
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office
FROM: Janalea Hembree, Assistant to the City Manager
MEETING: August 15, 2024

SUBJECT:

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide staff direction regarding the City's legislative program. (*Staff Contact: Janalea Hembree, Assistant to the City Manager*)

SUMMARY:

The City Council has historically developed a legislative program that lists the City's positions and priorities on local government-related issues before the convening of the Texas Legislature.

Burleson and other cities utilize different organizations to help monitor legislation drafted and debated in Austin that may infringe upon local authority. The Texas Municipal League (TML) provides legal, legislative, and training services to city governments in Texas. But they also provide information to state legislators on how bills will affect local government. The city of Burleson also has a legislative consultant, Focused Advocacy, to help bring the city's position on specific issues to legislatures.

Why is it important to develop a legislative program?

Cities and elected officials are occasionally asked to have an opinion on a variety of bills that affect local government. There are also times when elected officials or staff, as subject matter experts, are asked to testify or speak to state legislators on specific issues/proposed legislation, or to pass resolutions in support or opposition to bills.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Council discuss a legislative policy and provide direction for the next steps.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

N/A

REFERENCE:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

Janalea Hembree
Assistant to the City Manager
jhembree@burlesontx.com
817.426.9299