

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 18, 2023

TO Honorable Members of the Dallas City Council

SUBJECT **Committees for the 2023-25 City Council Term**

Dear Colleagues:

Over the last two years, we have united as a City Council to address the basic needs of the people of Dallas and plan for our city's future. It is because of this unity that we have been able to achieve such remarkable gains for our city's residents.

At our inauguration in June, I discussed the critical issues facing our city and laid out an agenda for the next two years. To create an environment where our residents and businesses can continue to thrive, we must continue to work tirelessly to address our city's needs and lead Dallas further down the path toward becoming the safest major city in the United States with the best park system in Texas and the lowest tax rate in the North Texas region.

The important work required to achieve these ambitious goals will be done primarily through our City Council committees. Accordingly, pursuant to the Dallas City Charter, Ch. III, §13, I am hereby making the committee assignments listed below for the 2023-2025 City Council term. These assignments are effective immediately.

In addition to the below assignments, I have included my top policy priorities for each of the standing committees and the new Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions. As always, I encourage committee chairs to work closely with my office to ensure progress, address issues as they arise, and adapt as appropriate to the ever-evolving needs of our city's residents.

Economic Development

Tennell Atkins (Chair)
Omar Narvaez (Vice Chair)
Carolyn King Arnold
Adam Bazaldua
Paul Ridley
Kathy Stewart
Chad West

Policy Priority: Partner with the Mayor's Working Group on Downtown Revitalization to provide oversight over the redevelopment of the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center

Government Performance and Financial Management

Chad West (Chair)
Paula Blackmon (Vice Chair)
Cara Mendelsohn
Jesse Moreno
Jaime Resendez

Policy Priority: Recommend ways to deliver city services more efficiently and cost-effectively so that we can provide additional, significant property tax relief to Dallas residents and businesses and get closer to our goal of becoming the major city with the lowest tax rate in the North Texas region

Housing and Homelessness Solutions

Jesse Moreno (Chair)
Cara Mendelsohn (Vice Chair)
Zarin Gracey
Chad West
Gay Donnell Willis

Policy Priority: Evaluate the report produced by the Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness, Organizations, Policies, and Encampments and recommend ways to enhance coordination between the City of Dallas and our non-profit, county, state, and federal partners to reduce homelessness in Dallas

Parks, Trails, and the Environment

Kathy Stewart (Chair)
Jesse Moreno (Vice Chair)
Carolyn King Arnold
Adam Bazaldua
Paula Blackmon
Omar Narvaez
Chad West

Policy Priorities: Lead Dallas further down the path toward becoming the major city with the best park system in Texas by supporting the efforts of the Mayor's Greening Czar to transform vacant, unused, and underused city-owned land into green space; identify ways to increase the number of Dallas residents who live within a 10-minute walk of a park; recommend ways to increase Dallas' ranking on the ParkScore index; explore policies to support the mission of Keep Dallas Beautiful; and assess the efforts being made toward breaking ground on Harold Simmons Park and support said efforts

Public Safety

Cara Mendelsohn (Chair)
Kathy Stewart (Vice Chair)
Tennell Atkins
Jesse Moreno
Gay Donnell Willis

Policy Priority: Examine policies and procedures that will lead us closer to our goal of becoming the safest major city in the United States, including identifying strategies to retain our police officers and to achieve a success rate in hiring the number of new police officers budgeted for to the levels we regularly achieved prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic

Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture

Adam Bazaldua (Chair)
Jaime Resendez (Vice Chair)
Paula Blackmon
Zarin Gracey
Paul Ridley
Jaynie Schultz
Gay Donnell Willis

Policy Priorities: Develop comprehensive strategies to better serve Dallas' senior population and examine the possibility of establishing an independent, non-profit entity that can take the lead in restoring the Kalita Humphreys Theater and manage the site

Transportation and Infrastructure

Omar Narvaez (Chair)
Zarin Gracey (Vice Chair)
Tennell Atkins
Cara Mendelsohn
Jaime Resendez
Jaynie Schultz
Kathy Stewart

Policy Priorities: Work with the Mayor's Working Group for Federal Infrastructure Investment to maximize the amount of competitive federal grant funding Dallas receives in order to enhance our infrastructure and to relieve the burden on Dallas taxpayers to fund infrastructure improvements; work with the North Central Texas Council of Governments and other stakeholders to ensure any proposed high-speed rail projects prioritize the economic development and growth of the Central Business District and complement our efforts to redevelop the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, attract corporate headquarters, and build more workforce housing

Workforce, Education, and Equity

Jaynie Schultz (Chair)
Carolyn King Arnold (Vice Chair)
Adam Bazaldua
Paula Blackmon
Jaime Resendez
Paul Ridley
Gay Donnell Willis

Policy Priority: Work with the Mayor's Workforce Czar to increase the impact of Workforce Dallas and implement other recommendations from the Upskilling Dallas: How to Modernize the City's Workforce for the Jobs of Tomorrow report

Ad Hoc Committee on Administrative Affairs

Tennell Atkins (Chair)
Cara Mendelsohn
Jesse Moreno

Ad Hoc Committee on General Investigating and Ethics

Cara Mendelsohn (Chair)
Zarin Gracey
Mayor Eric Johnson
Jaynie Schultz
Kathy Stewart

Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Nominations

Paul Ridley (Chair)
Jaime Resendez
Chad West

Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs

Cara Mendelsohn (Chair)
Tennell Atkins
Zarin Gracey
Omar Narvaez
Kathy Stewart

Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions

Tennell Atkins (Chair)
Paula Blackmon
Cara Mendelsohn
Jesse Moreno
Jaime Resendez
Kathy Stewart
Chad West
Gay Donnell Willis

Policy Priority: Receive recommendations from the Mayor's Dallas Police and Fire Pension System Study Group to put the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System on a path to solvency and propose concrete steps to address the unfunded liability of the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System

Ad Hoc Committee on Professional Sports Recruitment and Retention

Zarin Gracey (Chair)
Paula Blackmon
Mayor Eric Johnson
Jesse Moreno
Omar Narvaez
Jaime Resendez
Jaynie Schultz

I look forward to working with you all through these committees to better position Dallas to reach its full potential.

Sincerely,



Eric L. Johnson
Mayor

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Tammy Palomino, Interim City Attorney

Mark Swann, City Auditor
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager