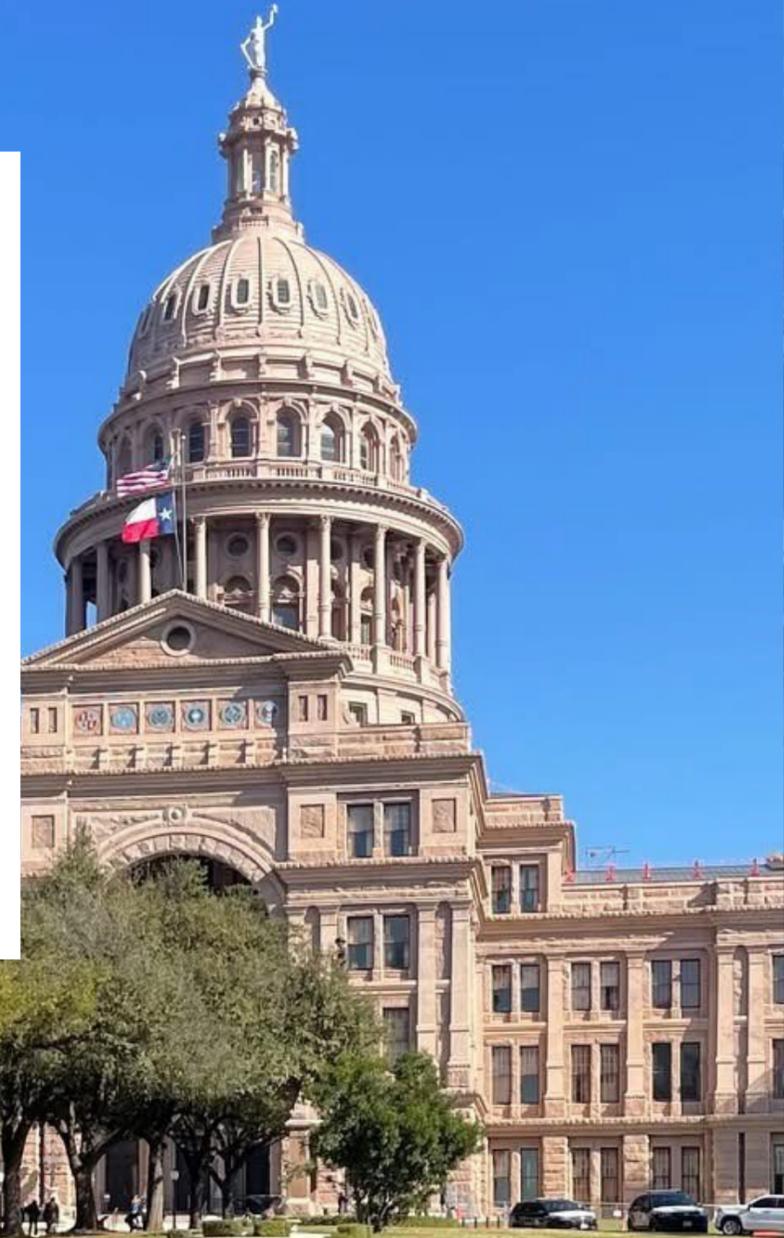




90TH LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

STRATEGIC AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



OVERVIEW

- Council Requested Action
- Strategic and Legislative Affairs
- Agenda Implementation Actions
- Guiding Principles
- Leading City Priorities
- Legislative Agenda Appendices

Council Requested Action

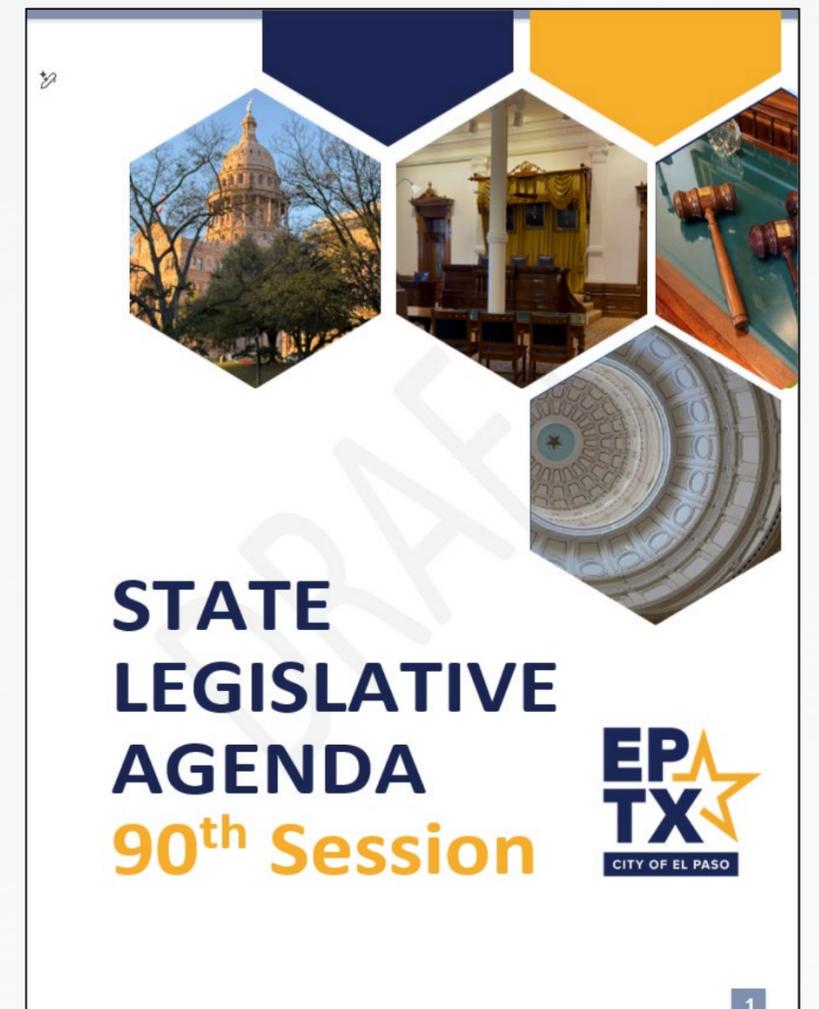
Action on a Resolution to adopt the State Legislative Agenda for the regular session of the 90th Texas Legislature

STRATEGIC AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

The 90th State Legislative Agenda outlines the priorities that will drive the City of El Paso's work at the State Capitol

The Agenda directs the Strategic and Legislative Affairs Department, City departments, and consultants in developing legislation, testify in committees, respond to proposed legislation, and pursue state resources

The Mayor, as the City's intergovernmental representative, will provide additional direction to the Strategic and Legislative Affairs Team on the City's position regarding specific legislation



How SLA Implements Agenda

- **Coordinate advocacy and engagement:** Partner with the Mayor, City Council, and departments to identify priority issues, provide timely updates, and support engagement with the State Delegation and key committees
- **Track, analyze, and respond to State actions:** Monitor legislation and administrative actions, flag items that impact City authority or resources, and coordinate City positions and comments through the City Attorney's Office
- **Pursue State resources:** Advance priority funding requests and program opportunities aligned with Council priorities, including infrastructure, public safety, and regional economic development
- **Maintain strategic partnerships:** Leverage Texas Municipal League and regional, border, and international partners to align advocacy and strengthen the City's impact

STRATEGIC AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Agenda Guiding Principles

- **Protect City financial resources:** revenue, retirement, fiscal stability
- **Uphold local authority:** oppose broad preemption and unfunded mandates
- **Maximize state resources:** position El Paso competitively for funding/programs



Critical Infrastructure and Utility Priorities

- **Transportation:** equitable road, transit, and airport funding; prevent diversion of transportation dollars
- **International Ports:** strengthen City tools to finance and coordinate port-of-entry infrastructure and secure required approvals
- **Utilities:** fund water, wastewater, stormwater and drought and flood mitigation; expand broadband, fiber, and cybersecurity infrastructure
- Protect City's role in utility rate cases and the City's right-of-way fee authority



Public Safety, Emergency Response, and Community Health Priorities

- Increase funding for police/fire staffing, equipment, and facilities
- Expand mental/behavioral health, crisis response, and diversion so first responders aren't the default system
- Support resources for border community emergency and humanitarian response and interoperability
- Protect the City's ability to maintain public confidence and trust in public safety institutions



Housing & Economic Opportunity Priorities, Including Military Partnerships

- Protect local tools to plan/manage growth (zoning/subdivision, annexation flexibility, development pays fair share)
- Strengthen state tools to grow advanced manufacturing/aerospace/defense/tech and support small business
- Expand tools and resources for affordable housing, anti-displacement, homelessness response, and fair housing access
- Support Fort Bliss mission readiness and protect City installation partnerships from preemption



90th State Legislative Timeline

Jan. 12, 2027

90th Legislative Session (Regular): Begins

Mar. 12, 2027

Last Day to File Bills

May 14, 2027

Last Day to Consider House Bills

May 26, 2027

Last Day to Consider Senate Bills

May 31, 2027

90th Legislative Session (Regular): Ends (Sine Die)

Jun. 20, 2027

Post -Session Governor's 20 -day review period



Governor can call special sessions between regular sessions

Bill Tracking and Post Session Adoption

- **Track and triage:** Maintain a centralized tracker for bills and administrative actions impacting City authority, finances, or operations
- **Coordinate review:** Flag priority items and coordinate department input and City Attorney and the Office of the Comptroller review before City positions are taken
- **Keep leadership informed:** Provide regular updates to Council and City leadership on high-impact activity, deadlines, and needed action
- **Support implementation:** After session, help departments navigate effective dates, compliance timelines, fiscal impacts, and rulemaking



Rider Requests

- **\$25M I-10 Deck Plaza:** accelerate construction and leverage other committed funds
- **\$10M Ysleta–Zaragoza Port of Entry:** Improvements to infrastructure at and connecting to the port
- **\$10M Advanced Manufacturing District:** enabling infrastructure to speed site readiness and tenant occupancy
- Riders are state budget directives and require State Delegation sponsorship. Project descriptions are included in the Draft Agenda in Appendix III



Interim Charges

- **Track data center water usage statewide:**
Track and engage the interim work on statewide water supply planning, especially how large-load facilities like data centers/AI campuses affect long-term drought resilience
- **Incorporate Water Use Estimates into State Water Plan:**
Better inventory, forecasting, and transparency so projected demand is incorporated into regional planning and statewide water planning datasets
- Senate Interim Charge recommendations were submitted to the Office of Senator Blanco by February 13, 2026. Language submitted is included in Appendix IV in the 90th State Legislative Agenda

Proposed Legislation

- **Establish Eligibility for Project Financing Zones (PFZ) in El Paso:** Expand eligibility for border municipalities to better use project financing zones for qualified projects, including a convention center facility and related infrastructure
- **Modify PFZ Boundaries in El Paso:** Allow a modified project financing zone boundary when a standard radius would cross the international boundary, while keeping the zone contiguous and within the maximum size limit.
- Draft legislation is included in Appendix V in the 90th State Legislative Agenda



Council Requested Action

Action on a Resolution to adopt the State Legislative Agenda for the regular session of the 90th Texas Legislature

MISSION

Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life & place for our community.



VISION

Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe & beautiful neighborhoods, & exceptional recreational, cultural & educational opportunities powered by a high performing government



VALUES

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,
Accountability, **P**eople

