
 - exclusion of the new property adjustment in effective rate and rollback rate calculations
- Lower the rollback rate and give the City Council the option to raise the rollback rate again
- Impose new property tax exemptions that substantially erode the tax base
- Negatively expand appraisal caps
 - Appraisals should reflect the true market of the value of the property.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Type A/Type B Sales Tax Revenue
 - **Support** continued use of locally approved ½ cent sales tax collected by cities to fund economic development efforts
 - **Oppose** efforts to reduce local control of these funds or efforts to expand the uses of these funds to areas not intended for Type A and Type B without local election.
 - Because these funds are local funds, taxpayers should retain the right to manage their use for community and economic development
- Texas Enterprise Fund and Texas Emerging Technology Fund
 - **Support** continued funding for the programs to include unexpended balances and restoring funding to be consistent with FY 10 – 11 biennial budget levels.
- Tax abatements and other economic development incentives

- Continue to **support** local control and flexibility in the use of tax abatements, tax increment financing, reinvestment zones, and other incentives to promote economic development and job creation.
- **Support** including Corporate Headquarters as an eligible project for Chapter 313 value limitation from the ISD

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

- **Support** funding measures to maintain a strong public school system
 - A strong public school system is a key component to economic development for companies that are expanding or relocating to the City of McKinney.
- **Support** increased funding for workforce education programs in Texas high schools.
- **Support** increases in local control
- **Oppose** revenue caps of any kind

TRANSPORTATION

- Increase Texas Department of Transportation funding by \$5 billion per year (inclusive of Proposition 1 funding)
- Support legislative plan to fund the state's transportation needs through the current motor vehicle sales tax. The chair of Senate Transportation has proposed a plan that would incrementally dedicate the vehicle sales tax funds over a ten year period and pay for transportation related debt.
- End all gas tax diversions for non-highway use, other than the constitutionally authorized funding of education.
- **Advocate** for proper allocation of Proposition 1 Funds in fast growth communities, like McKinney and Collin County
- McKinney Road Priorities
 - FM 546 Replacement
 - Improve access to area surrounding the airport
 - SH 5 Construction from FM 546 to US 380
 - Implement the findings of a City/NCTCOG/TxDOT Study, including paving, median, sidewalk, landscape, lighting, and other enhancements
 - FM 543 Connector from US 75 to Lake Forest Drive
 - Provides an alternative to U.S. 380 by building a new location roadway connecting US 75 to the Lake Forest and FM 1461 intersection, thereby completing the connection of FM 1461 from the Dallas North Tollway to US 75.
 - Virginia Pkwy (FM 3038) from Ridge Rd. to US 75
 - Project to increase roadway capacity by installing a new lane in each direction to the outside existing lanes
- **Support** opportunities to link transportation and land use surrounding public use and general aviation airports.

- **Support** legislation that provides tools that can be used at the local level to promote compatible growth around public use and general aviation airports.
- **Support** increased funding to foster airport development for public use and general aviation airports to meet future demands.

TAXES & SPENDING

- **Support** amendments to the hotel occupancy tax statute in a manner that provides all Texas cities the authority to spend hotel occupancy tax revenue on existing sports facilities and fields in a manner that promotes tourism within the City.
- **Support** amendments to the hotel occupancy tax statute that would rebate a portion of the state HOT revenues to Texas cities for use in the development, maintenance, and operations of convention centers and other meeting facilities.
- **Support** increased Hotel Occupancy Tax collection authority for local governments and efforts to provide increased consequences for nonpayment.

WATER

- **Support** efforts and legislation that would allocate state funding to increase water supply within the state including, but not limited to,
 - the development of additional reservoirs;
 - the extension of pipelines/pumping systems to transport available water from outside the region/state; and
 - the development of non-conventional water supply resources, such as desalination, water reuse, etc...
- **Oppose** legislation that would mandate specific regional/statewide water conservation measures and reduce local control of water conservation within individual municipalities