

**CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL TRAINING  
MARCH 11, 2025**

The City Council of the City of Carrollton, Texas convened in Special Council Training on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Gravley Fire Administration Building, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor training room, with the following members present: Mayor Steve Babick, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Fleming, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Christopher Axberg, Councilmembers Nancy Cline, Jason Carpenter, Andrew Palacios, Daisy Palomo, and Rowena Watters. Also present were City Manager Erin Rinehart, Assistant City Manager Chrystal Davis, Assistant City Manager Shannon Hicks, City Attorney Meredith Ladd and City Secretary Chloe Sawatzky.

**4:00 P.M. – GRAVLEY FIRE ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Babick called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. Receive Opening Remarks And Review Agenda.**

Patrick Ibarra, Facilitator with the Mejorando Group, started the meeting with opening remarks, a review of the agenda, and the establishment of ground rules.

A brief group discussion followed, focusing on the benefits of good governance and its influence on quality of life in Carrollton.

**2. Discuss Council Impacts.**

Councilmembers reflected on their individual and collective impact. As part of this segment, each Councilmember shared thoughts on the legacy they hope to leave. The group also discussed traits of effective governing bodies and how these contribute to the City's success.

**3. Discuss Strategies For Effective Governing.**

Council engaged in a conversation about fostering a more collaborative governing body. Key strategies were identified to enhance credibility, teamwork, and effectiveness. The discussion also included characteristics of high-performing groups.

**4. Receive Legal Overview For Elected Officials.**

Meredith Ladd, City Attorney, presented an overview of elected official responsibilities, including open meetings and compliance requirements. Councilmembers participated in a discussion on key legal considerations relevant to their roles.

**5. Receive Land Use Overview And Case Study.**

Loren Shapiro, Planning Manager, presented a land use and zoning overview, accompanied by a case study to illustrate common decision-making frameworks.

Dinner was served during this segment.

#### **6. Review Roles Of Council.**

The group reviewed the Council-Manager form of government and the distinct responsibilities of elected officials, staff, and the community. A structured discussion was held using the "RELAY" model—Roles, Expectations, Lanes, Approaches, and You.

#### **7. Share Final Thoughts.**

The session concluded with closing reflections. Councilmembers participated in a visionary discussion titled “*Wouldn’t It Be Great If...*”, imagining how their leadership could be remembered in terms of achievements, reputation, and impact.

The meeting closed with a brief wrap-up and summary of takeaways.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Mayor Babick adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

No action was taken.

**ATTEST:**

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Chloe Sawatzky, City Secretary

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Steve Babick, Mayor