

**2024-2025 City of Carrollton, TX
Legislative Agenda**

The following Legislative Agenda represents the City of Carrollton, Texas' legislative initiatives and priorities for the 89th Texas Legislative Session. The City of Carrollton's vision is to be the community that families and businesses want to call home. In order to achieve that vision, the City is committed to providing high-quality, cost-conscious municipal services to its residents, businesses, stakeholders, and visitors.

The fundamental purpose of this Legislative Agenda is to yield positive results for the City of Carrollton and its constituency. Regularly, legislative policies and proposals possess the capabilities to significantly impact Carrollton's ability to perform its overall mission and execute our strategic goals. Therefore, taking a proactive measure in engaging and examining both state and Federal Legislatures on suggested policy proposals and funding opportunities is imperative to safeguard Carrollton's community.

Municipal Authority

Cities are recognized as the level of government closest to the constituency it serves. As such, decision-making should be placed under the jurisdiction of the municipal level whenever reasonable. It is the City of Carrollton's priority to maintain its authority to respond to community needs effectively. Therefore, the City of Carrollton will:

- Oppose legislation that erodes the authority of Home Rule municipalities.
- Oppose legislation that limits or removes the tax exemption for municipal bonds.
- Oppose legislation that poses a detrimental effect on quality of life, health, welfare, and safety for Carrollton residents.
- Support legislation that safeguards fair and equitable assessments and taxation of all real property.
- Support legislation defending the ability of local government officials to utilize municipal funds to communicate with lawmakers and state entities on issues pertaining to public interest, including payment of membership dues to entities that hire legislative consultants.

Fiscal Stewardship

The City of Carrollton remains committed to fiscal responsibility and transparency through cautious financial policies and fiscal practices. Furthermore, the quality of life for Carrollton residents is directly impacted by the municipal services the City provides with revenues acquired. Therefore, it is the position of the City to protect revenues to remain in

Carrollton and not be diverted towards external entities. Therefore, the City of Carrollton will:

- Oppose legislation that imposes additional revenue caps or tax caps of any kind that restrict the City's ability to generate the revenue required to provide the high level of municipal services that are expected by Carrollton residents.
- Oppose legislation that would expand the use of destination sourcing sales and use tax collections as well as legislation that creates new sales tax exemptions or expand current exemptions.
- Oppose legislation that potentially affects the City of Carrollton's AAA+ stable bond rating in a detrimental manner.
- Oppose legislation that negatively impacts the City of Carrollton's ad valorem property tax roll for the benefit of outside parties.
- Support legislation that reinforces the financial security and health of the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS).

Public Safety

The City of Carrollton supports legislative efforts from the State and Federal government that enhances the ability for public safety officials to protect and serve the community. The City's top priority is community safety, investing in police, fire, and emergency management to promote the security for our constituency. The City also defends statewide endeavors to guarantee criminals are efficiently and effectively processed through the judicial system. Therefore, the City of Carrollton will:

- Oppose legislation that will be detrimental to police officer safety or to their ability to effectively reduce and fight criminal activity.
- Oppose legislation that would decriminalize marijuana.
- Support legislation that would increase and expand the efforts of law enforcement officials mitigating the negative impacts of the opioid crisis.
- Support funding for training for law enforcement and fire departments.
- Support legislation for funding school safety measures such as school resource officers.

Environmental Protection

The City of Carrollton is committed to environmental quality through parks, water conservation, and community engagement programs. The City supports laws that expand funding for local parks and streamline the process for water resource development. With properly maintained parks, the City of Carrollton stands to benefit from an economic perspective, as well as stronger quality of life for residents. Therefore, the City of Carrollton will:

- Support legislation and funding of programs that address the protection of our environment for the safety and welfare of our citizens.
- Support legislation that provides sufficient state funding to assist municipalities with the maintenance and operations of state parks and recreation spaces.
- Support instituting and administering water conservation measures at the local level as opposed to the state or federal level.

Transportation, Economic Development & Land Use

The City of Carrollton is the City *Where Connections Happen*. Carrollton is committed to enhancing the transportation infrastructure to ensure safe, efficient, and sustainable mobility for our residents and visitors. Furthermore, Carrollton realizes economic development is crucial for prosperity and growth. The city places emphasis on fostering a vibrant economic landscape that supports businesses, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for our residents. Therefore, the City of Carrollton will:

- Oppose legislation that erodes municipal authority for studying, adopting, and executing ordinances that regulate traffic commands and security in communities.
- Oppose legislation which inhibits the City's capacity to oversee and manage its taxpayer invested rights-of-way and public infrastructure.
- Oppose legislation that prevents or erodes the City's authority pertaining to land use and zoning, local amendments to building codes, building permit fees, short-term rentals, and eminent domain.
- Support legislation related to the Transit 2.0 Initiative as led by the North Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Transportation Council.
- Support existing economic development tools accessible to cities so Texas cities are afforded the opportunity to remain competitive with municipalities outside the state.
- Support legislation and programs that help municipalities attract and retain new and existing businesses.
- Support legislation that promotes new and innovative financing tools that would leverage state funds to create jobs.
- Support legislation that promotes efforts to expand reliable and affordable access to broadband internet in communities underserved to augment public education.
- Support legislation that adds the City of Carrollton to the list of cities that may use funding mechanisms from the Qualified Hotel Legislation.
- Support legislation that seeks to repeal, or makes beneficial amendments to, H.B. 2439 from the 86th Legislative Session (the building materials bill), which excessively prohibits the Town from regulating building products, materials, or methods used in the construction of residential and commercial structures.

Community & Cultural Enrichment

The City of Carrollton is committed to creating a vibrant community where residents of all backgrounds can engage in lifelong learning, celebrate cultural diversity, and access recreational resources that enhance quality of life. Through our public parks, libraries, and recreational programs, we foster inclusive environments that support personal growth, cultural understanding, and community connections. These spaces serve as trusted community anchors that protect individual rights, promote diversity, and offer equitable access to knowledge, recreation, and wellness opportunities. By advocating for these priorities, we aim to empower our parks, libraries, and recreational facilities to enrich the lives of all residents, making Carrollton a place where everyone feels valued, connected, and inspired. Therefore, the City of Carrollton will:

- Oppose legislation that would divert or reduce funding for essential library and recreational services, as these community pillars play a vital role in enriching the lives of residents, promoting healthy lifestyles, and building a cohesive, culturally rich community.
- Oppose legislation that limits access to a broad, diverse range of materials, viewpoints, and resources and defend the essential role of libraries and community spaces as guardians of intellectual freedoms.
- Oppose legislation that would require libraries or recreational facilities to disclose individual user data or track personal usage without due process, preserving the trust and confidentiality that residents rely on in these spaces.
- Support legislation and funding initiatives that empower public parks, libraries, and recreational programs to expand cultural, educational, and enrichment opportunities for all ages, fostering a more inclusive, connected community.
- Support legislative measures that uphold the rights of residents to access information freely and safely, in line with the values of intellectual freedom and cultural expression.
- Support legislation that adds grants and state funding for literacy, STEAM, arts, and wellness programs offered by libraries, parks, and recreational facilities, advancing Carrollton's goal of lifelong learning and public wellbeing.