

A Resolution

NO. _____

ADOPTING THE CITY OF FORT WORTH'S 2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the 113th Congress convened in January 2013 and will continue throughout 2014; and

WHEREAS, during the month of February 2014, the Governmental Relations staff, in conjunction with the City's federal legislative consultants, received input from various members of the Fort Worth City Council, the City Manager's office, and department directors to identify the City's programmatic and funding needs that could, potentially, be resolved by Congressional or federal administrative actions; and

WHEREAS, based upon those recommendations, the Governmental Relations staff and federal legislative consultants made a presentation to the Fort Worth City Council on March 18, 2014 for review of the recommendations; and

WHEREAS, following review of those recommendations, staff was directed to proceed with a resolution for the City Council's approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH:

That the City Council:

- 1. Adopts the 2014 Federal Legislative Program as outlined in the attached document; and**
- 2. Authorizes and directs the City Manager to distribute copies of the City's 2014 Federal Legislative Program to members of Congress, other cities, and other interested parties; and**
- 3. Authorizes and directs the appropriate City officials to send letters of support or to meet with federal officials to discuss the City's position on the attached**



initiatives; and

4. Authorizes and directs the City's Government Relations staff and the City's federal legislative consultants to take the appropriate actions to advance the 2014 Federal Legislative Program before Congress, the Administration and corresponding federal agencies.

Adopted the _____ day of March, 2014.

ATTEST:

By: _____

Mary J. Kayser, City Secretary





CITY OF FORT WORTH 2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

CONGRESSIONAL PRIORITIES

Fighting for Transportation

Summary: **TexRail** and **I-35W** North are essential to Fort Worth's current and planned investments in economic growth and community development. Opportunities to support the development of TexRail and the completion of I-35W North will be priorities in the 113th Congress.

Supporting Our Local Military

Summary: Fort Worth's continued growth and development is inextricably tied to the health of our nation's military and defense industries. **The Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NASJRB)** and Fort Worth's synergistic relationship with **top military contractors** in the United States are models for the nation. Expanding both the NASJRB and the growth of our defense contracting industries will be a key priority.

Strengthening the Trinity River Vision

Summary: Fort Worth is the fastest growing large city in America today. The **Trinity River Vision (TRV)** project is a key element in **flood control** and in sustaining this enormous growth and capturing its full potential. The TRV will drive new economic development downtown while providing much needed **urban renewal** to the nearby North Side community. Sustaining and accelerating funding for TRV will be a key priority.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITIES

Pursuing Community Development and Renewal

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC)
- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
- Second Chance Act
- HOME Grants
- Low Income Housing Tax Credits
- Education Opportunity Programs

Pursuing Community Development and Renewal

- Transportation Reauthorization
- HHS and Community Health
- Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Reauthorization
- Library and Arts Funding (IMLS)
- Energy/Sustainability Grants
- Flood Insurance Premiums

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ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITIES CONTINUED

Exploring Economic Development Opportunities

- Alternative Asbestos Control Method (AACM) Wet demolition
- Municipal Debt Income Tax Exemption
- Municipal Debt Liquidity (HQLA)
- Clean Energy and Natural Gas Initiatives
- Marketplace Fairness Act of 2013
- Wet Weather Facility
- Land Water Conservation Fund
- Wireless Tax Authority
- Management and Collection for use on Local Rights of Way
- Municipal Disclosure Regime
- SEC issues as needed

Fighting for Public Safety Funding and Support

- Homeland Security Top 10 Re-Designation for Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) funding
- CASA Funding (innovative weather satellite pilot)
- Emergency Management Preparedness Grants (EMPG)
- Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)
- Broadband Spectrum for First Responders
- Opposition to Collective Bargaining Issues

GENERAL LEGISLATIVE POLICY

As a general policy, the City of Fort Worth seeks to preserve its authority to responsibly govern the city, its citizens, and its property. The City **supports** any legislation viewed as advancing the City's Comprehensive Plan or the City's Strategic Goals; or that improves the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; or that reduces the cost of governing the City.

In addition, the City will **oppose** any legislation viewed as detrimental to its Comprehensive Plan or its Strategic Goals; or that is contrary to the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; or that mandates increased costs or decreased revenues; or that would diminish the fundamental authority of the City.