



## MCKINNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE JANUARY UPDATE

### **McKinneyOnline Refresh & Soft Launch**

The McKinney Chamber of Commerce redesigned their community news and information website – McKinneyOnline.com. The rebranding of the site also includes a more robust business directory. The directory is designed to be more user friendly so that McKinney businesses are featured and visible when citizens and visitors are looking for products and services in McKinney.

### **Annual Business Meeting**

The 2017 Annual Business meeting will take place January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Piazza on the Green. The Chamber will distribute its 2016 Annual Report and will give a year in review. The keynote speaker is Dr. Ray Perryman, a renowned economist who will be giving the audience an economic forecast for our region. Tickets are available for those who are interested in attending.

### **Community Awards Ceremony**

Plans are underway for the Annual Community Awards Celebration that will take place February 17<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Hotel. Deadline to submit nominations for the Chamber's Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year and Outstanding McKinney Citizen was January 13<sup>th</sup>. The City of McKinney along with MEDC, MCDC, MCVB and Main Street will also have the opportunity to present their awards.

### **Legislative Agenda**

As the State Legislature has recently convened for the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. The Chamber in partnership with the City of McKinney are watching a number of bills that could affect the health of our community. Attached is the Chamber's legislative agenda.



## 2017 McKinney Chamber 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**

- Support legislation which promotes the authority of home rule cities to govern themselves as a sovereign entity
- Support legislation which states appraisals should reflect the true market of the value of property
- Support legislation which would allow local scheduling of roll back elections, should they be required, on a date to allow for the successful completion of the budgeting process
- Support legislation which assists the City of McKinney with exponential growth while giving due consideration to family and/or business budgets
- Support legislation which ensures the best possible access to local government representation concerning its extra territorial jurisdiction
- Encourage and support local participation in issues that directly impact local government operations

### **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
  - 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 school district

- Support all state wide programs which consist of the promotion of economic growth in the aerospace and aviation industries
- Support state funding for International Economic Development
- Support for streamlining the Texas process for economic development incentives

### **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 local control of the education system
- Support approval of a 4 year nursing degree for Collin College

### **TRANSPORTATION**

- Further increase Texas Department of Transportation funding
- Continue to support legislative plan to fund the state's transportation needs through the current motor vehicle sales tax and the associated transportation related debt
- Advocate for proper allocation of Proposition 1 Funds in fast growth communities, like McKinney and Collin County
- McKinney Road Priorities
  - Laud Howell Connector from U.S. 75 to Lake Forest Drive
    - Provides an alternative to U.S. 380 by building a new location roadway connecting U.S. 75 to the Lake Forest and F.M. 1461 intersection, thereby completing the connection of F.M. 1461 from the Dallas North Tollway to U.S. 75
  - SH 5 Construction from F.M. 546 to U.S. 380
    - Implement the findings of a City/NCTCOG/TxDOT Study, including paving, median, sidewalk, landscape, lighting, and other enhancements
  - Custer Road (FM 2478) From US 380 to FM 1461
    - Project to increase roadway capacity and make geometric improvements to improve the safety of the roadway
- 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 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) revenues to Texas cities for use in the development, maintenance, and operations of convention centers and other meeting facilities
- Support increased HOT 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
  - the development of non-conventional water supply resources, such as desalination, water reuse, etc.
- Support legislation which promotes maintaining local control of water conservation efforts within individual districts and/or municipalities
- Support legislation to streamline water project permitting process at both the state and federal level

### **ELECTIONS**

- Support efforts and legislation to maintain the May and November Uniform Election dates

### **OPEN GOVERNMENT**

- Support efforts to allow for internet publication of legal notices rather than requiring publication in a paper of record

***Adopted by the Board on October 26, 2016***