

# THE CITY OF LEAGUE CITY 2025 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

## SPECIFIC LEGISLATION

### HIGHEST PRIORITY

#### **Support:**

#### *Transportation:*

- Assist the Texas Department of Transportation with an expedited development of the Grand Parkway
- Expanded regional transportation funding options to:
  - Widen FM 646 to four lanes between State Hwy 3 and State Hwy 146
  - Widen FM 270 to four lanes between FM 518 and FM 646
  - Widen FM 517 to four lanes between FM 646 and State Hwy 35
  - Widen HWY 96 between HWY 3 and Hobbs Road
  - Extend Hobbs Road to FM517
  - Continue to support Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to expedite construction of the Landing Bridge Project

#### *Hurricane Protection & Drainage Improvements*

- Development of the 'Ike Dike' or similar hurricane protection system for League City, Galveston Bay, Clear Lake, and the northeast Texas coast
- Expanded flood mitigation funding options to:
  - Construct drainage infrastructure to minimize flood risk along major arterials including:
    - FM518, Main Street & Wesley Drive
    - FM 270 Clear Creek bypass channel
  - Improve regional drainage along Boden's Gully, Cedar Gully, Clear Creek, Magnolia Creek, and Benson Bayou, and Dickinson Bayou
  - Construct neighborhood drainage improvements in Oaks of Clear Creek, Bayridge, League City Historic District, Interurban, and any League City neighborhoods still impacted by flood disasters
- Legislation that supports the reduction of restrictions surrounding the acquisition of flood mitigation funds available to local municipalities by the state
- Legislation that gives local municipalities the ability to withdraw from regional drainage districts

#### *Municipal Powers:*

- 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 interest of city residents or otherwise beneficial to the city's interests

*Fairness in Taxation:*

- Modify the Local Government Code 102.007(c) to read “Adoption of a budget that will require raising more revenue from property taxes than in the previous year requires a separate vote of the governing body to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the budget. **Governing bodies that propose a property tax rate at or below the no-new-revenue rate are exempt.** A vote under this subsection is in addition to and separate from the vote to adopt the budget or a vote to set the tax rate required by Chapter 26, Tax Code, or other law.”

**Oppose:**

*Municipal Control*

- Legislation that would impose an unfunded duty, responsibility, or standard on local government

**HIGH PRIORITY**

**Support:**

*Economic Development:*

- Support legislation that grants League City the same eligibility as any municipality in Harris or Galveston County to expend local hotel occupancy tax revenues or to receive state sales, excise, and hotel occupancy tax dollars.
- Legislation allowing Hot Funds to be used for tourism development programs and City facilities that promote nature tourism and birding
- Legislation allowing HOT Funds to be used for tourism programs to enhance the beautification of the city with efforts to curate public artwork
- Legislation to modernize public bid requirements including the establishment of a statewide e-procurement platform to streamline bidding procedures, increase opportunities for competitive bidding, and enhance transparency across all municipalities

*Water:*

- Legislation that ensures the success of the 2017 State Water Plan which addresses our state's decreasing water supply and increasing demand caused by population growth
- Legislation that reduces regulatory constraints associated with wastewater effluent reuse projects
- Funding opportunities for major water infrastructure investments including:
  - Increased water service opportunities between the City of Houston and League City to expand capacity
  - Ongoing rehabilitation of existing water transmission lines, water treatment facilities, and pump stations
  - Construction of League City’s westside development water infrastructure including the Westside water plant, Calder Road re-route to the Southwest Water Rehabilitation Facility (SWWRF)

*Utilities:*

- Legislation to promote timely relocation action of the franchise utility facilities.
- Legislation endorsing 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:*

- The tax-exempt status of municipal bonds

*Parks and Recreation:*

- Legislation providing a fair and equitable distribution of the sporting good sales tax revenues for state and local parks
- The pass through of federal dollars used for parks, recreation, open space, trails, and tourism from any of the following, but not limited to, the United States Department of the Interior Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Sport Fish Restoration Boat Access program, and the United States Department of Transportation Recreation Trails program
- Legislation directly benefiting parks, recreation, open space, trails, tourism, health and wellness (i.e. utility corridors and mobility)

**ONGOING PRIORITY**

**Support:**

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

- Texas Coalition for Affordable Power
- Texas Coalition of Cities for Utility Issues
- Texas Economic Development Council
- Texas Travel Industry Association
- Texas Hotel & Lodging Association
- Texas Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus
- 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
- Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership
- Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
- Texas Recreation and Park Society
- Dickinson & Clear Creek Watershed Committees

**Oppose:**

*Legislation that would erode or otherwise diminish local control over:*

- Municipal finances and revenues
- Municipal authority to be adequately compensated for the use of its rights-of-way and, management and control of its rights-of-way
- Appraisal and revenue caps
- Rollback limitations
- Limitation on tax increment financing
- Limitations on certificates of obligation
- Municipal ability to condemn property for public use
- Operations
- Employment and post-employment benefits
- Placement of billboards, including electronic billboards
- Expansion of collective bargaining rights
- Annexation limitations
- Appropriation riders that set Texas Recreation and Park Accounts (TRPA) funding No. 467 & Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account No. 5007 funds for specific projects or locales