



110TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION
— OCTOBER 5-7, 2022 —

2023 Legislative Outlook

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88th Texas Legislature





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Municipal Finance and Economic Development

- High property values have property taxes back in the spotlight – primary focus of interim committees.
- Local sales tax sourcing, especially for internet orders, still in flux.
- Expect further scrutiny of city debt instruments and permissible uses of non-voter-approved debt.
- Will push for renewed Ch. 313 incentive program implicate city economic development tools?



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Land Use Issues

- Annexation restrictions in recent years have increased focus on land use issues:
 - City regulatory authority in ETJ
 - Increase in special purpose district conflict with cities
 - Expansion of disannexation authority?
- Housing affordability
 - City zoning authority
 - Permitting process and shot clocks



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City Preemption

- Will “Super-preemption” bills, like H.B. 610 (2021), be back in 2023?
 - H.B. 610 - would authorize a person who, or entity that, holds a state license in order to practice the individual's occupation or conduct the entity's business to bring legal action against a city to enjoin the enforcement of a local law that: (1) establishes requirements for, imposes restrictions on, or otherwise regulates the occupation or business activity of the license holder in a manner that is more stringent than the requirements, restrictions, and regulations imposed on the license holder under state law; or (2) results in an adverse economic impact on the license holder.
- Other single issue preemption bills will be filed, as well (i.e., short term rentals).



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Community Censorship

- Will be continued push to limit local government involvement in statewide policy discussion by ban on so-called “taxpayer funded lobbying.”
- Senate Local Government Committee tasked with studying issue:
 - “Make recommendations to protect taxpayers from paying for lobbyists who may not represent the taxpayers’ interests.”
- No similar interim charge in Texas House.
- Proponents favor very broad ban over increased transparency.



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TML Policy Process

- Municipal Policy Summit – August 22-23, 2022
- City Resolutions submitted
- TML Business Meeting – **TODAY** at 3:30!
- TML December Board Meeting



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TML Policy Summit Recommendations

- TML Priority Package
 - Oppose
 - Preemption bills and other bills that would erode municipal authority
 - Legislation that would limit city authority in ETJ or abolish the concept of the ETJ
 - Legislation that would prevent community advocacy
 - Seek Introduction and Passage
 - Street maintenance sales tax clarification
 - Promotion of pay-as-you-go financing
 - Voluntary annexation out a roadway
 - Upping competitive bidding threshold
 - Beneficial amendments to building material preemption
 - City council authority with regard to ESD expansion and removal
- Other issues
 - Electric grid reliability
 - Catalytic converter theft
 - TOMA flexibility for remote meetings
 - City input in MUD development process
 - Solid waste franchise fee authority



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Advocacy Toolkit



Texas Municipal League
Legislative Advocacy Toolkit

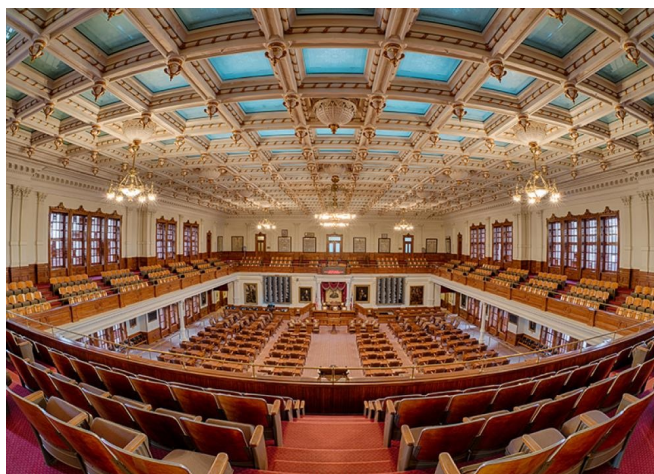
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