

## Exhibit A

### CITY OF BURLESON LEGISLATIVE POLICY

#### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF LEGISLATIVE POLICY**

The fundamental goal of the City of Burleson's legislative activities is to produce positive outcomes for the citizens of Burleson as a whole. Numerous proposals in the Texas Legislature have the potential to seriously impact the ability of the City to carry out its overall mission. By taking a proactive role in monitoring and commenting on proposals in the Texas Legislature, the City is working to ensure that the citizens of Burleson can continue to enjoy the quality of life they have come to expect and deserve.

#### **GENERAL LEGISLATIVE STATEMENT**

The City seeks to preserve its authority to govern its citizens and property in alignment with its adopted strategic goals and interests.

The City will oppose any legislation that is detrimental to its strategic goals, erodes municipal authority, negatively impacts operations, is contrary to the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, results in increased costs or loss of revenue, or diminishes the fundamental authority of the City and its elected City Council.

The City will support any legislation that advances its strategic goals and interests or improves the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

#### **GENERAL LEGISLATIVE POSITION**

As a general policy, the City will oppose any legislation viewed as detrimental to the City's strategic goals or would limit home rule authority; is contrary to the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; mandates increased costs or loss of revenues; or would diminish the fundamental authority of the City. Accordingly, the City Council adopted the following positions and hereby authorizes staff and city representatives to take the following actions as necessary:

##### **I. BASIC HOME RULE AUTHORITY**

Oppose legislation that erodes existing:

- a. principles of Home Rule and local control including preemption legislation designed to restrict existing municipal regulatory authority,
- b. authority to regulate activities that affects the public's health, safety and well-being,
- c. Charters or Ordinances or Master Plans,
- d. local government immunity, or

- e. authority to communicate or advocate with legislators.

**II. PUBLIC FINANCES**

Oppose legislation that:

- a. requires:
  - i. unfunded mandates,
  - ii. the City to generate revenues for the State, or
  - iii. a tax exemption (or “freeze”) that shifts tax burden to other taxpayers.
- b. erodes the City’s:
  - i. property or sales tax base,
  - ii. ability to assess fees,
  - iii. ability to issue timely debt,
  - iv. economic development sales tax authority (4A and 4B)
  - v. ability to effectively finance the current level of city services by:
    - 1. imposing a revenue cap, or
    - 2. excluding new property from the tax rate calculations.

**III. DEVELOPMENT, WATER & UTILITIES**

Oppose legislation that erodes the City’s authority to:

- a. deliver quality water at affordable rates,
- b. effectively utilize economic development tools,
- c. regulate development effectively including “shot clocks,” density standards, or automatic releases from the city ETJ,
- d. impose fees on developments to pay for infrastructure,
- e. regulate short-term rentals,
- f. manage public rights-of-way including the authority to:
  - i. receive fair market compensation for use of public rights-of-way,
  - ii. enter into franchise agreements,
  - iii. participate in utility rate cases, or
  - iv. require utilities to pay for relocating their facilities,
- g. dedicate parkland,
- h. govern and approve proposed public housing and affordable housing projects.

**IV. TMRS & LABOR ISSUES**

Oppose legislation that:

- a. erodes the Texas Municipal Retirement System, or
- b. expands collective bargaining or “meet and confer”.

**SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES**

The City Council adopted the following positions and hereby authorizes staff and city representatives to take the following actions as necessary:

The City will **seek the introduction** of the following legislation:

1. The approval of a qualified hotel project bill, as authorized under Chapter 351 of the Tax Code.

The City will **support the following** legislation:

1. That ensures comparable workers' compensation coverage for firefighters and EMTs deployed through Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) and Texas Task Force 1 and 2 for state deployments.
2. That strengthens protections for firefighters and EMTs by recognizing presumptive cancers as job-related illnesses or injuries. This includes ensuring that these conditions are covered under workers' compensation, extending coverage for up to five years post-employment. Additionally, support the establishment of statewide or federal registries for research and documentation of work-related injuries and illnesses, specifically those associated with presumptive cancers, to better understand and address these risks. That enhances municipal water sources/supplies, or improves municipal water system redundancy.
3. That enable citizens and or municipalities to relocate migratory egrets that have roosted in residential areas.
4. Support the extension of SB 2476 to eliminate balance billing for out-of-network ground ambulance services under commercial health plans regulated by the Texas Department of Insurance, ensuring fair payment for services rendered.

The City will **actively monitor** 3 legislation:

1. That enables municipalities to reduce speed limits within residential.
2. That revises the definition of an agricultural operation.
3. That further regulates data farming uses.