



## CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TABLE 84<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session

Statistics on the 140th day												
Does not include vetoes for the 84th Session/Source: Texas Legislative Service												
Metric	House				Senate				TOTALS			
	84R	83R	Diff	%	84R	83R	Diff	%	84R	83R	Diff	%
<b>Bills Filed</b>	4,207	3,950	257	6%	2,069	1,918	151	8%	6,542	6,216	326	4.98%
<b>Joint Resolutions Filed</b>	133	130	3	2%	67	63	4	1%				
<b>Bills Passed</b>	818	732	86	12%	504	705	-201	-29%	1,329	1,447	-118	-8.88%
<b>Joint Resolutions Passed</b>	2	6	-4	-67%	5	4	1	25%				
									<b>Total % Passed</b>			
									20.31%	23.28%	-2.96%	
								<b>Vetoed by Governor</b>	41	26	+15	

<i><b>PRIORITY</b></i>	<i><b>SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME?</b></i>
<i><b>9 ISSUES</b></i>	<i><b>5 of 9 (55%)</b></i>
<i>1. Support the passage of new, long-term, sustainable funding sources for transportation infrastructure; and the dedication of existing revenue generated from taxes, fees, or receipts related to transportation to the maintenance, improvement and expansion of roads, rail and public transportation.</i>	<span style="color: green; font-size: 2em;">✓</span>

<p><u>SJR 5 by Sen. Robert Nichols/Rep. Joe Pickett</u>          If voters approve SJR 5 on November 3, 2015, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) would receive \$2.5 billion a year in state sales tax revenue beginning in the 2017-18 budget year, provided that overall revenue from the 6.25-percent sales taxes exceeds \$28 billion. FYI, the comptroller estimates overall sales tax in FY 2015-16 biennium will be almost \$29.7 billion. The tax collection would be for 15 years and could be extended by the Legislature 10 years at a time.</p> <p>SJR 5 contains potential additional money for TxDOT: beginning in the 2019-20 fiscal year. TxDOT could receive 35 percent of any vehicle sales tax revenue above \$5 billion in a fiscal year, which could generate an additional \$250 million or more annually. The sales tax money cannot be used on toll road projects.</p>	
<p><u>HJR 109 by Pickett</u>          Constitutional Amendment to authorize a county to issue bonds or notes to finance a transportation or infrastructure project in a defined area of the county and to repay the bonds or notes with ad valorem taxes imposed on property in the area by the county or political subdivision. Known as the “TRZ bill” for Transportation Reinvestment Zones. Passed House Committee, but never got to House Calendars Committee</p>	X
<p>2. <i>Provide cities and counties with additional local funding options and resources to address transportation needs that are not otherwise met by current funding sources or to offset any new transportation related costs or requirements by state or federal government. Examples could include gasoline tax, vehicle registration fee, an exemption of the sales tax cap, or other option.</i></p> <p>2 House Bills &amp; 1 SB never got out of committee</p>	X
<p>3. <i>Appropriate adequate funding for the Fiscal Years 2016-2017 biennium for the State of Texas to partner with local project sponsors to implement one or more seawater desalination projects to provide uninterrupted water supply and have corresponding positive impacts for water supplies in adjacent regions which will strengthen Texas’ economy and sustain economic prosperity.</i></p> <p>No funding to advance seawater desalination in HB 1.</p>	X
<p>4. <i>Appropriate \$150 million in grant funding to Texas Military Preparedness Commission to assist defense communities with military value projects that enhance the installation’s mission, improve operational efficiencies, and proactively address impacts from sequestration or other base realignment and closure activities that may happen in the future.</i></p> <p><u>HB 1 by Rep. John Otto/Sen. Jane Nelson</u>          Effective September 1, 2015, although funds likely won’t be available until first quarter of calendar year 2016.          Appropriation of \$30M (\$15M in each year of biennium) to the Governor’s Office for the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) program.</p>	✓
<p>5. <i>Amend Chapter 436, Government Code, to increase the cap on project awards for the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) program from \$2 million to \$5 million.</i></p> <p><u>SB 503 by Sen. Charles Perry/Rep. Eddie Rodriguez</u>          Signed by Governor 5/22/15 – effective immediately          Changes date of eligibility for Military Value Revolving Loan program for defense</p>	✓

<p>communities affected by a base closure from 2005 to 1995 making Lubbock eligible. Raises the maximum DEAAG award from \$2 million to \$5 million. Expands eligible DEAAG projects to include infrastructure necessary to prevent reduction or closure of a base and funding to train workers to support military installations.</p> <p><u>SB 318 by Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa/Rep. Susan King</u> Signed by Governor 6/17/15 – effective immediately Expands eligible DEAAG project to include those that retain current military missions. Raises the maximum DEAAG award from \$2 million to \$5 million. Expands eligible DEAAG projects to include infrastructure necessary to prevent reduction or closure of a base and funding to train workers to support military installations.</p>	
<p>6. <i>Secure for Corpus Christi and Port Aransas an equitable two percent (2%) portion of the state’s Hotel Occupancy Tax for Gulf and Bay beach cleaning, maintenance and coastal erosion exactly as already provided to other barrier island municipalities.</i></p> <p><u>HB 1915 by Reps. Abel Herrero &amp; Todd Hunter/Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa</u> Became law 6/19/15 without governor’s signature. Effective 10/1/15 First funding available in first quarter of calendar year 2016. Also includes two communities in Brazoria County (Village of Surfside and Quintana). Exempts any revenues from a convention center hotel used to pay debt service from collection for beach maintenance.</p>	✓
<p>7. <i>Windstorm insurance reform that restructures the governing board of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA) to put consumers on equal footing with insurance company members; creates incentives to promote voluntary coverage of windstorm and hail policies in the Texas seacoast; establishes a financial structure at TWIA that provides a stable, sustainable and affordable rate structure to be able to cover on an annual basis up to \$4.3 billion in loss claims at TWIA, would cover a 1-in-100 year storm; requires member insurance companies pay allowable assessments sooner; establishes a small statewide catastrophic storm fund to pay for excess losses, and structures a more financially beneficial re-insurance program</i></p> <p><u>SB 900 by Sen. Larry Taylor/Rep. Greg Bonnen</u> Signed by Governor on 6/16/15. Effective 9/1/15. Restructures TWIA Board from majority insurance company representatives to equal representation – 3 insurance companies that actively write windstorm in the first tier; 3 first tier policy holders by region, one of which must be an insurance agent; and 3 public members residing 100 or miles from the coast. Requires the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) to study on a biennial basis possible incentives for voluntary writing of windstorm policies outside of TWIA. Requires TWIA to create a depopulation program. Restructures funding structure to cover insured losses through premiums, the Catastrophe Reserve Trust Fund, Class 1, 2 and 3 bonds, member company assessments and reinsurance to cover up to a 1-in-100 year storm.</p> <p><u>SB 498 by Sen. Larry Taylor/Rep. Greg Bonnen</u> Signed by Governor on 5/28/15. Effective immediately. Continues the WPIA8 building code compliance program.</p>	✓
<p>8. <i>Amend Texas Utilities Code to allow municipalities to purchase energy wholesale from a co-generation facility to provide low-cost power for seawater desalination plant.</i></p>	X

No legislation filed on this subject	
<p data-bbox="142 138 1162 243">9. <i>Amend Chapter 212, Local Government Code, to empower municipalities to regulate development of wind farms within a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ)</i></p> <p data-bbox="142 285 1260 386"><u>HB 2238</u> by Rep. Chris Paddie – Never got out of committee due to opposition.  <u>HCR 123</u> by Rep. Todd Hunter – Did not pass, although an interim committee may still be created.</p>	<p data-bbox="1300 142 1341 195"><b>X</b></p>

<b>ACTIVELY SUPPORT</b>	<b>SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME?</b>
<b>9 ISSUES</b>	<b>5 of 9 (55%)</b>
<p><i>Appropriate funding to TxDOT and include specific riders in the General Appropriations Act for TxDOT securing funding for the construction of passing lanes for SH 361 between Corpus Christi and Port Aransas and for improvements to the Port Aransas ferry system.</i></p> <p>SH 361 passing lanes approved by TxDOT in Unified Transportation Plan (UTP) with Proposition 1 funding on 2/26/15.</p>	No legislation necessary.
<p><i>Continue investing in Texas tourism promotion in the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism.</i></p> <p><u>HB 1 by Rep. John Otto/Sen. Jane Nelson</u> Signed by Governor on 6/20/15. Effective 9/1/15 Baseline budget of approximately \$70M for the biennium plus a rider appropriating any and all revenue received above the HB 1 line item totals. Could be as much as \$93M for the biennium.</p>	✓
<p><i>Maintain the existing public school start date, which is vitally important to the tourism economy of the Coastal Bend.</i></p> <p>4 bills changing the date did not pass</p>	✓
<p><i>Amend statutes to eliminate impediments to development of water supply sources to meet the long-term needs of the State, whether it is through conservation, surface water, groundwater, aquifer storage and recovery, interbasin transfers, rainwater harvesting, or other strategies.</i></p> <p><u>HB 30 by Rep. Lyle Larson/Sen. Charles Perry</u> Signed by Governor on 6/19/15. Effective immediately Authorizes Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to study and report on implementation of large scale brackish groundwater in addition to seawater desalination for water supply. Promotes use of brackish groundwater over fresh groundwater. Requires designation of brackish groundwater production zones.</p> <p><u>HB 200 by Rep. Jim Keffer/Sen. Charles Perry</u> Signed by Governor on 6/19/15. Effective immediately. Allow an affected person to petition a groundwater conservation district (GCD) to contract with the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) to conduct a contested case hearing to review the reasonableness of a Desired Future Condition (DFC) adopted by a GCD. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) would conduct an administrative review of a petition submitted by a GCD and perform a scientific and technical study of the DFCs. The results would be delivered to SOAH</p>	✓

within 120 days of TWDB receipt of the petition. Prior to the delivery of the study, a GCD may seek assistance to mediate the issues raised in the petition. The bill repeals provisions that currently permit TWDB to resolve the petition.

HB 655 by Rep. Lyle Larson, et al./Sen. Charles Perry, et al

Signed by Governor on 6/16/15. Effective immediately

Creates a regulatory framework for aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) projects that (i) clarifies that an amendment to a water right permit is not required to obtain an ASR permit, (ii) grants the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality exclusive jurisdiction to regulate aquifer storage and recovery projects, and (iii) clarifies that an ASR project does not have to obtain a permit from a local GCD as long as native groundwater is not being produced. Changes by HB 655 do not affect the ability of the Corpus Christi ASR District, certain Subsidence and Aquifer Districts to regulate ASR projects.

HB 949 by Rep. Eddie Lucio, III/Sen. Charles Perry

Signed by Governor on 5/28/15. Effective immediately

H.B. 949 authorizes the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), on the request of a retail public utility providing potable water that receives financial assistance from the TWDB and if such a utility's system water loss meets or exceeds a certain threshold based on a water audit, to waive the requirement that the utility use a portion of the financial assistance to mitigate the utility's system water loss if the TWDB finds that the utility is satisfactorily addressing the water loss.

HB 632 by Rep. David Simpson – Did Not Pass (City opposed)

Prevent the TWDB from having a water supply project in an adjoining region if the regional water planning group in that region opposes it.

HB 1902 by Rep. Donna Howard/Sen. Judith Zaffirini

Signed by Governor on 6/16/15. Effective immediately

H.B. 1902 achieves four primary objectives by altering the standards that govern the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) rulemaking authority regarding graywater use. First, it would expand the sources from which graywater may originate by defining "alternative onsite water" and including it in relevant statutes governing graywater. Second, it would expand the allowable uses for graywater and alternative onsite water. Third, it would allow for greater clarity in the rules regarding the storage of graywater. Finally, it would clarify existing law regarding graywater and alternative onsite water.

HB 2031 by Rep. Eddie Lucio, III/Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa

Signed by Governor on 6/17/15. Effective immediately

Requires a water supply entity to obtain a permit to divert and use seawater if the point of diversion is located less than three miles from any point located on the coast of Texas or if the seawater contains a total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration based on a yearly average of samples taken at the water source of less than 20,000 milligrams per liter. Authorizes a water supply entity to divert and use seawater without obtaining a permit in cases where a permit is not required. Authorizes a water supply entity to use applicable marine seawater for any beneficial purpose if the seawater is treated in accordance with rules adopted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) before it is used. Such rules may impose different treatment requirements based

on the purpose for which the seawater is to be used but requires the rules to require that the seawater be treated based on whether the water is to be used as public drinking water, whether the bed and banks of a flowing natural stream in Texas or a lake, reservoir, or other impoundment in Texas are to be used to convey the water, or whether the water is to be discharged into a flowing natural stream in Texas or a lake, reservoir, or other impoundment in Texas. Requires TCEQ to adopt rules providing an expedited procedure for acting on an application for a permit and requires the rules to provide for notice, an opportunity for the submission of written comment, and an opportunity for a contested case hearing regarding TCEQ actions relating to a permit. Prohibits the point of diversion of marine seawater from being in a bay or estuary. The bill requires TCEQ to adopt rules prescribing the number of points.

HB 4097 by Rep. Todd Hunter, et al/Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, et al

Signed by Governor on 6/17/15. Effective immediately.

Requires the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC), in cooperation with transmission and distribution utilities and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) independent system operator, to study whether existing transmission and distribution planning processes are sufficient to provide adequate infrastructure for seawater desalination projects. Requires PUC to include recommendations in the report if the PUC determines that statutory changes are needed to ensure that adequate infrastructure is developed for projects of that kind. Requires PUC and the ERCOT independent system operator to study the potential for seawater desalination projects to participate in existing demand response opportunities in the ERCOT market. (a) Authorizes TCEQ to issue a permit under this section to authorize a diversion of state water from the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or arm of the Gulf of Mexico for desalination and use for industrial purposes if it meets the same conditions listed in HB 2301 (above). Same requirements as HB 2301 for determining TDS. Authorizes a general permit issued under this section to authorize an injection well for the disposal of concentrate produced by the desalination of seawater.

HB 4112 by Rep. Dewayne Burns/Sen. Charles Perry

Sign by Governor on 6/16/15. Effective immediately

Amends the Water Code to establish that the groundwater ownership and rights recognized by the legislature entitle a landowner, including a landowner's lessees, heirs, or assigns, to have any right recognized under common law and not just the right to drill for and produce the groundwater below the surface of real property without causing waste or malicious drainage of other property or negligently causing subsidence. HB 4112 is in response to a recent court case that established a private property right that is not referenced in the statute, and the parties contended that the statute must be amended to recognize any common law right the courts established for groundwater

SB 854 by Sen. Judith Zaffirini/Rep. Eddie Lucio, III



Signed by Governor on 6/1/15. Effective 9/1/15

Requires automatic renewal of operating permits by groundwater conservation districts (GCSs) if the permit holder submits the renewal application in a timely manner with all required fees and is not requesting a change that would require a permit amendment. The GCD would not be required to renew a permit if the applicant was delinquent in paying a fee required by the GCD or was subject to a pending enforcement action for a violation of a GCD permit, order, or rule. If the holder of an operating permit requests a change to the permit that requires an amendment under GCD rules, the original permit




<p>would remain in effect until the conclusion of the permit amendment process. This bill also allows a GCD to initiate an amendment process for an operating permit, in connection with the renewal of the permit or otherwise, to achieve the GCD's statutory purposes, including achieving desired future conditions for the relevant aquifers within GCD's management area.</p> <p><u>SB 1101 by Sen. Kevin Eltife/Rep. Chris Paddie</u> Signed by Governor on 6/19/15. Effective 9/1/15 Allows Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to determine the amount of groundwater supply for regional water planning purposes in an area with no groundwater conservation district. Successfully defeated inclusion of HB 623 by Simpson as amendment.</p>	
<p><i>Repeal the limitations in state law on the number of design build civil works projects a governmental entity is allowed to undertake.</i></p> <p><u>HB 3687 by Rep. James Frank – Did not pass</u> Proposed repeal Section 2269.354, Government Code, limiting the number of design-build projects.</p>	X
<p><i>Amend state law to increase in the administrative change order authority from \$100,000 to 5% of the base contract value, not to exceed \$500,000.</i></p> <p>No bill filed on this subject</p>	X
<p><i>Protect integrity of ballots by supporting consistent requirements for all political subdivisions, including the State of Texas; opposing inclusion of meaningless and superfluous calculations that serve no comparative purpose; opposing unnecessary expansive ballot language designed to create taxpayer confusion and increase the cost of elections, and support the elimination of data reporting redundancies.</i></p> <p>Successfully defeated almost one dozen punitive, cumbersome and costly bills on bond ballot language.</p> <p><u>HB 1378 by Rep. Dan Flynn/Sen. Paul Bettencourt</u> Signed by Governor on 6/18/15. Effective 1/1/16 Require a political subdivision to compile and report certain debt information to the Comptroller, who would be required to post the debt obligation information on the Comptroller's website. A political subdivision would include on its website a link to the Comptroller's website where the debt information is located. The bill would permit certain counties or municipalities, as an alternative to the reporting requirements, to provide the Comptroller with the debt information and the Comptroller would be required to post the information on its website. Certain districts who comply with financial document requirements under Chapter 49, Water Code satisfy the requirements of the bill and must submit the documents to the Comptroller to be posted on the Comptroller's website. Finally, the bill prohibits political subdivisions, except in limited circumstances, from authorizing a certificate to pay a contractual obligation if an issuance of bonds for the same purpose that was not approved by voters within the preceding three years.</p>	✓
<p><i>Free up \$1 billion of previously collected Texas Emission Reduction Program (TERP) funds to improve air quality in near non-attainment areas instead of using those funds to certify the state budget.</i></p> <p><u>HB 1 by Rep. John Otto/Sen. Jane Nelson</u></p>	✓



<p>Signed by Governor on 6/20/15. Effective 9/1/15</p> <p>Article VI, Rider 20, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) increased funding for TERP from \$77.5M per FY to \$118.1M per FY. Increased funding for all but two line items in TERP program - administration, emission reduction grants, clean fleet, clean bus, natural gas vehicle, clean transportation triangle, alternative funding, new technology, energy systems, and drayage trucking. Only health effects study and research did not receive increases.</p> <p>Article VI, Rider 7 appropriated \$6,000,500 (an increase of \$1M for biennium) for near non-attainment areas. Increased eligible areas from 9 to 10 (adding Killeen-Temple). Each area is guaranteed a minimum of \$350,000.</p>	
<p><i>Change notice requirements for public oil and gas waste disposal permit applications in watersheds.</i></p> <p>No bill filed on this subject</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>
<p><i>Support Marine Jobs Bill which encourages large marine vessel currently registered in other states and foreign countries to be registered in Texas and dock those vessels in Texas marinas and creates incentives for vessels bought and sold in Texas to remain docked in Texas.</i></p>	<p><b>X</b></p>
<p>HB 619 by Rep. Greg Bonnen – Defeated by House 45-91 vote on 5/6/15</p>	

<b>ENDORSE</b>	<b>SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME?</b>
<b>9 ISSUES</b>	<b>4 of 9 (44%)</b>
<p><i>Support appropriation requests by Texas A&amp;M University-Corpus Christi:</i>  <i>(a) capital projects (Life Sciences Research and Engineering Building and Arts and Media Building) whether funded through tuition revenue bonds or other sources,</i>  <i>(b) \$11.5 million exceptional item funding for the Lone Star Unmanned Aircraft System Center for Excellence and Innovation for engineering/computing support staff and research fellows critical to the continuing research and development and operation of the program, including support of command and control center operations, range management and operation, and increased test site programming efforts;</i>  <i>(c) \$3 million exceptional item funding for expansion of engineering programs; and</i>  <i>(d) \$400,000 exceptional item funding for two staff positions and operational funding to support clients and the continued development of the Coastal Bend Innovation Center program.</i></p> <p><u>HB 1 by Rep. John Otto/Sen. Jane Nelson</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/20/15. Effective 9/1/15  Overall funding increase for TAMUCC from approximately \$117.2M in FY 14-15 to approximately \$123.6M in FY 16-17, including \$1M per FY increase for Engineering programs, including mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and the STEM pipeline initiative.  Contains funding for debt service in FY 2017 for tuition revenue bonds proposed in HB 100.</p> <p><u>HB 100 by Rep. John Zerwas, et al/Sen. Kel Seliger, et al</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/18/15. Effective 9/1/15  \$60M for Life Sciences Research and Engineering Building, although construction cost is \$120M. No funding for Arts and Media Building.</p>	
<p><i>Support appropriation/policy requests by Del Mar College.</i></p> <p>Community colleges in general fared very poorly in the 84th session. Del Mar lost \$1.2 million from the past biennium. Success-based funding that was imposed only on community colleges continued to use improper definitions of success that cost formula funds for Del Mar. One bad rider in the appropriations bill will require us to report the enrollment funding earned on each community college campus, and to track and justify if dollars spent on one campus that were earned teaching classes a different campus of the same community college.</p> <p>Gov. Abbott vetoed a \$200,000 line item for a maritime museum for Del Mar College that it did not request and did not know was included in HB 1.</p>	
<p>Support legislation that enables the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority's</p>	<p>Adde</p>

<p>(CCRTA) compressed natural gas (CNG) re-fueling station to be used by City and other governmental entity fleet vehicles. Amend statute to allow fuel deliveries to vehicles of other governmental entities without jeopardizing the CCRTA's continued use of the decal system for its payment of fuel taxes.</p>	<p>ssed admin istrati vely by Comp troller 's Office</p>
<p><i>Oppose efforts to reduce or eliminate the original jurisdiction of cities in rate cases (TCAP).</i> No bills filed on this subject</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p><i>Remove barriers to utilizing electric transmission right of way for municipally-owned hike and bike trails (TCAP).</i> Two bills filed, but neither passed.</p>	<p>X</p>
<p><i>Promote public-private partnerships to develop small scale generation projects. This would renew an effort from the last regular legislative session (TCAP).</i> No bills filed on this subject</p>	<p>X</p>
<p><i>Maximize the use of revenues from the sporting goods sales tax and federal funds to increase funding for parks and recreation programs for both Local and State parks and that all Texas Recreation &amp; Parks Account Local Park Grant Program (TRPA) and Urban Account funded park projects be subject to the established Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) competitive scoring system (TRAPS).</i></p> <p><u>HB 158 by Rep. Lyle Larsen/Sen. Craig Estes</u> Effective September 1, 2015 Repeals the prohibition crediting to the Parks and Wildlife Department or the Texas Historical Commission any amount of taxes imposed on the sale of sporting goods in excess of the amounts appropriated to the department or commission, respectively. Requires money credited to Parks and Wildlife Department accounts to be appropriated only to acquire, operate, maintain, and make capital improvements to parks or for local parks assistance.</p> <p><u>SB 1366 by Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, et al/Rep. Larry Gonzales, et al</u> Signed by Governor on 5/28/15. Effective 9/1/15 (1) Removes the current 74 percent cap on the amount of sporting goods sales tax revenue that is transferred to the State Parks Account; (2) Limits the transfer to an amount not to exceed what is appropriated by the legislature during the biennium; (3) Limits the amount of money transferred to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Conservation and Capital Account to an amount not to exceed the amount appropriated by the legislature during the biennium; (4) Removes the current 15 percent cap on the amount of sporting goods sales tax that is transferred to the Texas Recreation and Parks Account, (5) Limits the transfer to an amount not to exceed what is appropriated by the legislature during the biennium; (6) Removes the current 10 percent cap on the sporting goods sales tax that is transferred to the Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account; (7) Limits the transfer to an amount not to exceed what is appropriated by the legislature</p>	<p>✓</p>

<p>during the biennium; and  (8) Repeals the state law prohibiting the state comptroller from crediting to the Parks and Wildlife Department or the Texas Historical Commission any amount of taxes imposed on the sale of sporting goods in excess of the amounts appropriated to the department or commission, respectively.</p>	
<p><i>Restore funding to the TRPA and Urban accounts at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in the amount of at least \$15.5 million per fiscal year (TRAPS).</i></p> <p><u>HB 1 by Rep. John Otto/Sen. Jane Nelson</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/20/15. Effective 9/1/15  \$14.2 million appropriated to the Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account, an increase of \$7.4 million, for local parks grants to cities and counties with populations over 500,000.</p>	
<p><i>Support legislation to enhance state regulation of payday and auto title lending practices. Oppose legislation that preempts city regulations by ordinance.</i>  23 bills filed to curb predatory lending practices in Texas, but NONE passed.</p>	
<p>Support funding the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to enhance skills development, job creation, literacy and numeracy training and other services to meet the demands of business and industry in the Coastal Bend.</p> <p><u>HB 1 by Rep. John Otto/Sen. Jane Nelson</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/20/15. Effective 9/1/15  Funding includes \$3.0 million in General Revenue Funds for the Apprenticeship program to increase the number of students served and the reimbursements provided for the related apprenticeship classroom training.</p> <p><u>SB 208 by Sen. Donna Campbell/Rep. Cindy Burkett</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/19/15. Takes effect 9/1/15, except Sections 4, 6, 7, 8, and 19 take effect 9/1/16, and Section 26 has no effect.  Requires TWC to include information regarding any formal enforcement action taken by the commission against a career school or college on its current directory of schools. Allows TWC to receive criminal history record information from the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for certain individuals associated with the administration of vocational rehabilitation services and other programs. Transfers the powers and duties under three chapters of the Human Resources Code from the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to the TWC. Transfers the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), Business Enterprises of Texas, Older Blind Independent Living Services, and the Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center programs from DARS to TWC on September 1, 2016 subject to federal approval of the transfer. Transfers the powers and duties of the Human Rights Commission to the TWC three-member commission and streamlines the Civil Rights Division functions. Requires TWC to develop risk-assessment criteria in determining the circumstances of providing additional reviews of the personnel policies and procedures of state agencies, and to set the related reimbursement rates at a level necessary to recover such expenses. Authorizes TWC to participate in the federal Treasury Offset Program; requires TWC to collect and report on information regarding employment discrimination complaints; adds reporting requirements for TWC related to the effectiveness of their subsidized child care programs; and eliminates statutes enabling the Civil Rights Division's review of Fire Department tests, Rehabilitation Council of Texas, and the Human Rights Commission.</p>	

BILLS OF INTEREST	SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES?
6 ISSUES	5 of 6 (83%)
<p><i>City opposes bills that-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Results in the loss of revenue or negatively impacts potential revenue growth.</i></li> <li>• <i>Diminishes the authority of cities to regulate and manage their growth and development.</i></li> </ul> <p>City and TML successfully defeated several restrictive and punitive Appraisal Caps/Revenue Caps</p>	✓
<p><i>City opposes bills that-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Undermines the principles of Home Rule and Local Control.</i></li> <li>• <i>Diminishes the authority of cities to regulate and manage their growth and development.</i></li> </ul> <p>City and TML successfully defeated several terrible annexation bills that would have crippled cities and stifled growth.</p> <p>One annexation bill the City opposed related to accepting county roads was passed.  <u>HB 1949 by Rep. Drew Springer, Rep. J.M. Lozano/Sen. Van Taylor</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/19/15. Effective 9/1/15  Require annexing city to assume responsibility for county roads regardless of condition.</p>	✓
<p><u>HB 80 by Rep. Tom Craddick/Sen. Judith Zaffirini</u>  Texting While Driving Statewide Ban did not pass</p>	X
<p><u>Red Light Cameras</u>  Bills banning red light cameras in cities almost passed. Even the Chairman of the committee that ultimately killed the bills indicated he does not support red light cameras.</p>	✓
<p><u>SB 1168 by Sen. Royce West/Rep. Jason Villalba</u>  Signed by Governor on 6/19/15. Effective 9/1/15  Amends the Property Code to authorize a restriction in a dedicatory instrument that restricts the use of certain real property, designated as an amenity property, to its use as a golf course or country club to be modified or terminated by petition. This bill is being sought by the Blackard Global, developers of Barisi Village.</p>	✓
<p><u>SB 912 by Sen. Kevin Eltife/Rep. Myra Crownover</u>  Signed by Governor on 5/29/15. Effective 9/1/15  Establishes a distinction between the reporting requirements related to discharges versus spills and to alleviate the overly burdensome reporting requirements of TCEQ on certain utilities. It changes the volume-based exemption from reporting requirements for certain accidental discharges or spills from wastewater facilities. This will be a BIG help to the City's sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) issue.</p>	✓