



# Transparency Stars Program

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COUNCIL POLICY AND VALUATION COMMITTEE: JANUARY 24, 2023

# Purpose of the Transparency Stars Program

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BURLESON

The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' Transparency Stars program recognizes local governments for going above and beyond in their transparency efforts. The program recognizes government entities that accomplish the following:

- Open their books not only in their traditional finances, but also in the areas of contracts and procurement, economic development, public pensions and debt obligations; and
- Provide clear and meaningful financial information not only by posting financial documents, but also through summaries, visualizations, downloadable data, and other relevant information.



# Type of Transparency Stars

You can apply for one or more Stars, up to five. Entities must first receive a Traditional Finances Star, but may apply for Stars in up to four other areas:

- Contracts and Procurement
- Economic Development;
- Public Pensions; and
- Debt Obligations

# Each Star Stand on Its Own

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The program recognizes great breadth and depth in the information presented for each specific Transparency Star awarded, making each star a prestigious achievement. The Stars stand on their own and are not awarded along a continuum or with an expectation that entities should be attaining five out of five stars.

# Benefits of Transparency Stars Program

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IMPROVE FINANCIAL  
TRANSPARENCY;



PROVIDE MEANINGFUL  
FINANCIAL  
INFORMATION



CENTRALIZE FINANCIAL  
INFORMATION



REDUCE SECURITY AND  
THREATS

# Current Transparency Practice

The City of Burleson post on its website the following:

- Check Register
- Budget
- Annual Financial Reports

# Opportunity to Reduce Security Risk

*Security risk and threats can be reduced by truncating the name of the payee.  
Comparisons are as follows:*

<u>Currently</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Alan Plummer & Associates	Alan
AssureHire, Inc.	Assur
Brodart Co.	Broda
Classic Chevrolet Buick	Class
Canon Business Solutions	Canon
Lawson Production Inc.	Lawso
Liquid Stone Concrete	Liqui

# Statewide Award Recipients by Star

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5 Stars: 12

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4 Stars: 5

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3 Stars: 12

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2 Stars: 22

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1 Star: 31



# Award Recipients with 5 Stars



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City of Anna	City of Arlington	City of Denton	City of Gainesville
City of Lancaster	City of McKinney	City of Mesquite	City of Plano
City of Richardson	City of Round Rock	City of Rowlett	Town of Addison

# Recommendation

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Apply for the Transparency Stars program; and Truncate the names of the payee on the check register



# Questions, Comments & Direction

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