

Legislative Priorities 87th Texas Legislature



Council Presentation
December 6, 2022



General Legislative Policy

| The City SUPPORTS state and federal legislation and/or administrative actions that: | The City OPPOSES state and federal legislation and/or administrative actions that: |
|--|---|
| <i>Protects policies previously established by City leadership through the Charter, ordinances, resolutions, and master plans.</i> | <i>Nullifies or undermines the City's policies contained in existing provisions of the Charter, ordinances, resolutions, and master plans, unless such changes expand the City's ability to manage its own affairs.</i> |
| <i>Supports local control.</i> | <i>Diminishes the authority of cities to regulate and manage their growth and development.</i> |
| <i>Protect and enhance City revenues.</i> | <i>Imposes unfunded mandates that requires any expenditures by the City unless all costs are fully reimbursed by the mandating governmental entity.</i> |
| <i>Reduces or eliminates costs to the City.</i> | <i>Undermine the principle of home rule and local control by the City.</i> |
| <i>Provides increased educational opportunities and job creation/retention for the citizens of Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend region through the Port of Corpus Christi authority, public schools, community colleges and universities.</i> | <i>Results in the loss of revenue or negatively impacts potential revenue growth to the City.</i> |



Focused Advocacy Team

**Snapper Carr, Curtis Seidlits, Brandon Aghamalian
Lynlie Wallace, Andrew Keefe**





The Path Ahead

This session we will see a return to normal session activities, level of access and pace of legislation

Top issues of interest:

- The State's significant budget surplus

- Community Advocacy

- Property tax and appraisal issues

- Land use – Extraterritorial Jurisdiction

- Economic Development Incentives

- Water Supply and planning



State Legislative Priorities

PRESERVE LOCAL DECISION-MAKING

Support the principles of decision-making by local elected officials who are most directly responsive to their neighbors.

Oppose State of Texas preemption of municipal authority

- Land use, building and development issues
- Generation of revenues to deliver essential services
- Issue debt and draft bond election language

Oppose legislation that would prohibit the City from using public funds to communicate with legislators or state agencies and advocate on behalf of the community through:

- Membership with municipal associations;
 - Employment of in-house intergovernmental relations staff;
 - Engagement of legislative consultants
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State Legislative Priorities

Public Health

Support a simplified reporting system and increased investment in public health IT Infrastructure needs to allow for real time communication and disease surveillance

Support legislation to increase funding for public health, health care coverage and access for Texans.

Protect and strengthen access to behavioral health care (mental health and substance use disorder services) to create healthier communities as well as healthier workforce.



State Legislative Priorities

SUPPORT FOR MILITARY COMMUNITY AND INSTALLATIONS

Support Legislative Appropriations of at least \$50 million for the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) Program.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REFORM

Support the continuation of local government ability to pass ordinances and issue orders that address needs in an emergency or disaster.

Support windstorm insurance reform that will provide affordable, equitable rates for the Texas coast. Oppose unnecessary rate hikes from the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA).



State Legislative Priorities

ENVIRONMENT AND UTILITIES

Support continued funding for air quality monitoring and mitigations projects to enable Corpus Christi to remain in compliance with federal Clean Air Standards.

Support legislation that enables the city to permit, develop, and fund drought resistant water supply sources.



State Legislative Priorities

PORT OF CORPUS CHRISTI AUTHORITY

Preserve the power of the City of Corpus Christi to appoint 3 members of the governing board of the Port of Corpus Christi

Oppose Legislation that would expand the authority of the Port of Corpus Christi beyond their role and responsibility to maintain and promote navigable commerce.

Oppose legislation that would expand the unilateral economic development and real estate development authority of the Port of Corpus Christi.



State Legislative Priorities

Education and Economic Competitiveness

Protect all economic development tools that attract new jobs and companies to Texas, including but not limited to the Skills Development Fund, CPRIT, Sales and Use Tax Exemptions, Enterprise and Tax Increment Financing Districts, industrial district agreements, the film incentive fund, and other statutes related to economic development.



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Key Dates

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|-------------|--|
| January 10 | First Day of Session / Swearing in Day |
| February 22 | Coastal Bend to ATX with the Chamber |
| March 10 | Last day to file bills for the session |
| May 29 | Sine Die |



Questions?

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