

# CITY OF BURLESON LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

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# BURLESON DELEGATION



**Sen. Phil King - R**



**Rep. Helen Kerwin - R**



**Rep. David Cook – R**  
**9,100 Burleson citizens**

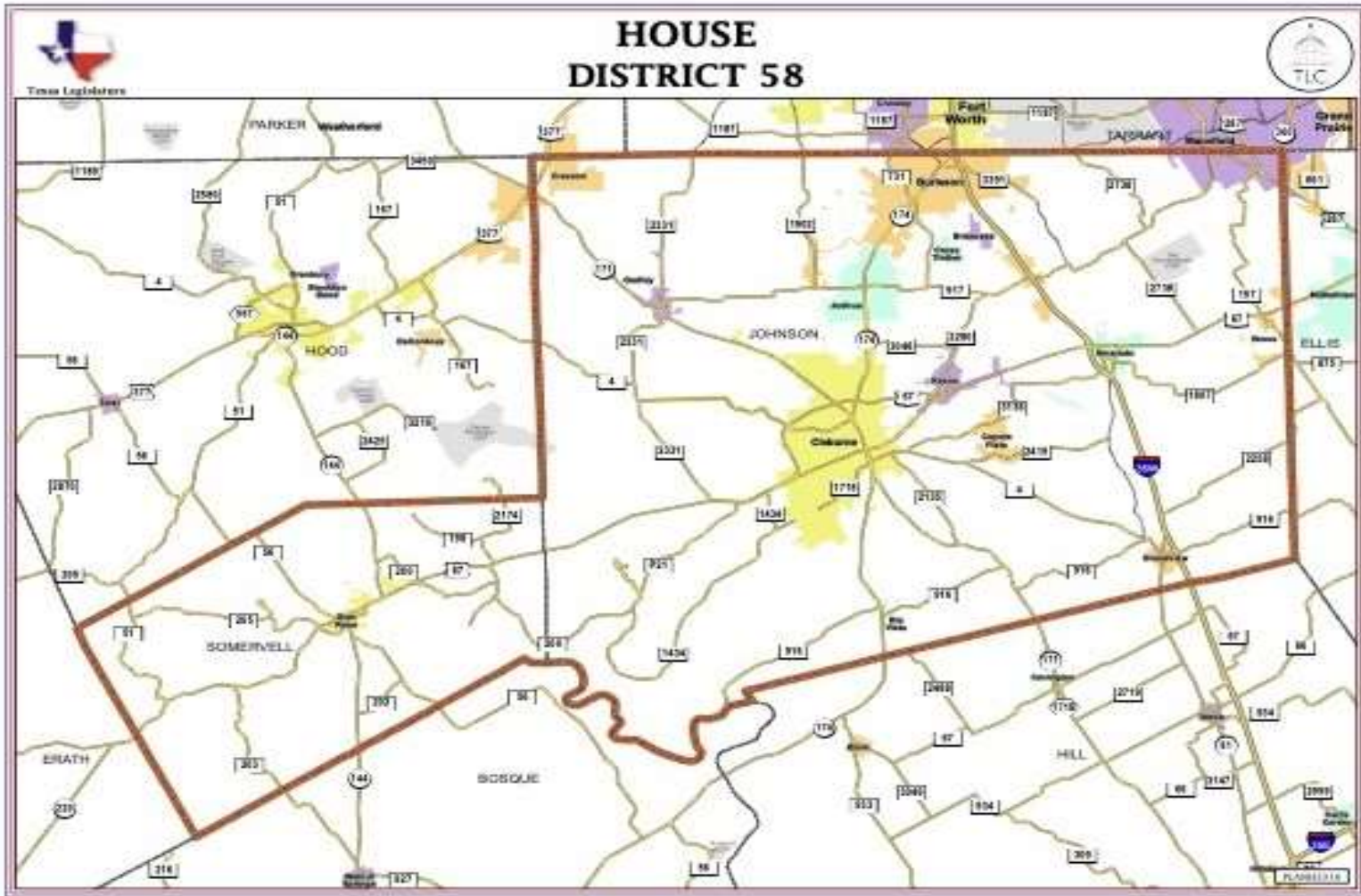


# NEW HOUSE MEMBER

- Helen Kerwin defeated incumbent State Rep. DeWayne Burns of Cleburne for the House District 58 Republican nomination
- Kerwin, a small business owner, former mayor of Glen Rose, and the first Republican Somervell County commissioner, won by more than 10 percentage points
- Kerwin campaigned in favor of school choice and received the [backing](#) of Gov. Greg Abbott



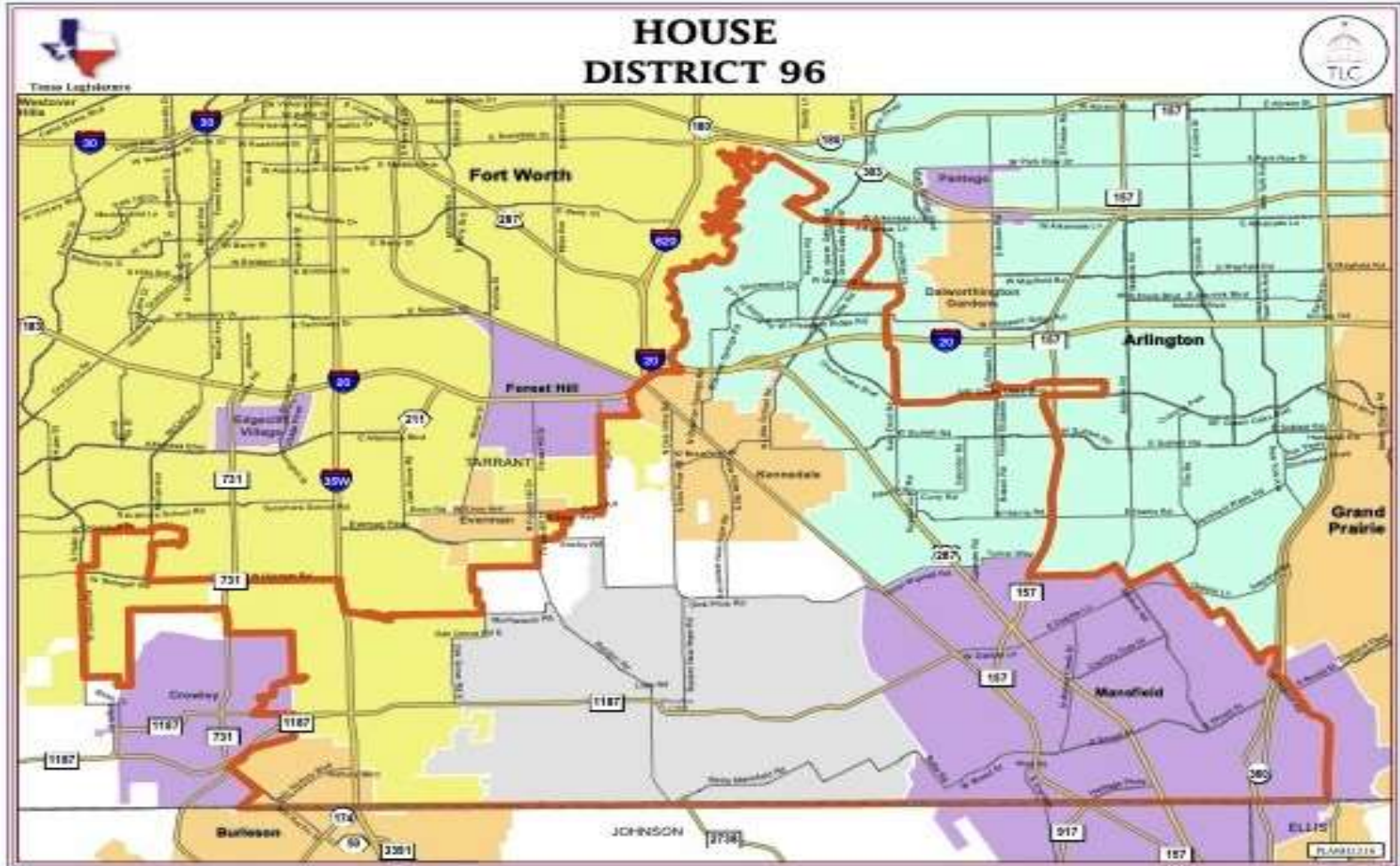
# HOUSE DISTRICT 58







# HOUSE DISTRICT 96







# BILL STATISTICS

YEAR	SESSION	FILED	PASSED	FAILED	% PASS	% FAIL	BILLS / DAY (140)
2001	77	5,612	1,601	4,011	28.5%	71.5%	40
2003	78	5,633	1,383	4,250	24.6%	75.4%	40
2005	79	5,512	1,389	4,123	25.2%	74.8%	39
2007	80	6,241	1,481	4,760	23.7%	76.3%	45
2009	81	7,464	1,459	6,005	19.5%	80.5%	53
2011	82	5,938	1,380	4,558	23.2%	76.8%	42
2013	83	5,950	1,437	4,513	24.2%	75.8%	43
2015	84	6,476	1,330	5,146	20.5%	79.5%	46
2017	85	6,800	1,220	5,580	17.9%	82.1%	49
2019	86	7,541	1,439	6,102	19.1%	80.9%	54
2021	87	7,148	1,081	6,067	15.1%	84.9%	51
2023	88	8,345	1,259	7,086	15.1%	84.9%	60



# 89<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION TIMELINE

- April 11, 2024: Senate Interim Charges Announced. (House Charges TBD).
- May 28, 2024: Primary Runoff Election
- November 5, 2023: Election Day
- **November 11, 2024: Bill Pre-Filing Begins**
- **January 14, 2025: Session Convenes** (Speaker elected in the first 2 days)
- Late January / Early February 2025: Senate and House Committees named
- **March 14, 2025: Bill Filing Deadline**
- Early May Committee bill passage deadlines means committee process ends.
- June 2, 2025: Legislative Session Adjourns—**Sine Die!**





# PREPARING FOR THE 89<sup>TH</sup> SENATE INTERIM CHARGES

1. Review of entire property tax system with recommendations and study of impacts of eliminating **ALL** property taxes and replacing revenue with a statewide funding system (Senate Finance Committee and Committee on Local Government);
2. Review of issues arising from SB 2038 (ETJ Release bill) “make recommendations to secure and enhance the protection of landowners’ property rights.” (Local Government);
3. Housing Affordability study that will make recommendations to reduce city “regulatory barriers” (Local Government);
4. Secure Texas Against “Squatters”: Review current laws relating to “squatters” or those claiming adverse possession of property. Make recommendations to streamline the process for the immediate removal of “squatters” and to strengthen the rights of property owners’



# PREPARING FOR THE 89<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE INTERIM CHARGES

- H.B. 14, relating to third-party review of plats and property development plans, permits, and similar documents and the inspection of an improvement related to such a document;
- S.B. 929, relating to the notices and compensation a municipality must provide before revoking the right to use property for a use that was allowed before the adoption of or change to a zoning regulation or boundary; and
- S.B. 2038, relating to release of an area from a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction by petition or election.
- Housing Affordability: Examine factors affecting housing affordability in Texas, including state and local laws impacting supply and demand for housing, barriers to construction resulting from zoning practices, and the availability and costs of housing inputs.



# PREPARING FOR THE 89<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE INTERIM CHARGES

- Property Tax Relief: Study and make recommendation to build on the historic property tax relief provided by the 88th Legislature, including:
- Whether Texas' economic performance and state tax revenues support further compression of school district tax rates;
- Whether to extend the limitation on appraised value of certain non-homestead real property past the current expiration date of December 31, 2026;
- Whether to maintain the homestead exemption at its current rate; and
- Whether to reduce the limit on appraised value of homesteads.



# CITY ADVOCACY PROCESS

- The goal today is to develop a framework for a legislative program they can adopt – which will give Council and staff direction on bills to advocate for/against, etc.
- Ideal to adopt by September/October.
- Council must authorize a position an official agenda to guide our efforts in Austin. We only take our direction from city management via the adopted council positions.
- Need active involvement during Session (testimony, letters, phone calls to delegation office, visits to Austin)



# CITY ADVOCACY PROCESS

- Develop an agenda that covers
  - anticipated issues (property taxes, debt, land use, water, preemption, TMRS); and
  - Council priorities (i.e., – roads, economic development projects, hot button issues).
- See handout
- Last week, Focused Advocacy spent two days meeting with council and city staff.
- Very productive effort and identified several issues





# POTENTIAL ISSUES: QHP

- Qualified hotel project (QHP); Chapter 351 Tax Code
- Applies to 70+ cities (several in DFW)
- Used to build several area convention center hotels (Omni Fort Worth and Dallas, Irving Westin, Epic Grand Prairie Conference Center, Frisco PGA, etc.)
- Authorizes the City to receive a rebate of the state hotel and some state sales taxes for 10 years collected at the new hotel
- Must pass a bill to qualify Burleson
- City does not have to use the tool



# POTENTIAL ISSUES

- Explore state sales tax “loan”
- Allow cities to reduce speed limits in residential areas
- Definition of an “agricultural operation” is too broad (multi-family or size of lot exemption)
- Several workers’ comp and cancer presumption issue (Texas Fire Chiefs Association agenda)



# RECOMMENDATION

- Adopt a position to “seek introduction and passage” of QHP and to limit the definition of an “agricultural operation” (multi-family or size of lot exemption)
- Adopt a flexible position to explore additional funds for transportation improvements
- “Support” cities to reduce speed limits in residential areas
- Monitor the Texas Fire Chiefs Association agenda and re-visit

**THANK YOU  
QUESTIONS?**

