



## City of Cedar Park 2015 Legislative Agenda

### 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session

#### General Legislative Philosophy & Policy:

As a general policy, the City of Cedar Park seeks to preserve its current authority to govern the city. The City of Cedar Park believes that governance and politics at the local level is closest to the people and, therefore, able to produce positive outcomes for the citizens of Cedar Park as a whole. During each legislative session numerous proposals are made that have the potential to seriously impact our community's ability to carry out its overall mission. By taking a proactive role in monitoring the activities of the Texas Legislature, we can ensure that the citizens of Cedar Park can continue to enjoy the quality of life they have come to expect and deserve.

The City of Cedar Park will support any legislation that advances the City's strategic goals and interests, and conversely, will oppose legislation that the Council views as detrimental or contrary to the City's ability to successfully self-govern the community.

The City follows, and responds to when deemed necessary, legislation pertaining to: local budgeting authority and revenue sources, infrastructure issues including water and transportation, economic development programs and authority, preservation of local land use planning and zoning, emergency services districts, and any other issue impacting the citizens of Cedar Park.

#### Issue Specific Positions:

**Clarify Language Within Existing Legislation that a Municipality Has the Ability to Trade Park Land for Adjacent Land Without Voter Approval:** Section 253.011 of the Local Government Code does not clearly articulate whether or not a municipality may trade park land for adjacent land. The City seeks to trade a small piece of land with an adjacent piece of private land that is like value. The trade would not change the total amount of acres dedicated parkland and would only adjust property lines in order to make a project more feasible. The City seeks clarification in the existing legislation for this issue.

**Support and Monitor Legislation Dealing with Videoconferencing Use for City Council Meetings:** The passage of H.B. 2414 and S.B. 984 during the 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature resolved several issues related to the ability of a governmental body to hold meetings by videoconference call. However, the passage of both bills also resulted in confliction sections within Texas Government Code Section 551.127, which essentially makes it infeasible to conduct a meeting using videoconferencing. The City of Cedar Park supports any legislation that resolves these inconsistencies and makes it possible for governing body's to utilize videoconferencing technology for public meetings.