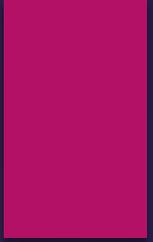




2019-20 Legislative Agenda

CITY OF LEWISVILLE, TEXAS

NOVEMBER 5, 2018



Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick (August 2017)

"People are happy with their governments at their state level, they're not with the city."

Expected Legislative Issues

- City revenue caps
- Reduced access to state funding
- Reduction in roll-back rate
- Additional property tax exemptions
- Limits on city-issued debt
- Limits to annexation ability
- Lowered appraisal cap
- Changes to appraisal and appeals process
- Reduced local rule-making authority

Expected Legislative Allies

- Texas Municipal League – “Our Home, Our Decisions” campaign intended to educate the public on the importance of local government
- North Texas Commission – Coordinating regional chambers of commerce on school finance, revenue cap, economic development topics
- Texas Association of Business – active on some issues (e.g. bathroom bill), neutral on others (such as revenue cap)

Most Important Legislative Allies

- Lewisville residents and businesses

Critical Issues in 2017 Agenda

- Phase 2 funding for I-35E
- Annexation under the SPA
- Local revenue caps
- Water rates
- Rights-of-way
- Revenue redirection
- Land use
- Online sales tax
- Water re-use
- Mass transit

Successes in 2017 Legislature

- Added Lewisville to the list of cities eligible for a state rebate of hotel, sales, and alcohol taxes related to certain narrowly defined projects
- Preserved the city's ability to annex Castle Hills under the existing SPA
- Lewisville officials testified at multiple hearings for bills that would have harmed city operations; only one of those bills passed as filed

2019 Legislative Calendar

- Bill pre-filing begins – November 12, 2018
- Session opens – January 8, 2019
- Last day for bill filing – March 8, 2019
- Session closes – May 27, 2019

Known 2019 Objectives

- Amend language to allow Lewisville to call a Crime Control District election in Castle Hills
- Consider proposed workers compensation changes for police and fire personnel (Texas Fire Chiefs Association)
- Preserve the city's ability to annex Castle Hills under the existing SPA
- Preserve local rule-making authority

Possible 2019 Objective

- Amend state law to change the composition of the DCTA board of directors to include only those cities that provide sale tax revenue, and to allow (but not require) cities to appoint a current City Council member as the city's representative on the DCTA board of directors. The latter change would match current law related to DART.

Possible 2019 Objective

- Explore the possibility of seeking an extension for cities that became eligible under 2017 legislation for the state tax rebate on qualifying hotel projects, applied for a Comptroller's ruling within the established timeline, but have not received a timely response. (Lewisville applied in May, and has not received an answer through the end of October.)

Possible 2019 Objective

- Amend state law to allow cities to call a local option election through action of City Council, without requiring a public petition (other than a council recall or property tax rollback, this is the only local election that City Council cannot call without first receiving a public petition)

Critical Issues in 2019 Agenda

- Seeking input from City Council