

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 11, 2019

TO Honorable Members of the Dallas City Council

SUBJECT 2019-2021 Dallas City Council Committees

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce the 2019-2021 Dallas City Council committees.

Below are the committees, as well as some of the mayoral priorities to be addressed by each:

1. **Economic Development.** In addition to its regular business, this committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) guiding completion and implementation of a comprehensive economic development plan for the City of Dallas, and b) creating strategies to attract businesses to Dallas, thereby growing the city's property tax base.

Tennell Atkins (Chair)
David Blewett (Vice Chair)
Jennifer Staubach Gates
Adam McGough
Omar Narvaez
Jaime Resendez
Chad West

2. **Environment and Sustainability.** In addition to its regular business, this new committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) ensuring that the City of Dallas is a global leader in addressing climate change, b) overseeing the creation and implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) and related city efforts to reduce emissions and conserve resources, and c) reviewing our city codes, policies and procedures that allowed for environmental threats such as Lane Plating, "Shingle Mountain," and others to occur and recommending to the Dallas City Council new codes, policies, and procedures to prevent such occurrences in the future.

Omar Narvaez (Chair)
Tennell Atkins (Vice Chair)
Paula Blackmon
David Blewett
Jennifer Staubach Gates

3. **Government Performance and Financial Management.** In addition to its regular business and serving as the Dallas City Council’s standing finance committee, as required by Chapter III, Section 13(a)(2) of the Dallas City Charter, this committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) reviewing and monitoring major contracts between the City of Dallas and outside vendors — including all public-private partnerships such as VisitDallas — and developing a system for the periodic review of such contracts by the committee to ensure compliance, b) developing a system for the periodic review of all city departments and offices by the committee to ensure maximum governmental efficiency and performance, c) reviewing our RFP and procurement processes to reflect best practices, and d) reviewing our budgeting process and recommending improvements thereto in accordance with best practices.

Jennifer Staubach Gates (Chair)
Cara Mendelsohn (Vice Chair)
Carolyn King Arnold
Adam Bazaldua
Lee Kleinman
Omar Narvaez
Casey Thomas

4. **Housing and Homelessness Solutions.** In addition to its regular business, this renamed committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) overseeing the implementation of, and securing financing for, the City of Dallas’ Comprehensive Housing Policy, with particular attention to ensuring that residents are not involuntarily displaced due to gentrification, and b) identifying the causes of increased rates of homelessness in our city and proposing solutions to the Dallas City Council to reverse this trend.

Chad West (Chair)
Casey Thomas (Vice Chair)
Carolyn King Arnold
Paula Blackmon
Lee Kleinman
Cara Mendelsohn
Jaime Resendez

5. **Public Safety.** In addition to its regular business, this committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) ensuring the Dallas Police Department implements in a timely manner the recommendations contained in the KPMG efficiency study presented to the council on August 26, 2019, b) receiving regular reports from the Dallas Police Department on violent crime in the City of Dallas and strategies to alleviate such crime, and c) providing oversight of Dallas Fire-Rescue’s efforts to modernize its operations and training amid a changing urban environment and an increased demand for emergency medical services.

Adam McGough (Chair)
Carolyn King Arnold (Vice Chair)
Adam Bazaldua

David Blewett
Adam Medrano
Cara Mendelsohn
Casey Thomas

6. **Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture.** In addition to its regular business, this committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) ensuring the City of Dallas is friendly to families with children by offering an array of arts, cultural activities, and other programs, b) reviewing and improving the services the city provides for its seniors, and c) actively assessing the offerings of both peer and nearby cities to ensure our competitiveness in these regards.

Carolyn King Arnold (Chair)
Jennifer Staubach Gates (Vice Chair)
Tennell Atkins
Omar Narvaez
Chad West

7. **Transportation and Infrastructure.** In addition to its regular business, this committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) reviewing Dallas Area Rapid Transit's bus service within the City of Dallas to ensure it meets our city's current and future workforce needs, b) overseeing the development of a comprehensive transportation plan for the City of Dallas, c) improving mobility for users of all modes of transportation, and d) overseeing and directing plans to improve the conditions of streets, sidewalks and other infrastructure through bond funds, the capital improvement budget and other revenue sources.

Lee Kleinman (Chair)
Adam Medrano (Vice Chair)
Tennell Atkins
Adam Bazaldua
David Blewett
Adam McGough
Chad West

8. **Workforce, Education, and Equity.** In addition to its regular business, this new committee will advance the mayoral priorities of a) ensuring that the City of Dallas has a "future-proof" workforce, particularly in those areas of our city where rates of unemployment and underemployment are highest, and b) receiving report(s) from the Mayor's Task Force on Workforce Development & Modernization and recommending that the Dallas City Council adopt those action items suggested by this task force that the committee supports.

Casey Thomas (Chair)
Jaime Resendez (Vice Chair)
Paula Blackmon
Lee Kleinman
Adam Medrano

These committees will help us better address the pressing challenges facing our city and offer innovative and data-driven solutions. Separating the former Economic Development & Housing Committee into two smaller committees will help us to drill down further into critical issues and better implement our strategies in these areas. Additionally, the creation of two new committees — Environment and Sustainability and Workforce, Education, and Equity — will provide us with prominent platforms to emphasize and address resilience and our renewed investment in our greatest asset: the people of Dallas.

A briefing on the Dallas City Council 2020 calendar and amended 2019 calendar, which will include proposed committee meeting dates through the end of next year, is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2019. We will vote on both the new and amended calendars at the October 23, 2019 agenda meeting.

Thank you for your patience and for your input throughout this process. I am eager to work with you as we continue to move Dallas forward.

If you have any questions or concerns, please drop by.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Johnson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric Johnson
Mayor