CITY OF ARLINGTON

2021-2022 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
As a general policy, the City of Arlington seeks to maintain decision making in the hands of local elected leaders and preserve the wellbeing of its residents and economy. Arlington City Council acknowledges that Arlington residents have the right to influence decisions impacting their home through the election of council members, participating in public hearings and attending town halls among other things. This adopted legislative agenda directs the work of the City’s Intergovernmental Relations team and other City staff during the 87th Texas Legislative Session. Collaboratively, the City will seek legislative solutions which:

- Maintain or enhance municipal decision-making authority in the areas of public health and safety, public property, conservation, revenues and economic development.
- Eliminate or reduce the impact of unfunded mandates.

The City will form strategic partnerships with cities, political subdivisions and private sector entities that share common goals with Arlington. Additionally, the City will work in coordination with organizations such as the Texas Municipal League when these organizations’ adopted positions are in alignment with the legislative objectives and goals of the City. The formation of strategic partnerships and coordinated efforts is intended to provide the City with a stronger presence and role in the legislative process.
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The City of Arlington supports legislation that requires additional training and experience for jurisdictional emergency managers as well as supports additional direct and flexible emergency management funds to cities, local public health authorities and emergency operation centers. In order to address economic hardship due to natural and man-made disasters, the City also supports additional economic support for residents, small business assistance, the expansion of telework resources, the expansion of E-rate funding beyond schools and libraries, and other legislation that provides necessary resources to cities.

OUR HOME OUR DECISIONS

The Arlington City Council members have been elected by their community to make decisions related to the level and variety of services offered by Arlington, revenue sources needed to support those services and policies on land use and economic development. Arlington believes its residents, through their directly-elected City Council members, should have the ability to make decisions that impact their home. Understanding one-size-fits-all legislation does not fit all, the Arlington City Council supports legislation that allows municipalities the flexibility in creating, implementing and regulating policy that best matches its unique community and will work with regulatory agencies to ensure the City’s representation in the decision-making process.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

The City of Arlington recognizes the need for municipalities to ensure they create an environment where its local economy thrives. For this reason, the City Council supports the proper use of HOT funds, the conservation and appropriate use of municipal economic development tools, guidance for new transportation technology like drones and autonomous vehicles, as well as legislation that assists in regional mobility, like airport and roadway funding.

In order to address economic hardship due to natural and man-made disasters, the City also supports additional economic support for residents, small business assistance, the expansion of telework resources, the expansion of E-rate funding beyond schools and libraries, and other legislation that provides necessary resources to cities.

RACIAL EQUITY

The City of Arlington is committed to true equity for its residents of all racial, ethnic and national origins. To achieve this, the City of Arlington seeks the passage of legislation that breaks down systemic racial inequality and uplifts all communities.

Legislation includes but is not limited to policing, increasing access to broadband, additional resources to better digital connectivity of all residents, non-profit capacity building especially for MWBE-run non-profits and non-profits that serve the minority community, additional resources for Career and Technical Education, government procurement standard changes that allow for more opportunity for MWBE vendors and employment practices that promote diversity in executive leadership.

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CITY OF ARLINGTON
ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Mayor and Districts 6, 7 and 8 are elected at-large and represent the entire city.

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