

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACT WITH REGARD TO THE CITY'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Legislative activities are ongoing in Congress and the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that many legislative issues affecting local government will be considered; and

WHEREAS, The City of League City's 2017 Legislative Program attached hereto as Exhibit "A" has been reviewed by the City Council of the City of League City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that such Legislative Program is in the best interest of the City and its citizens, should be adopted, and should be advanced for consideration by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the further opinion that the City Manager or his designee should be directed to take action with regard to the Advocacy Program as outlined below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS, as follows:

Section 1. The City of League City's 2017 Legislative Program that is attached hereto as "Exhibit A" is hereby adopted and approved as the Legislative Program for the City of League City.

Section 2. The City Manager or his designee is directed to communicate the items included in the City's Legislative Program to members of Congress, the Texas Legislature, in general, and/or to the appropriate legislative committees, committee members and others designated by the City Manager.

Section 3. For those items designated as "support", the City Manager or his designee is directed to actively pursue passage of the appropriate legislation if it is introduced by some other entity. The City Manager's efforts to obtain passage of the legislation may include drafting appropriate legislation, seeking a sponsor, and actively pursuing passage of such legislation by providing testimony and through other means.

Section 4. For those items designated as "oppose", the City Manager or his designee is directed to attempt to impede the passage of any such legislation.

Section 5. It is recognized this policy will often be implemented in the context of great numbers of legislative proposals being considered within short time periods. City representatives, under the direction of the City Manager, shall be authorized to act on behalf of the City consistent with the necessary broad policy concerns set forth in this program.

Section 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED the 13th day of December, 2016.

PAT HALLISEY
Mayor

ATTEST:

DIANA M. STAPP
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

NGHIEM V. DOAN
City Attorney

EXHIBIT "A"

THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY

2017 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

SPECIFIC LEGISLATION

- Support amendment to HB 1943 from the 2011 Legislative Session that provided for the recreational use of land that the public utility owns, occupies or leases. This amendment would allow Galveston County to be covered and permit the construction of trails facilities in the Centerpoint rights-of-way by limiting their liability. This is similar to relief provided in Harris County in 2011.
- Support legislation rebating State Hotel Motel Tax, State Sales Tax and State Alcoholic Beverage Taxes for up to 10 years to League City to support the construction of a convention center in League City.

HIGHEST PRIORITY

Support:

Municipal Powers:

- Support legislation that supports or advances the principles of home rule authority and local control to allow for locally elected officials to make decisions that are beneficial to the interests of City residents or that is otherwise beneficial to the City's interest.

Transportation

- Support expedited development of the Grand Parkway; particularly in Galveston County
- Support expanded regional transportation funding options

Hurricane Protection

- Support development of the 'Ike Dike' or similar hurricane protection system for League City, Galveston Bay and the southeast Texas coast.

Oppose

Municipal Control

- Legislation that preempts or erodes home rule authority of City government and local control or is detrimental to cities.
- Legislation that would impose an unfunded duty, responsibility or standard on local government.

HIGH PRIORITY

Support:

Truth in Taxation

- Support streamlining and clarifying mandatory property tax rate adoption language and publications.

Economic Development

- Support fairness and equity in the application of sales and use taxes to goods and services.
- Support economic development bills that create jobs which benefit the region.

Transportation

- Support a transportation bill which provides dependable multi-year funding consistent with mobility needs.
- Support funding for the expansion of IH45, FM270, FM517, and FM646.

Water

- Support a water plan that encourages conservation through contracts and rate structures and keeps revenues within the region they are collected.
- Support successful management of the Brazos and Trinity Rivers as sustainable and reliable water supply.

Utilities

- Support the timely relocation of the utility facilities.
- Endorse legislation that would create local option surcharges to fund the undergrounding of utilities.
- Endorse a change in the use of video Public Educational and Government (PEG) fees to allow use for operational expenses associated with running a cable television channel.

Finance

- Support the tax exempt status of municipal bonds.

Oppose:

Legislation that would erode or otherwise diminish local control over:

- Municipal finances and revenues
- Appraisal and revenue caps
- Rollback limitations
- Limitations of tax increment financing
- Limitations on certificates of obligation
- Operations
- Employment and post-employment benefits
- Local control over placement of electronic billboards
- Expansion of collective bargaining rights
- Annexation limitations

Legislative programs of (except as they conflict with a City of League City position):

- Texas Municipal League
- Texas Coalition for Affordable Power
- Texas Coalition of Cities for Utility Issues
- Galveston County
- Clear Creek Independent School District
- Dickinson Independent School District
- Santa Fe Independent School District
- League City Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments