



DRIPPING SPRINGS
Texas

Legislative Priorities
2023
88th Legislative Session

2023 Texas Legislative Session

January 10, 2023-May 29, 2023



- About 30% of the bills filed at the Capitol could have an effect on Texas Cities
- Dripping Springs adopts a legislative program each session
- Primarily focuses on maintaining local control
- The Program is used to direct city staff on how to approach bills as they are filed and move through the process
- The Program is provided and discussed with the City's legislative delegation



2023 Legislative Program – City Staff

City Staff

Michelle Fischer, City Administrator

Ginger Faught, Deputy City Administrator

Tory Carpenter, Planning Director

Shawn Cox, Finance Director



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1. Beneficial exterior design and plat submission changes
2. Infrastructure-improvements to permitting and funding for projects
3. Oppose detrimental changes to lighting regulation authority



2023 Legislative Program – Boards and Commissions

Planning and Zoning Commission

1. Maintain local control over land use in city and ETJ;
2. Improvements to wastewater permitting; and
3. Review the site development and subdivision “shot clock” provisions.

Transportation Committee

1. More transportation funding for TxDOT city projects;
2. Allow for greater flexibility for funding of transportation projects.

TIRZ

1. Maintain current authority related to TIRZ.

Parks

1. More options for funding of Parks.

Economic Development Committee

1. Local authority over economic development.



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2023 Proposed Legislative Program – New

- Land Use: The City Council supports legislation that would make beneficial amendments to allow greater authority for regulation of exterior design and building materials, and to allow greater flexibility and predictability in processing plat and site plan applications, and to assist the City adequately prepare for its future planning needs.
- Infrastructure: The City Council supports legislation that assists the City with the acquisition of property, permitting, and construction of infrastructure to serve development within the city limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City.
- Infrastructure: The City Council opposes legislation that would erode municipal authority related to the provision of utility, parks, street, or other infrastructure.
- Lighting: The City Council hereby opposes legislation that lessens municipal authority to regulate lighting, including Dark Sky requirements, or preempts municipal lighting regulations.
- Funding: The City Council supports legislation that assists the City with additional tools for funding for transportation, parks, and other essential services.

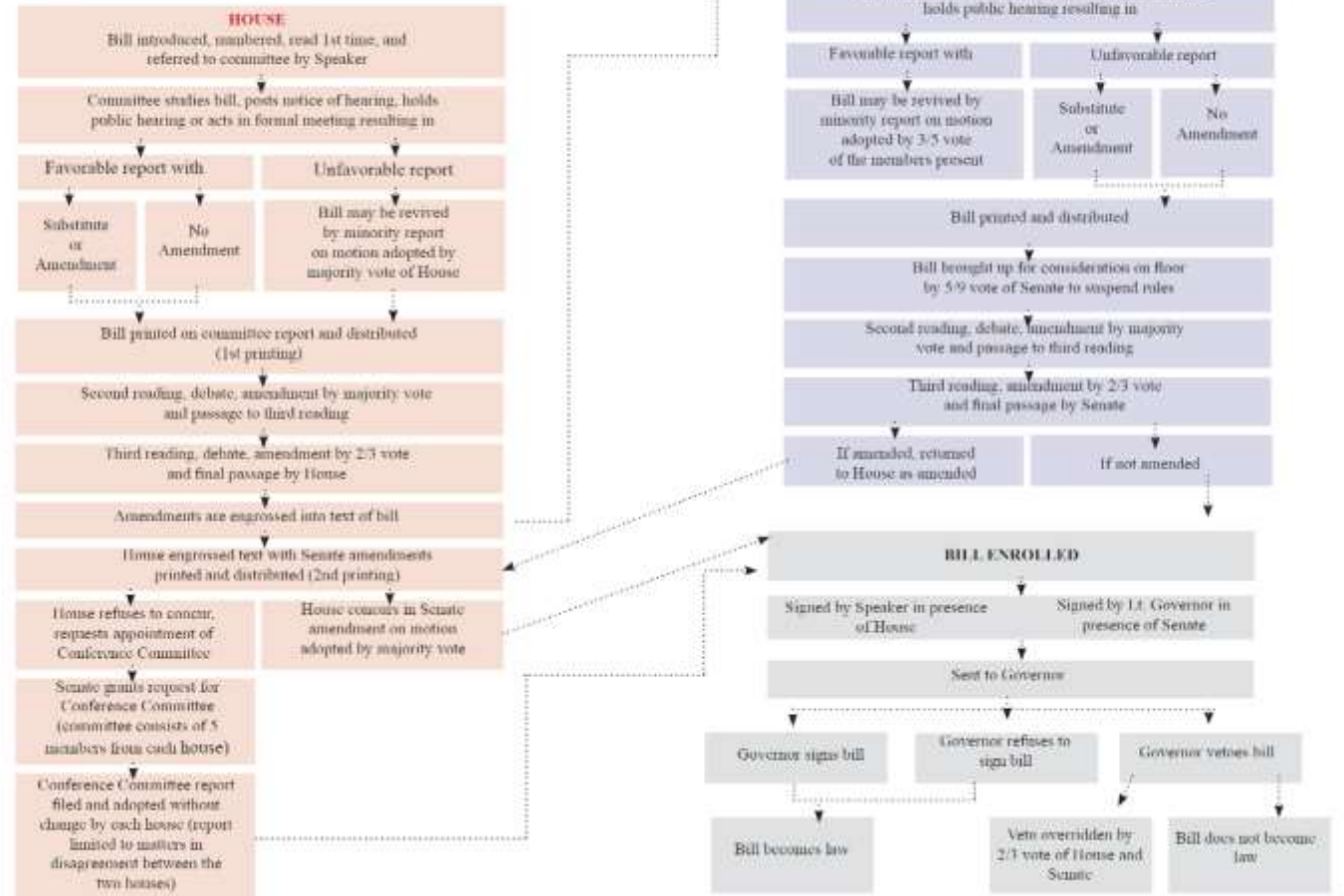


How to Help

- Provide feedback on legislative program
- Sign up to help with the Grassroots Involvement Program at the Texas Municipal League
- Sign up for legislative alerts
- Assist with written materials when pertinent bills are being heard
- Assist with testimony and contacting legislators
- Contact Laura Mueller at lm Mueller@cityofdrippingsprings.com with questions or concerns

THE TEXAS LEGISLATIVE PROCESS FOR HOUSE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

This diagram displays the sequential flow of a bill from the time it is introduced in the house of representatives to final passage and transmittal to the governor.



Recommendation and Next Steps

Staff recommends approval of program.

- Provide program to legislators for our area.
- Coordinate legislative program with Hays County.
- Follow Texas Legislation with Texas Municipal League and other resources.
- Work with staff and officials to provide input and feedback to the Texas Legislature.



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Questions

