



Item 7

87th Texas Legislature

May 24, 2021 City Council Presentation



Goal 5. Set the standard for sound governance and fiscal management



Presentation Summary

- Provide an update on legislative bills and legislative activities

FOCUSED ADVOCACY

Upcoming legislative deadlines:

- May 25th: last day for House to consider second reading SBs/SJR
- May 26th: last day for House to consider local and consent SBs on second and third reading and ALL third reading SBs/SJR; last day for Senate to consider ALL bills and JR on second or third reading
- May 28th: last day for House to act on Senate Amendments
- May 31st: sine die
- June 20th: deadline for Governor to sign or veto bills

Special session(s)?

- July 2021: Medicaid funding and federal funds
- September 2021: redistricting
- Unknown on whether there will be a special session to address electric policy

City Priority Legislative Initiatives

- **Appropriate money for the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG)**
 - Senate and House appropriated 30 million dollars to the Program in the Appropriations Bill.
 - The Bill was sent to a Conference Committee and has not been reported out of Committee
- **Appropriate funding for the Wyler Aerial Tramway**
 - The House Appropriations Bill included the carrying over of the five million dollars from last session and included an additional ten million dollars.
 - The Bill was sent to a Conference Committee and has not been reported out of Committee

City Legislative Priorities cont.

- **Seek legislation that will clearly allow municipalities to convey city owned property as part of Chapter 380 economic development agreement**
- **Seek legislation that will expand program eligibility under the Texas Economic Development Act to include back office and large-scale warehouse distribution companies and extend the Act.**

Neither the House or Senate bills made it to a Committee

City Priority Legislative Initiatives

- **Seek legislation that will provide for more economic incentives and support for solar and renewable energy initiatives.**

The bill filed by Senator Blanco has not made it to Committee

- **Seek legislation that will strengthen community safety and prevent mass violence by strengthening existing laws to allow for a stronger more efficiently and consistently enforcement of laws and new legislation that will assist in the identification of risk indicators for potential threat to include the use and role of mental health professionals and ways to reduce the risk.**

SB 162/ HB 347 - Relating to a false or misleading statement made to illegally acquire a firearm; creating a criminal offense. SB 162 has passed in the Senate and House.

SB 168/HB 1016 - Relating to emergency school drills and exercises conducted by public schools. The senate bill has passed in the Senate and has been sent to the House. The house bill was sent to the House local and consent calendar.

City Legislative Priorities

Seek legislation concerning police reform and training that will enhance and foster public trust in the police department, to include the appropriation of funding to municipalities for the acquisition of police body cameras and storage of data obtained by body cameras

- 15 Million Dollars was allocated in the Governor's Trusteed Program to the Body Worn Camera Program, Appropriations Bill pending in Conference Committee
- **HB 323** - Relating to a law enforcement agency accreditation grant program.
- **HB 1938** - Relating to a grant program for law enforcement agencies to defray the cost of data storage for recordings created with body worn cameras

Police Reform Bills cont.

HB 829 Relating to a progressive disciplinary matrix for police officer misconduct in certain municipalities. **Passed in the House.**

HB 830 Relating to law enforcement policies regarding the issuance of citations for misdemeanors punishable by fine only and to a limitation on the authority to arrest a person for certain fine-only misdemeanors. **Passed in the House**

SB 2212 Relating to the duty of a peace officer to request and render aid for an injured person. **Passed in the Senate.**

SB 68 Relating to a duty for peace officers to intervene and make a report when a peace officer uses excessive force. **Passed in the Senate.**

S.B. 69 Relating to prohibiting peace officers from using neck restraints during a search or arrest **Passed in the Senate.**

City Related Bills Signed by the Governor

Effective Immediately

HB 17 relating to a restriction on the regulation of utility services and infrastructure based on the energy source to be used or delivered.

HB 1118 Relating to state agency and local government compliance with cybersecurity training requirements.

SB 1334 Relating to the donation to the United States of certain facilities relating to a toll bridge by certain municipalities

City Related Bills Signed by the Governor cont.

Effective 09/01/2021

HB 1428 Relating to procurement by a political subdivision of a contingent fee contract for legal services.

SB 721 to the disclosure of appraisal reports in connection with the use of eminent domain authority.

HB 139 Relating to state occupational licensing of certain military veterans and military spouses

BILLS IN CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

- **SB 1** General Appropriations Bill.
- **HB 5** Relating to the expansion of broadband services to certain areas.
- **SB 7** Relating to election integrity and security, including by preventing fraud in the conduct of elections in this state; increasing criminal penalties; creating criminal offenses
- **SB 1438** Relating to the effect of a disaster on the calculation of certain tax rates and the procedure for adoption of a tax rate by a taxing unit.
- **HB 1927** Relating to provisions governing the carrying of a firearm by a person who is 21 years of age or older and not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law from possessing the firearm and to other provisions related to the carrying, possessing, transporting, or storing of a firearm or other weapon; creating criminal offenses.

City Related Bills That Have Passed in Senate and House

SB 780 Relating to the authority of a local government to enter into an intergovernmental support agreement with a branch of the armed forces of the United States.

SB 1308 Relating to a study on the impacts of using certain motor vehicle technologies.

HB 914 Relating to the authority of certain municipal employees to request the removal and storage of certain abandoned or illegally parked vehicles

City Related Bills That Have Passed in Senate and House



HB 636 - Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners; authorizing a fee.

SB 858 Relating to the disclosure of information collected by a metropolitan rapid transit authority, regional transportation authority, municipal transit department, or coordinated county transportation authority under the public information law.

HB 33 - Relating to measures to facilitate the award of postsecondary course credit leading to workforce credentialing based on military experience, education, and training.

SB 726 Relating to establishing actual progress for the purposes of determining the right to repurchase real property from a condemning entity.

Other City Related Bills That Team is Monitoring

HB 1869 Relating to the definition of debt for the purposes of calculating certain ad valorem tax rates of a taxing unit.

HB 1929 Relating to the breach of development agreement contracts governing land in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of certain municipalities.

SB 1907 Relating to a feasibility study on the colocation of federal and state motor vehicle inspection facilities at ports of entry.

SB 10 Relating to the use by a county or municipality of public money for lobbying activities.

Other City Related Bills That Team is Monitoring



HB 1556 Relating to the Texas Economic Development Act.

HB 4242 Relating to the extension of the expiration of certain parts of the Texas Economic Development Act.

SB 1947 Relating to the time for the issuance of municipal building permits.

HB 2700 Relating to agreements for municipal maintenance of state highway right-of-way.

Other City Related Bills Team is Monitoring



HB 199 Relating to the establishment of a public law school in El Paso County.

HB 1900 Police Defunding Bill passed in House, significant impact if city adopts a lower public safety budget than the previous year

SB 23 Relating to an election to approve a reduction or reallocation of funding or resources for certain municipal or county law enforcement agencies.



Questions?