



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney St.
Denton, Texas 76201
www.cityofdenton.com

Meeting Agenda

City Council

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

11:00 AM

Development Services Center

Joint Special Called Meeting with Denton ISD Board of Directors

After determining that a quorum is present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas will convene in a Special Called Joint Meeting with the Denton Independent School Board of Directors on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at the Development Service Center, Training Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, at 401 N. Elm Street, Denton, Texas at which the following items will be considered:

WORK SESSION

1. Work Session Reports

- A. [ID 25-244](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding City of Denton construction projects surrounding Denton ISD campuses.

[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]

Attachments: [Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet](#)

[Exhibit 2: Presentation](#)

- B. [ID 25-245](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the status of Denton ISD's legislative priorities and funding.

[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet](#)

[Exhibit 2 - DISD City Joint Meeting Legislative Presentation.pdf](#)

- C. [ID 25-503](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the City of Denton's legislative priorities.

[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet](#)

[Exhibit 2 - 89th Legislative Session Program](#)

[Exhibit 3 - Presentation](#)

Following the completion of the Work Session, the City Council will convene in a Closed Meeting in the Council Work Session Room to consider specific item(s) when these items are listed below under the Closed Meeting section of this agenda. The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into a Closed Meeting on any item on its Open Meeting agenda consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law.

NOTE: The City Council and Denton Independent School District Board of Directors reserve the right to adjourn into a Closed Meeting or Executive Session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq. (The Texas Open Meetings Act) on any item on its open meeting agenda or to reconvene in a continuation of the Closed Meeting on the Closed Meeting items noted above, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, including, without limitations Sections 551.071-551.086 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the official website (<https://tx-denton.civicplus.com/242/Public-Meetings-Agendas>) and bulletin board at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, on March 28, 2025, in advance of the 72-hour posting deadline, as applicable, and in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

NOTE: THE CITY OF DENTON'S DESIGNATED PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE CITY WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION, SUCH AS SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, IF REQUESTED AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. PLEASE CALL THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT 940-349-8309 OR USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF (TDD) BY CALLING 1-800-RELAY-TX SO THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION CAN BE ARRANGED.



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney St.
Denton, Texas 76201
www.cityofdenton.com

Legislation Text

File #: ID 25-244, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding City of Denton construction projects surrounding Denton ISD campuses.

[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Capital Projects

ACM: Frank Dixon

DATE: April 1, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding City of Denton construction projects surrounding Denton ISD campuses.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this work session is to provide City Council and Denton Independent School Board of Directors with construction project updates surrounding Denton ISD campuses.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2: Presentation

Respectfully submitted:
Seth Garcia, PMP
Interim Director of Capital Projects
940-349-8938



Capital Projects Update

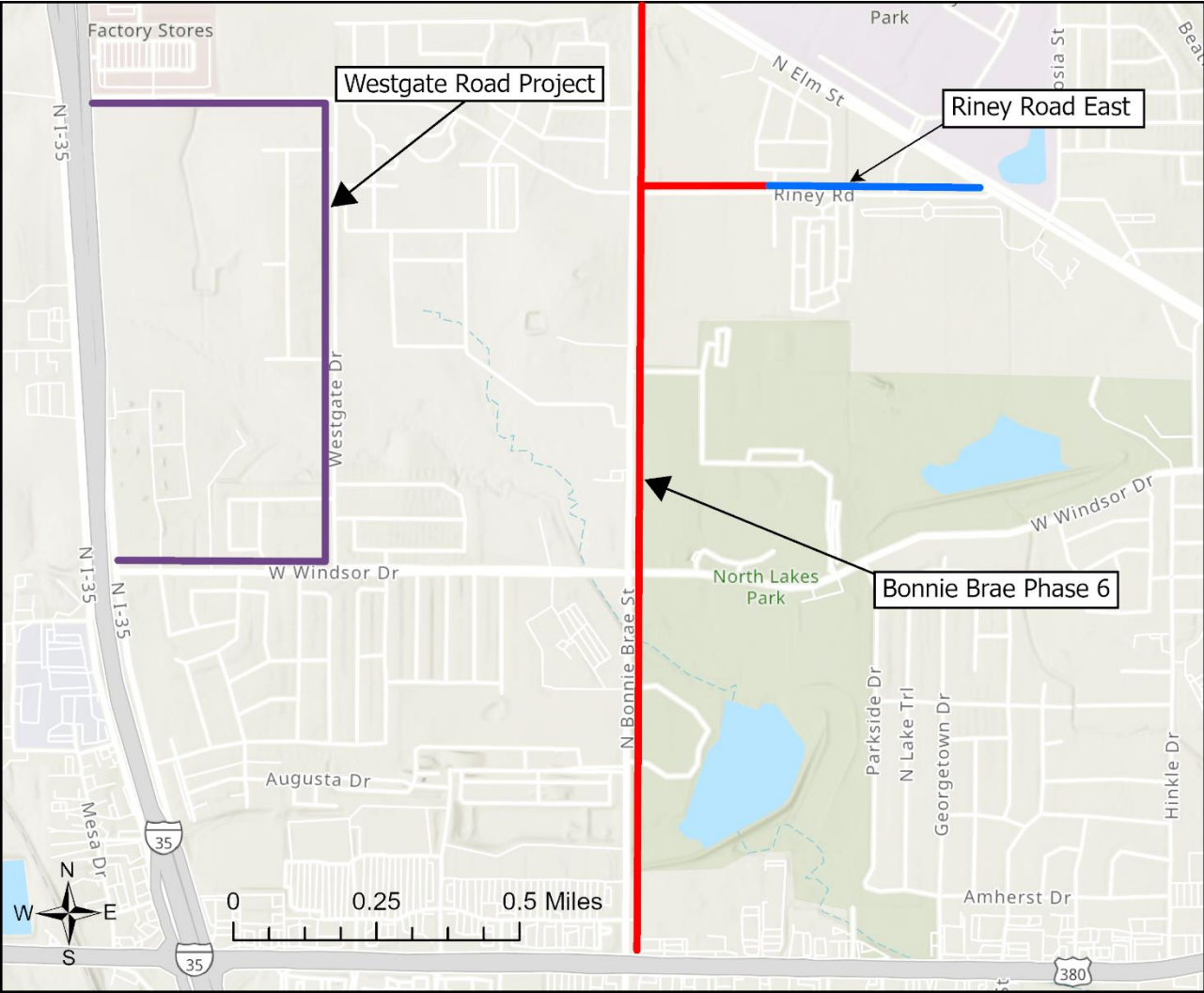
Seth Garcia

Interim Director of Capital Projects

Capital Projects

April 1, 2025

Overview Of Bonnie Brae Area



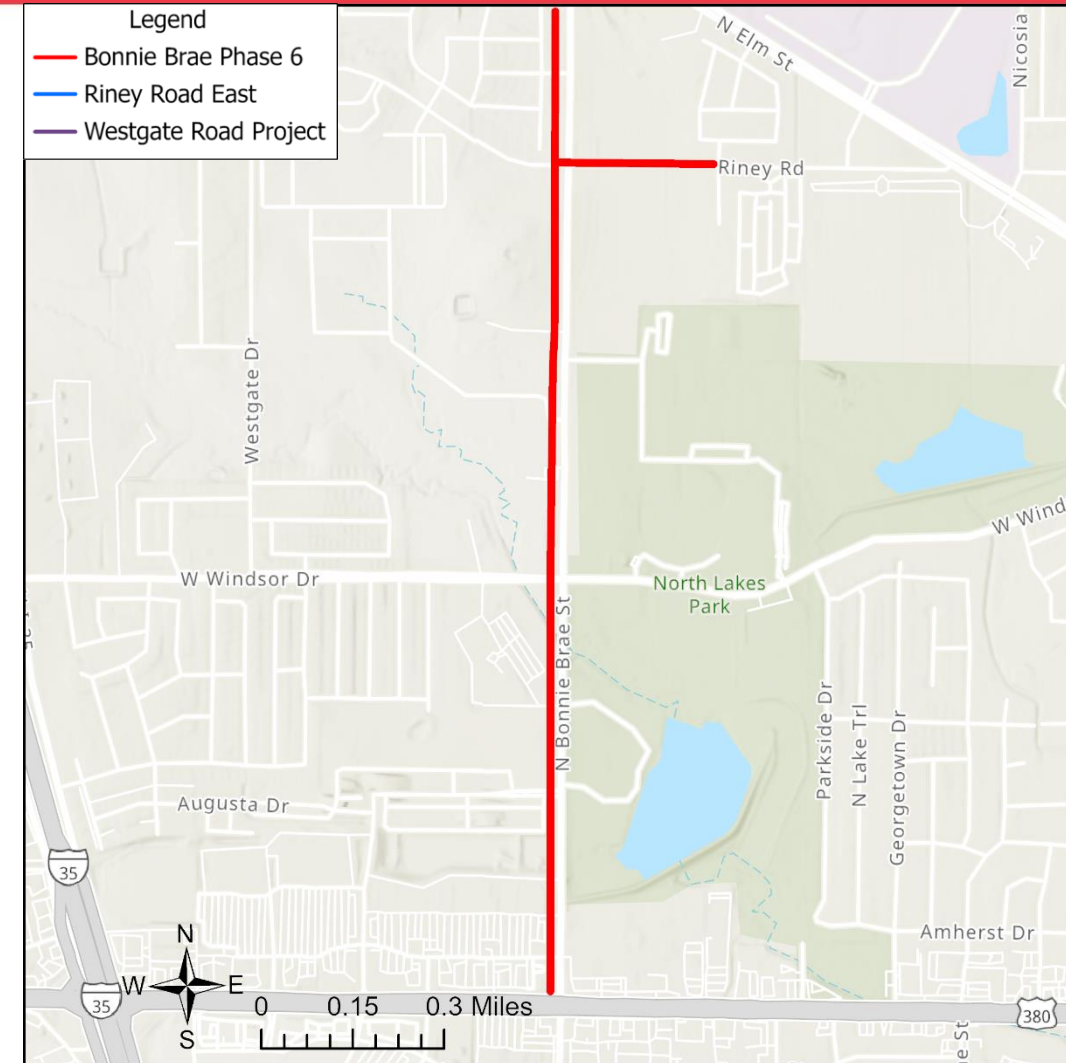
Legend

- Bonnie Brae Phase 6
- Riney Road East
- Westgate Road Project



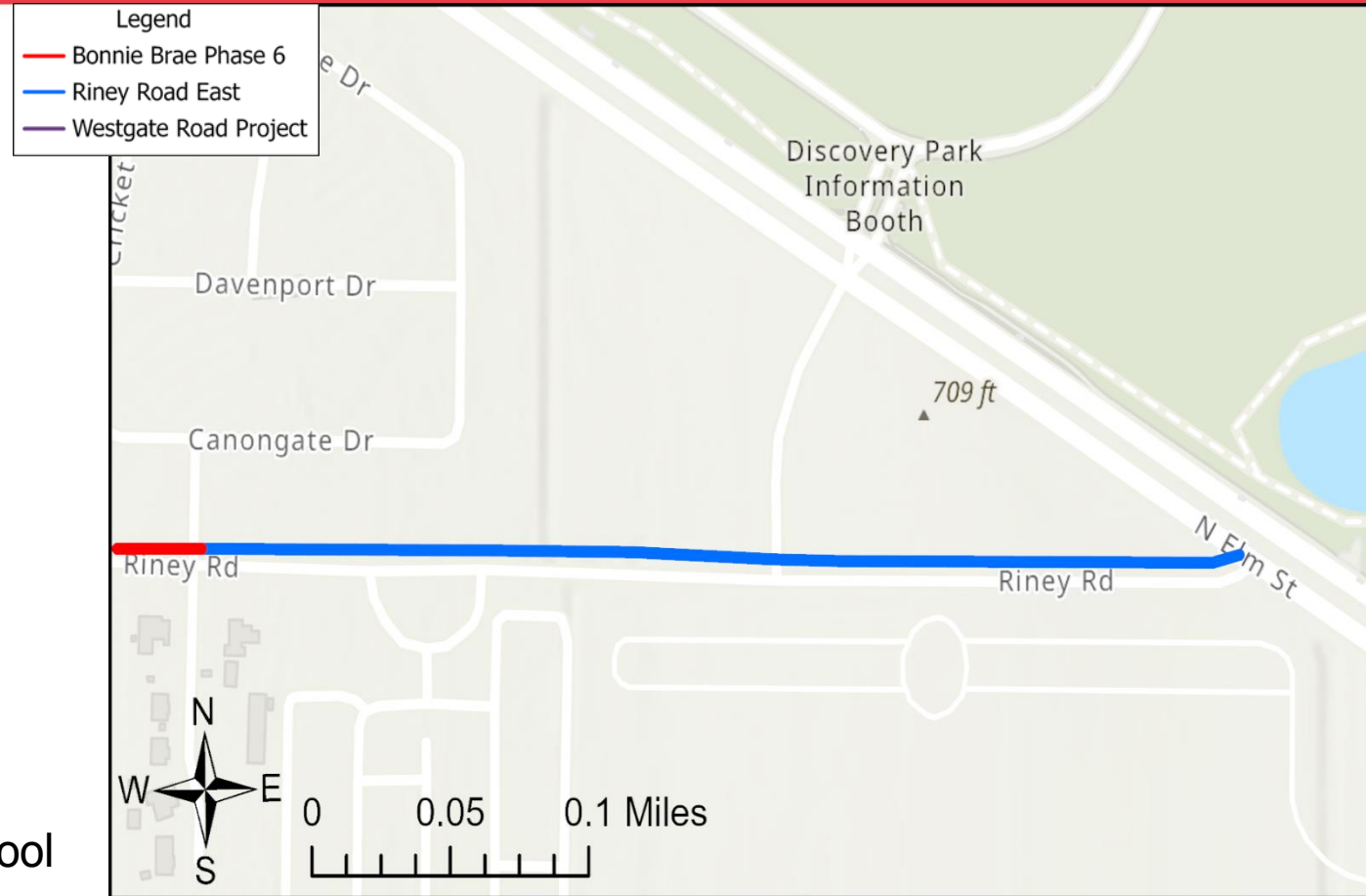
Bonnie Brae Phase 6 - US 380 to US 77

- Project Manager: Jesus Perez
- Project Scope:
 - Roadway Widening
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Utility Installation
 - Traffic Signals and Lighting
- Project Schedule:
 - Current Phase – Construction
 - Construction Start –Q1 2025
 - Construction Complete –Q2 2027
- DISD Coordination:
 - ILA for Improvements to Riney Road - COMPLETED
 - Construction Coordination with Opening of Reeves Elementary
 - Water Service provided in April 2025
 - Traffic Control and Paving in August 2025



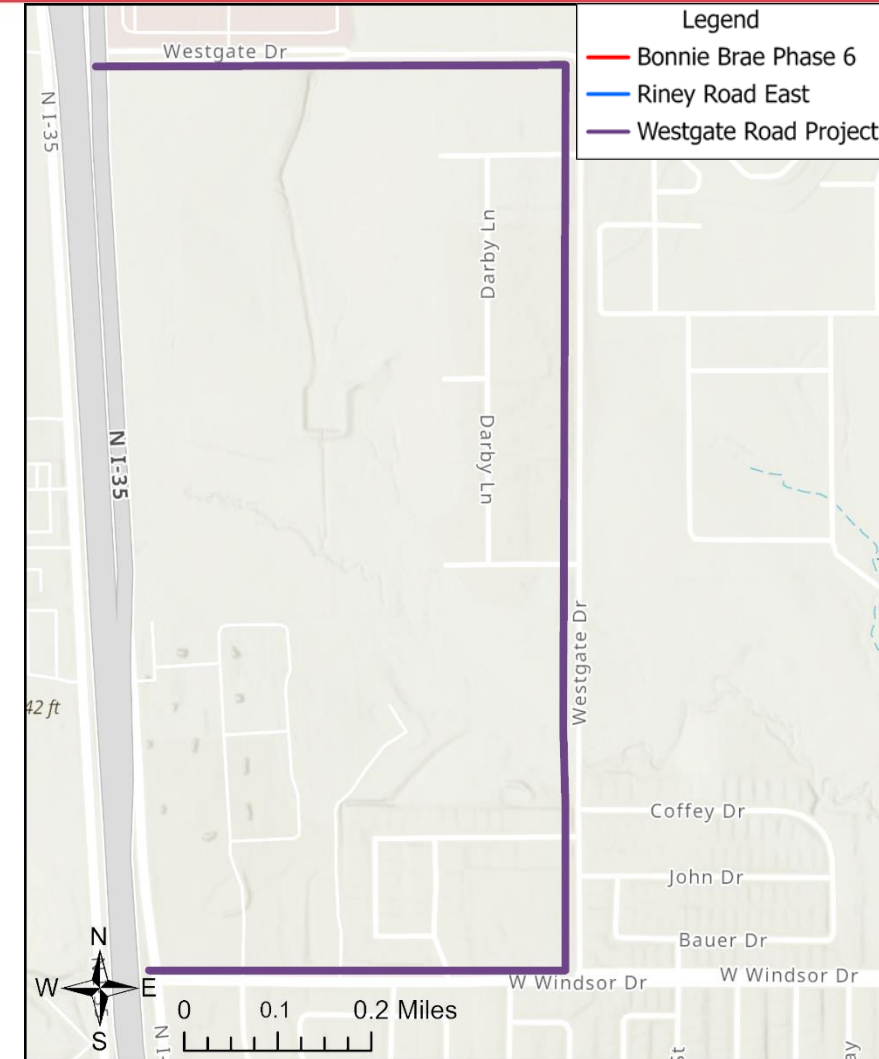
Riney Road East – West of Hardaway Road to US 77

- Project Scope:
 - Roadway Widening
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Utility Relocations
 - Park Trails
- Project Schedule:
 - Current Phase – 90% Design
 - Construction Start – Q3 2025
 - Construction Complete – Q2 2026
- DISD Coordination:
 - Trail System to align with Reeves Elementary School
 - Reviewing traffic crossings to ensure student safety



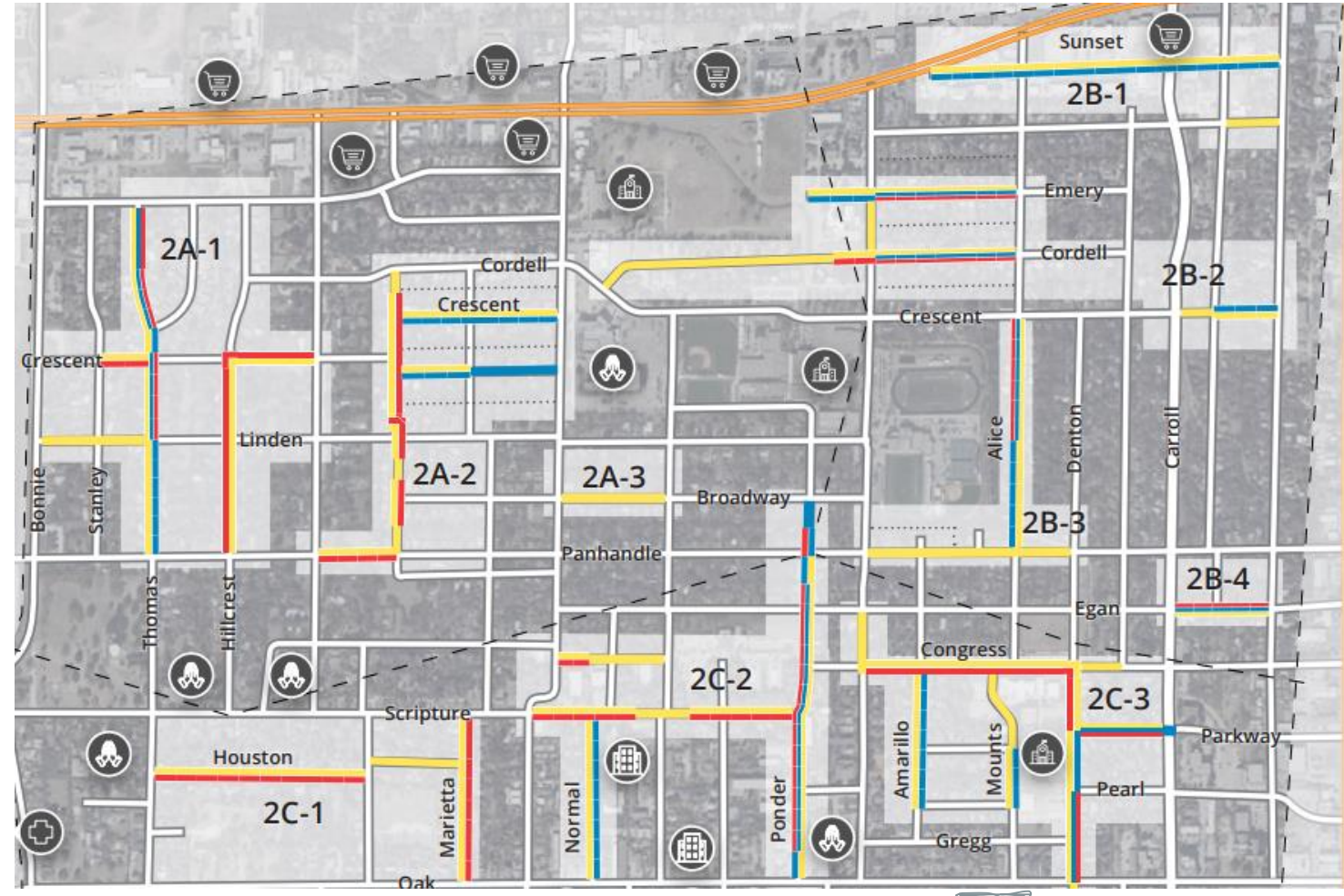
Westgate Road Project including Windsor Drive

- Project Scope:
 - Roadway Widening
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Utility Installation
 - Drainage Installation
- Project Status:
 - 90% Design N/S phase
 - Bidding/Award – E/W phase (100% Design)
 - Construction Start – Q2 2025
 - Construction Complete – Q4 2027
- DISD Coordination:
 - Connection to Bronco Way in Fall 2025
 - Renaming existing E/W Westgate to Bronco Way when completed



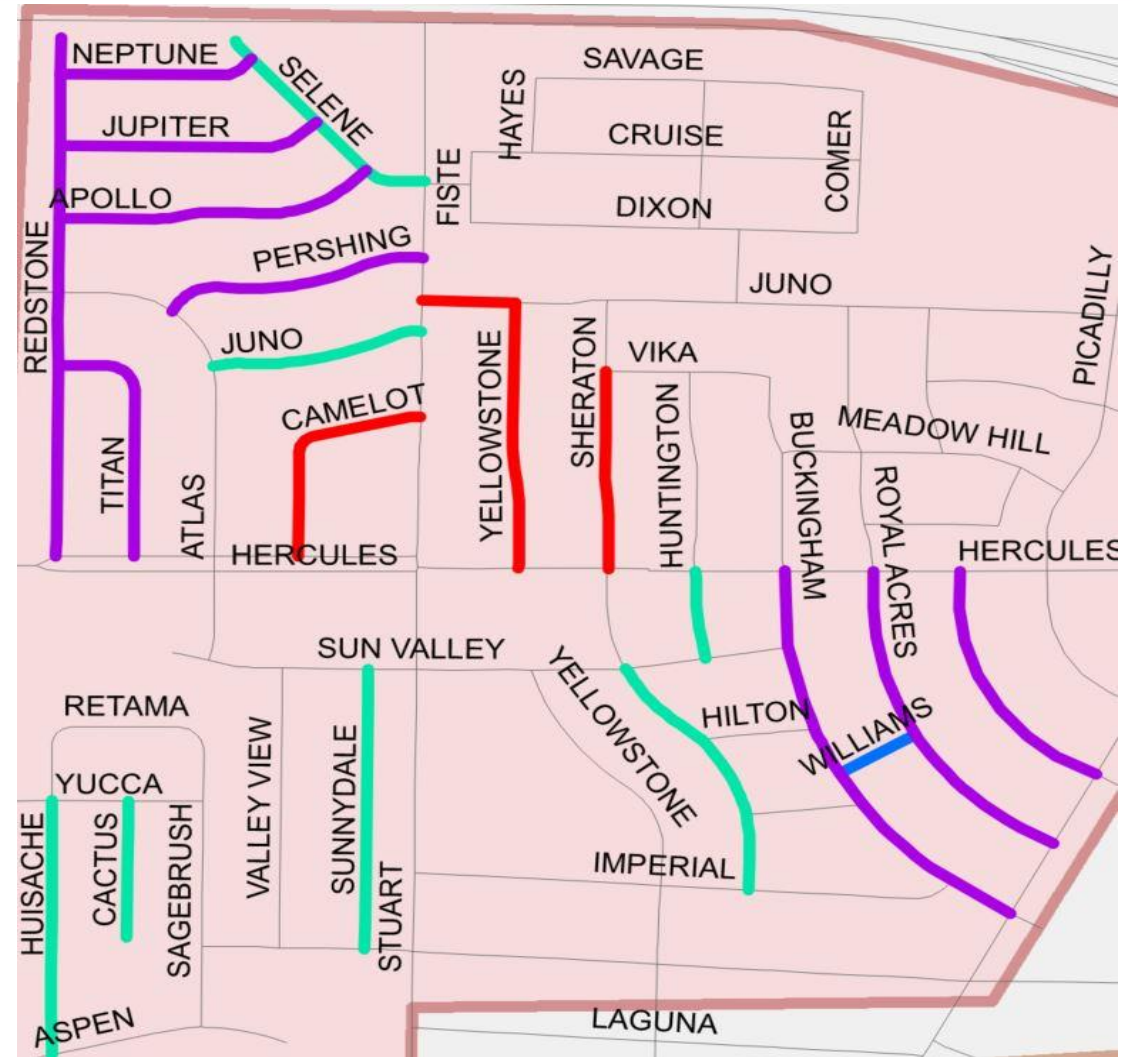
Neighborhood 2 & 6

- Project Scope:
 - Roadway Reconstruction
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Utility Replacements
- Project Schedule:
 - Construction Phase – Current
 - Construction Start – Q4 2023
 - Construction Complete – Q4 2026
- DISD Coordination:
 - Impacts to Newton Rayzor Elementary Bus Routes and School Traffic during construction on Cordell and Alice.
 - Communication of street closures/utility work on Congress, Mounts, and Denton street for Old Calhoun Site.



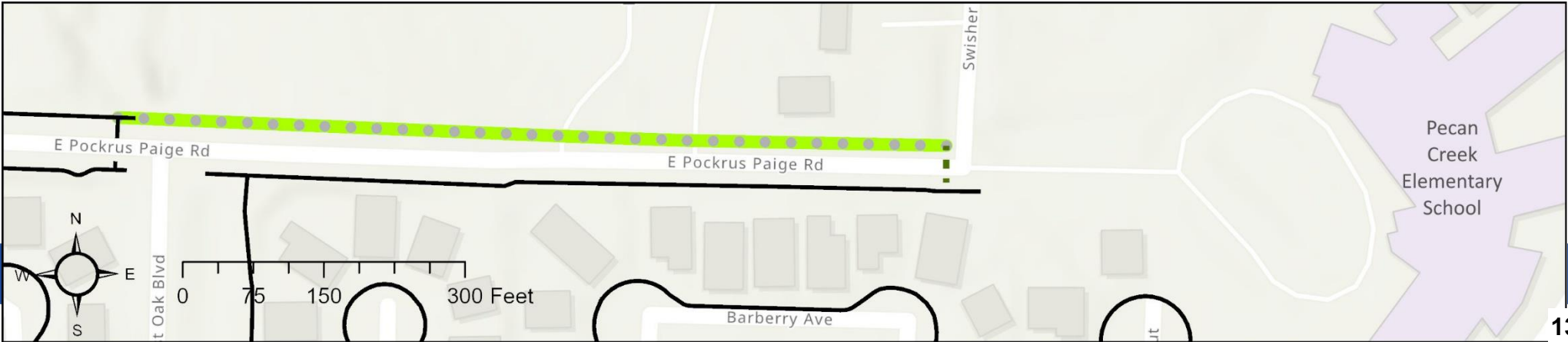
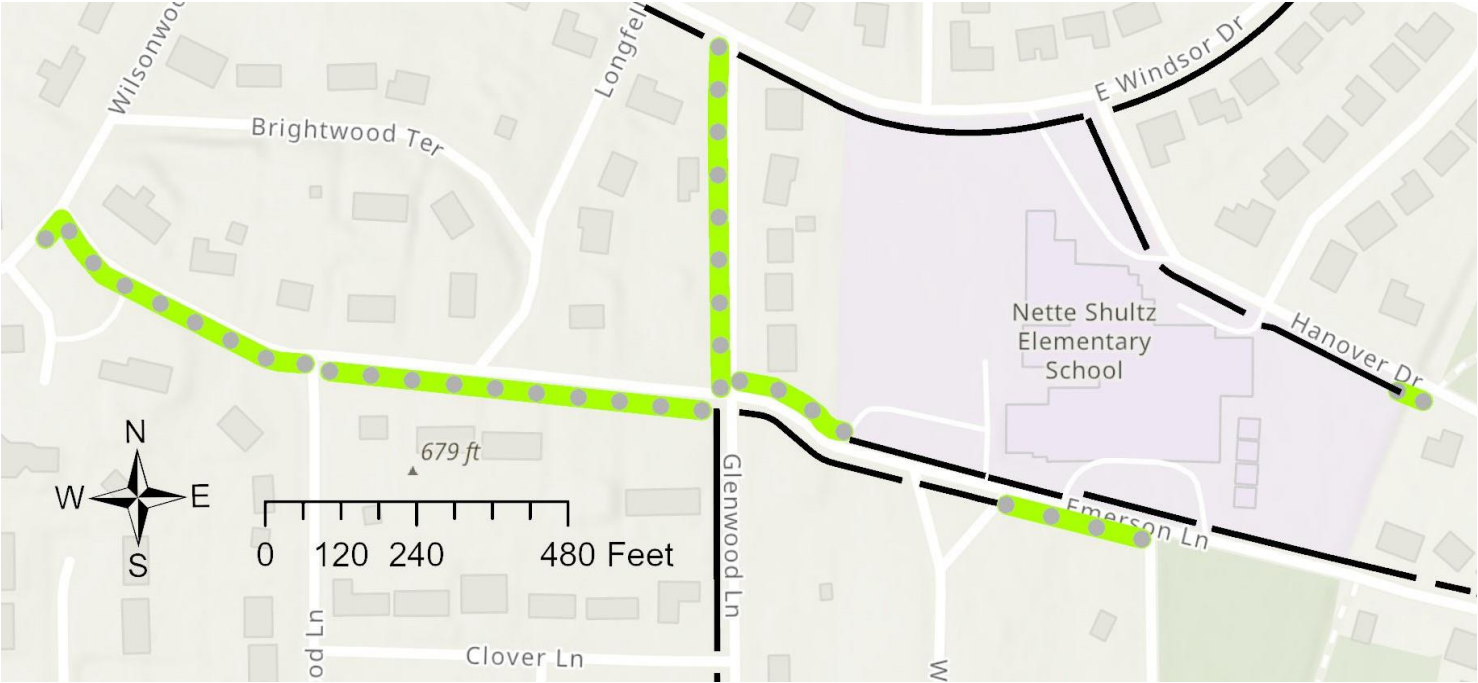
Neighborhood 1B

- Project Scope:
 - Roadway Reconstruction
 - Pedestrian Facilities
 - Utility Replacements
- Project Schedule:
 - Current Phase – 100% Design
 - Construction Start – Q1 2025
 - Construction Complete – Q4 2026
- DISD Coordination:
 - Ginnings Elementary Bus Routes and School Traffic



Safe Routes to Schools – Pecan Creek/Nette Shultz

- Project Scope:
 - 5-foot sidewalks near Pecan Creek and Nette Shultz Elementary Schools
- Project Schedule:
 - Current Phase – Construction
 - Construction Start – May 2025
 - Construction Complete – Q4 2026
- DISD Coordination:
 - Working with contractor to prioritize school segments during summer of 2025.



Safe Routes to Schools – Ginnings/Alexander

- Project Scope:

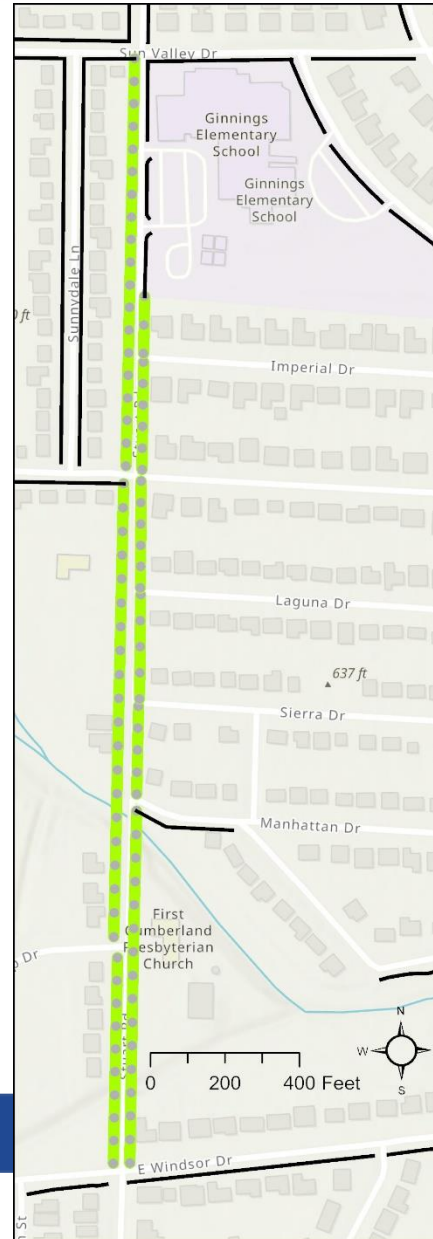
- 5-foot sidewalks near Ginnings and Alexander Elementary Schools

- Project Schedule:

- Current Phase – Construction
- Construction Start – May 2025
- Construction Complete – Q4 2026

- DISD Coordination:

- Working with contractor to prioritize school segments during summer of 2025.



Questions?

Seth Garcia, PMP

Interim Director of Capital Projects

(940) 349-8938





City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney St.
Denton, Texas 76201
www.cityofdenton.com

Legislation Text

File #: ID 25-245, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the status of Denton ISD's legislative priorities and funding.
[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

CM/DCM/ACM: Sara Hensley

DATE: April 1, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the status of Denton ISD's legislative priorities and funding.

DISCUSSION

Denton ISD staff will present information on the district's legislative priorities and funding.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Presentation

Respectfully submitted:
Kristi Fogle
Chief of Staff

Denton ISD Legislative Priorities

An overview of our district's legislative efforts, progress, and ways for our community to get involved.

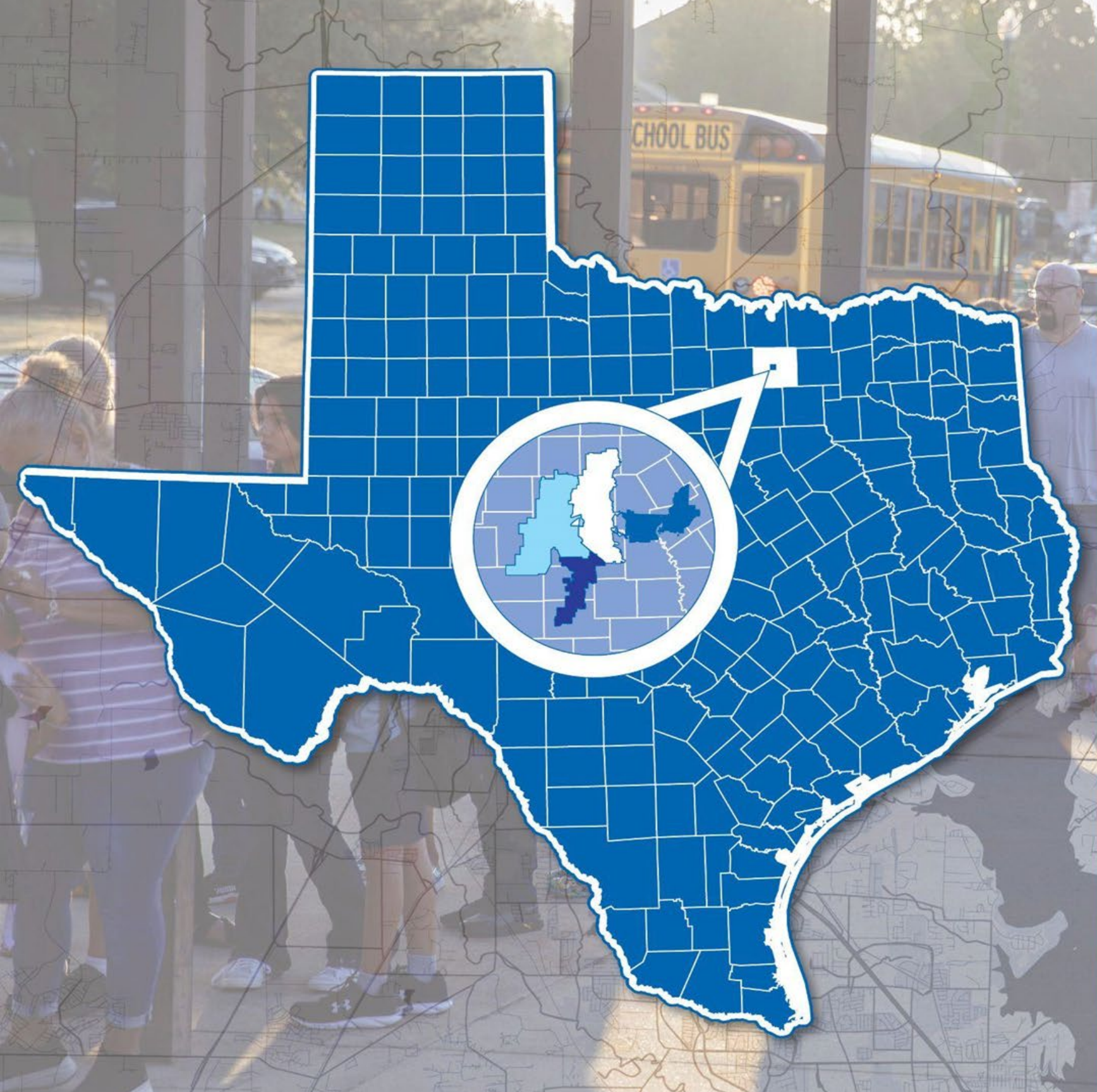




“A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the preservation of the liberties and rights of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature of the State to establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools.”

The Texas Constitution

Article 7, Section 1



The Places and Communities We Serve:

Argyle
Aubrey
Bartonville
Copper Canyon
Corinth
Cross Roads
Denton
Double Oak
Lantana
Little Elm
Oak Point
Paloma Creek
Prosper
Providence
Robson Ranch
Savannah
Shady Shores
Union Park



186 sq. miles
33,372 students
4,690 Educators/Staff
45 Campuses (PreK-12)

Denton ISD Board Goals

Students will graduate college, career, and/or military ready.

Students will be engaged in extra/co-curricular activities.

Students will demonstrate evidence of reading on grade level by the end of 3rd grade.



Students will demonstrate evidence of mastery of Algebra I by the end of 9th grade.

Families and our communities are highly engaged.

Staff members are highly engaged.



Congratulations

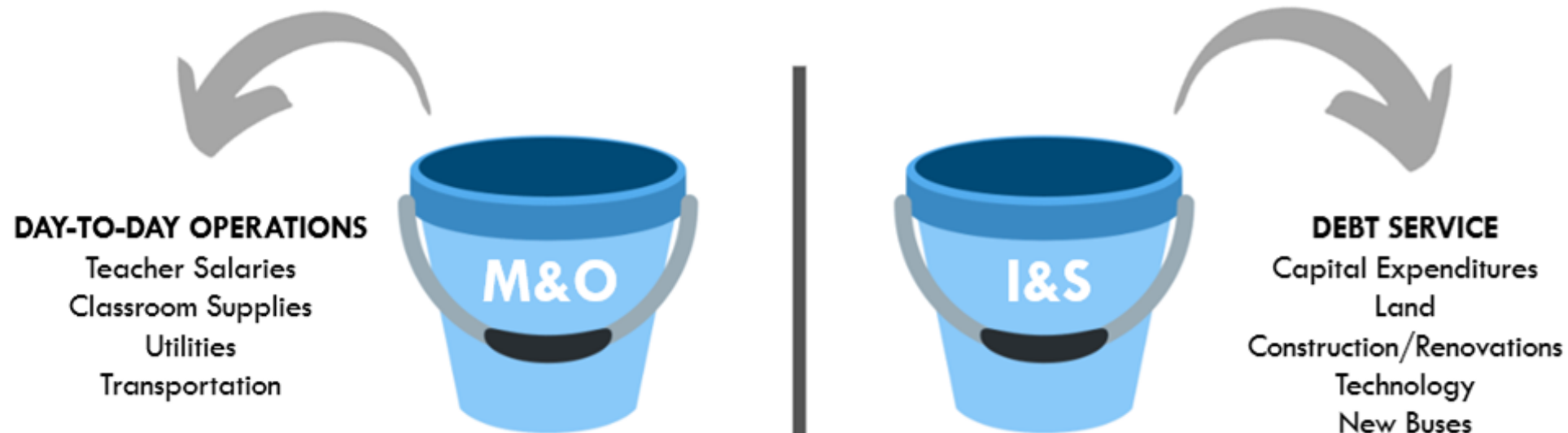
to the Class of 2024 Braswell High, Denton High, Fred Moore High, Guyer High, LaGrone Academy and Ryan High graduates!



Texas Public School Finance



Two “Buckets” of State Funding



The size of the M&O “bucket” is based on average student attendance and student attributes - **not the amount of property taxes collected locally**

TEA sets the Maximum Compressed Rate (MCR) annually for the District

The Board of Trustees sets the I&S tax rate based on debt service payment requirements

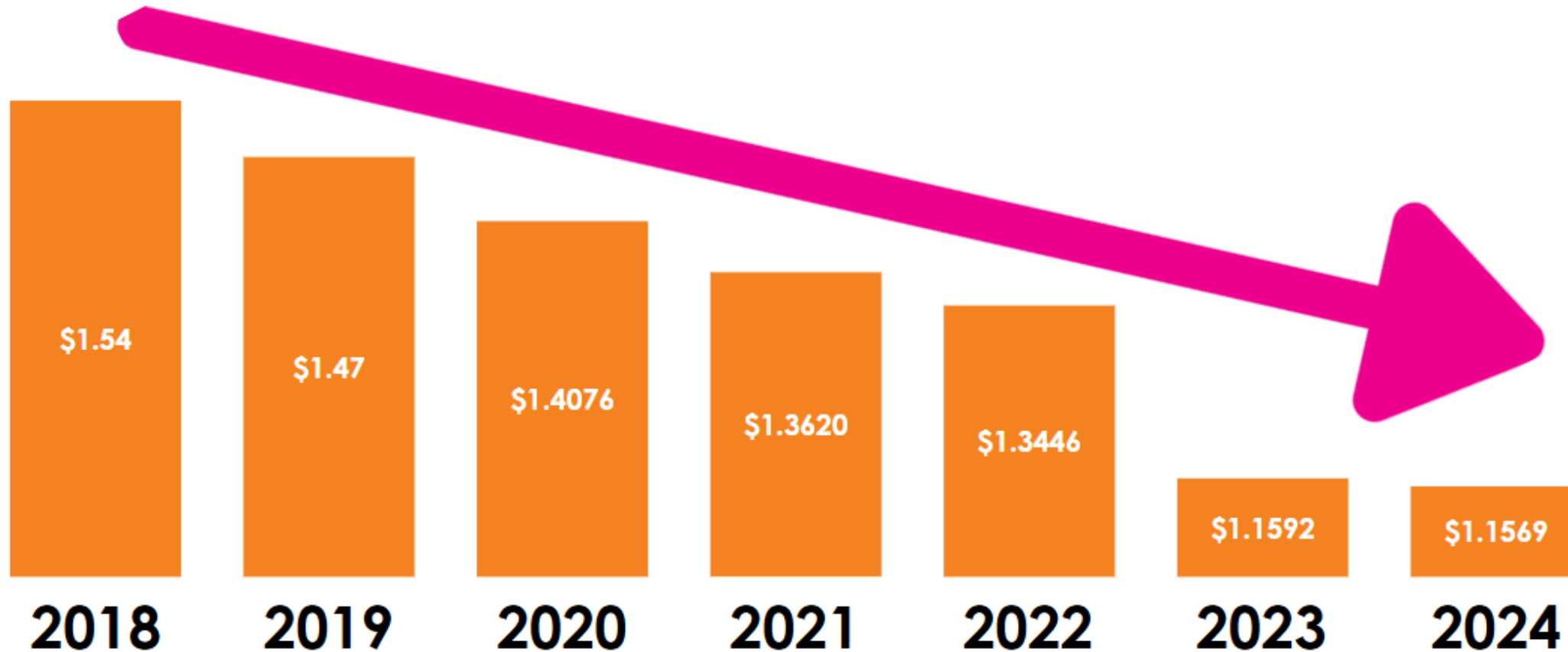
The I&S rate is capped at \$0.50 (per \$100/valuation)

What is the **tax** impact?



A state homestead exemption reduces a home's taxable value by \$100,000. Therefore, the taxable value of an average home in Denton ISD (about \$465,000) would be \$365,000.

Denton ISD Adopts Lowest Tax Rate in More Than a Decade



School taxes, by the glass

Since the district's property values have been increasing, Denton ISD receives less funding from the state.

Less State Aid

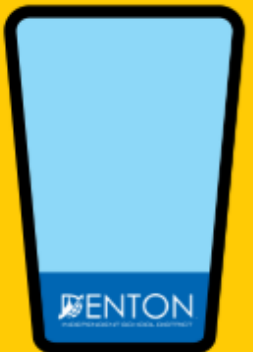
Greater Property Tax Revenue



Local property taxes fill the glass first, and the state fills in any space that is left.

State Aid

Property Tax Revenue



TEXAS RANKS IN THE BOTTOM 10 IN PER PUPIL SPENDING



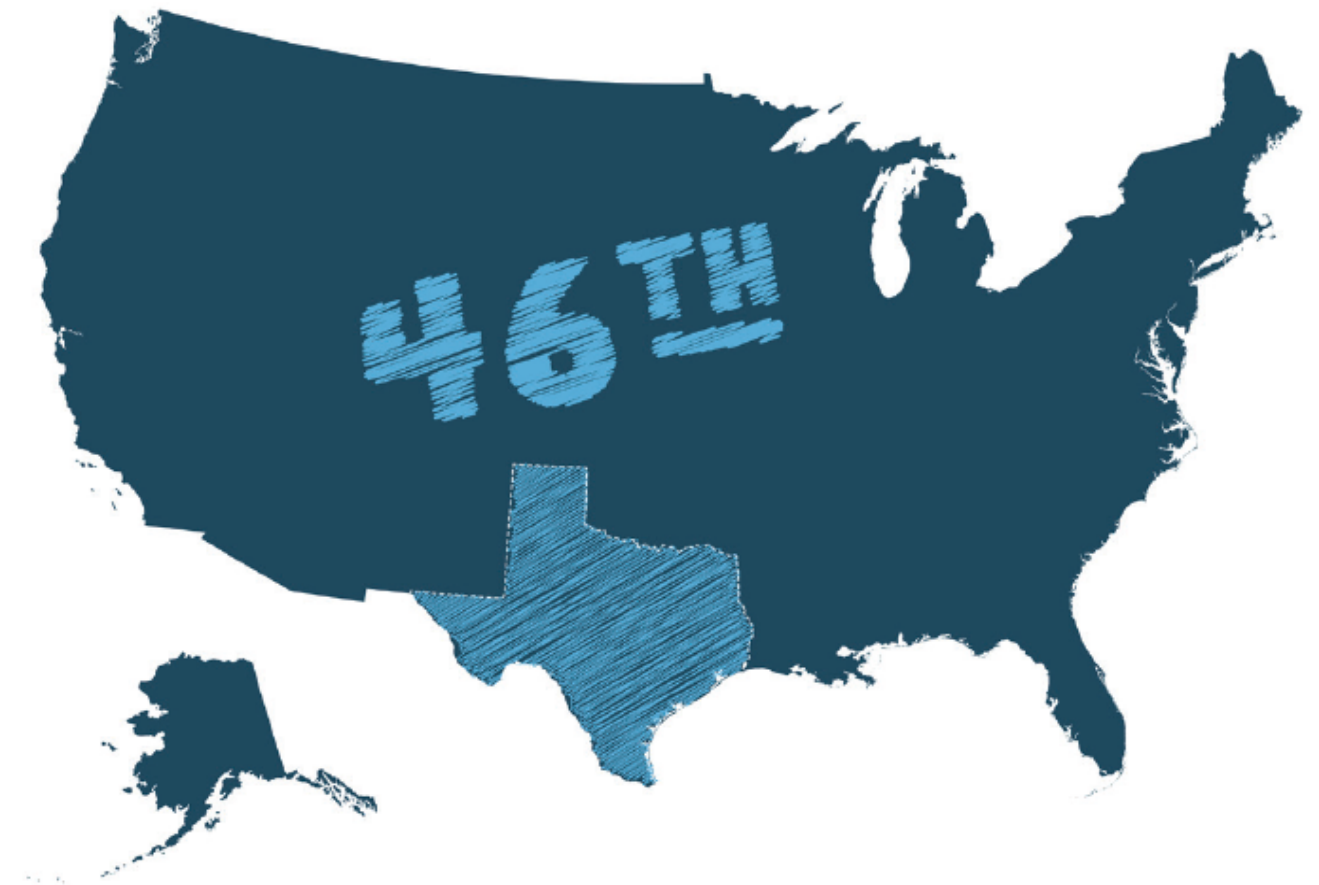
Texas Continues to Rank in the Bottom 10 in School Funding

Texas continues to rank in the bottom 10 states nationally for state spending on education, trailing the national average by over \$4,400 per student.² The long-lasting impact of underfunding our public schools is profound.

Investment in education is crucial. The Legislature alone holds the power to adjust school funding to meet the demands of the 2025 economy and support students' unique and varied needs.

Every legislative session, the state saves billions from local home and business property value growth, but the Legislature is not reinvesting these billions of dollars back into public education. Texas has an equalized school funding system, meaning when local school taxes increase, the state has to contribute less money unless it increases school funding formulas. The state saved over \$8 billion last legislative session because it did not increase any of the major funding formulas driving our spending per student.

Texas Ranking: 2024 NEA State Rankings Report ¹



How much does a district receive?



A District is funded using a formula that is set in state statute and is based on the number of students enrolled, student demographics, attendance and the school's participation in special programs.

The district funding formula includes:

- **Basic allotment** – \$6,160 per student and does not include an inflation factor
- **Average Daily Attendance (ADA)** – average number of students who come to class on any given day
- **Weighted-student units** – student populations that need more educational resources including those classified as at-risk, economically disadvantaged, bilingual, special education, gifted and talented, career and technical education, and dyslexia.

Student Attendance is important!

When students come to class, they not only increase their learning opportunities, but they also increase their district's state funding for the year.

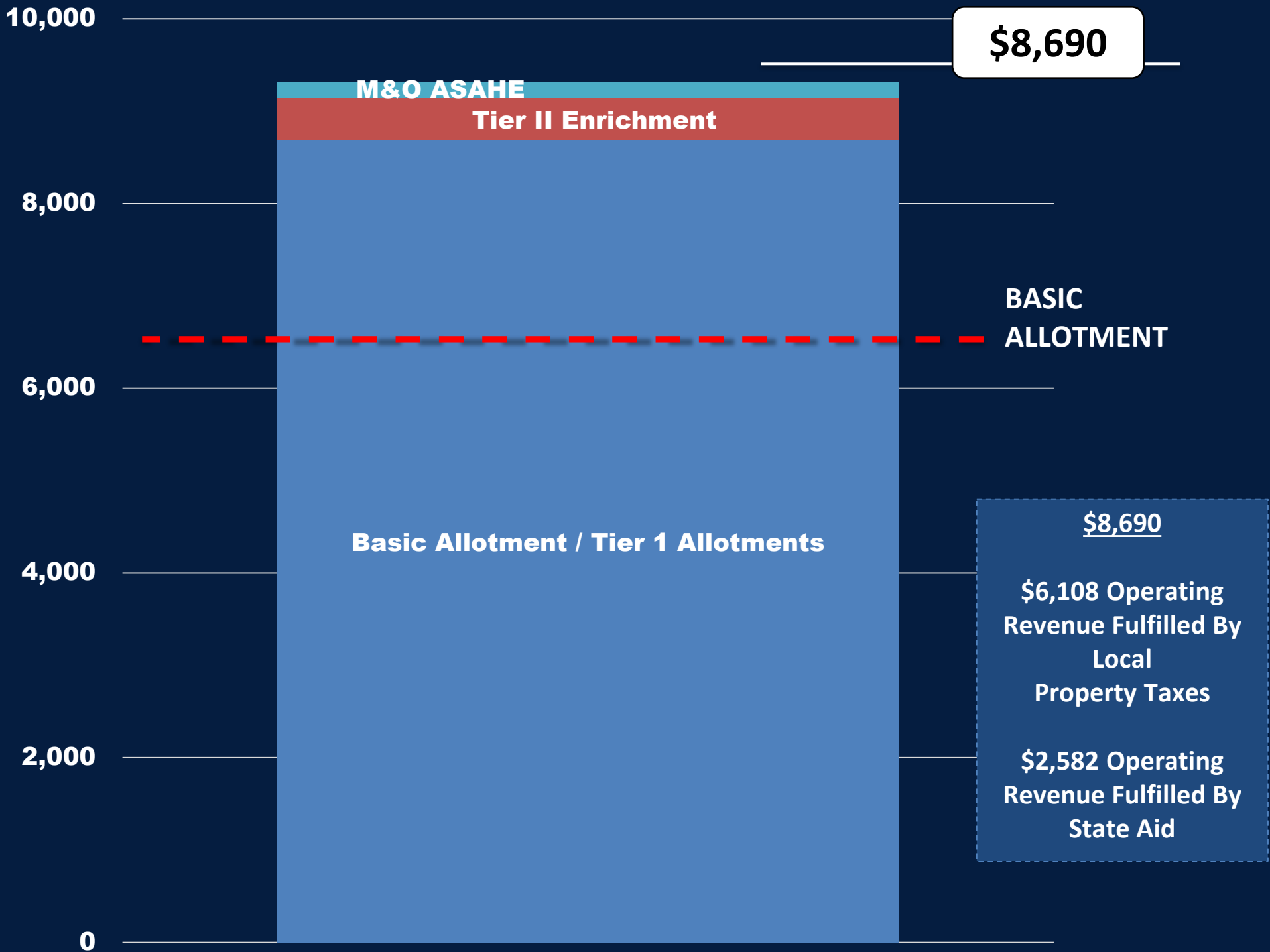
If the district increased its average daily attendance by only 155 students, the district's state funding would increase by approx. \$1.2 million, which means more funds for the activities that are important to you and your family.

However, a decrease of 310 students in average daily attendance for the school year would earn the district approx. \$2.1 million less in state funding.

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Date	Time

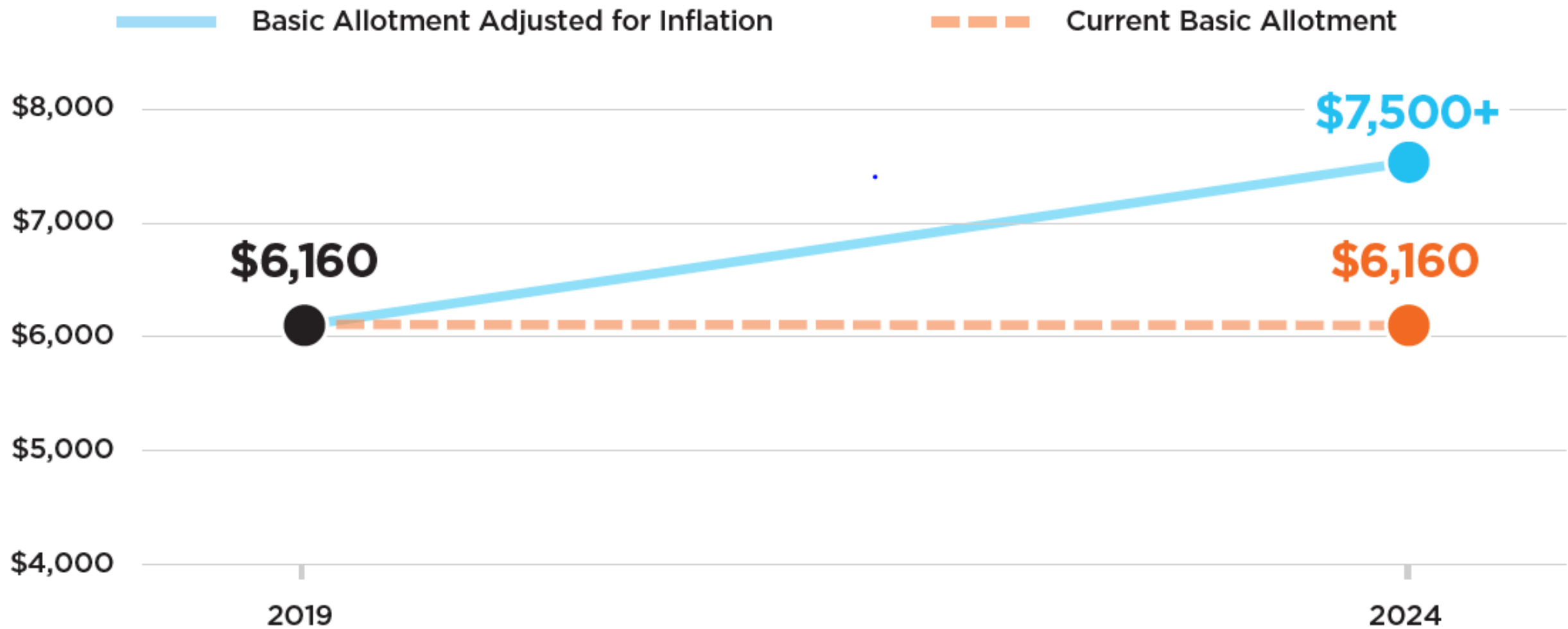
**DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-2024 REVENUE PER AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE
AVAILABLE FOR DAILY OPERATION**



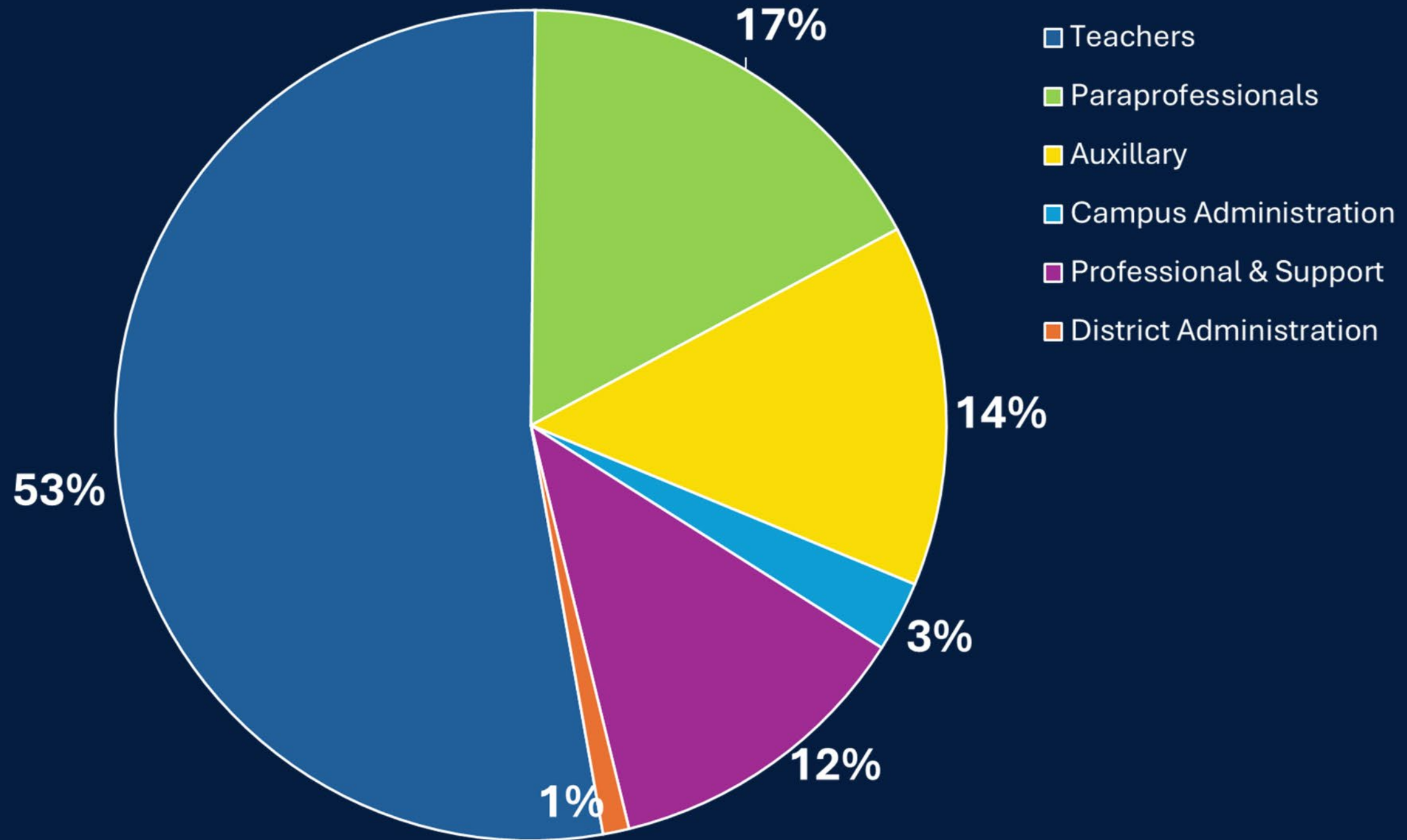
Basic Allotment



Keep Pace with Inflation: Unlock Texas School Funding



DENTON ISD STAFF COMPOSITION





Budgetary Pressures

Since the beginning of the 23-24 School Year:

- **\$6,592,071** School Health and Related Services (SHARS) loss of funding
- **\$7,438,226** Transportation funding gap
- **\$4,440,228** Safety and Security requirements annual funding gap from House Bill 3 (88th Regular Session)
- **\$256,338** Denton County Appraisal District cost increase
- **\$2,529,103** (and climbing) Utilities cost increase
- **\$1,545,452** Property Casualty Insurance cost increase
- **\$10,000,000** in raises in 2023 based on assurances that the \$4 billion in the state budget would be flowed to public schools

\$32,801,418
TOTAL
BUDGET
IMPACT

Where Denton ISD Stands



2024-2025 Expenditures: **\$342,048,541**

—
2024-2025 Revenue: **\$322,131,145**

2024-2025 Deficit Budget: \$19,917,396

DEFICIT AREAS AND FUNDING GAPS



Denton ISD

Texas

\$2,490,955



Pre-K Programming

\$460,000,000

\$9,859,333*



Special Education

\$2,150,000,000

\$7,438,226



Transportation

\$1,700,000,000

\$4,440,228



Safety and Security

\$750,000,000

Denton ISD Legislative Priorities:

1

Increased Funding

In order to continue providing excellent opportunities for students and value our teachers.

2


Sensible Accountability

Reduction in mandatory assessments and reliance on high stakes testing.

3

Local Control over Student Discipline


Provide local authority to address disruptive students that affect others' learning or compromise safety.



2025 DENTON ISD LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEED A
\$1,340
INCREASE IN THE BASIC ALLOTMENT
 TO MAKE UP FOR INFLATION SINCE 2020

The basic allotment is the primary mechanism used to fund Texas public schools. Every increase in the basic allotment, triggers additional funding for **key programs and state priorities.**

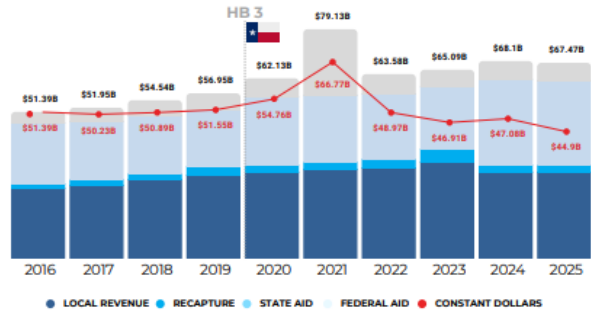
 **A \$1,340 INCREASE WOULD PROVIDE THE DISTRICT WITH AN ADDITIONAL:**

- \$5,000** AVERAGE TEACHER COMPENSATION
- \$8.7M** FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION
- \$816K** FOR SCHOOL SAFETY

BASED ON CURRENT ESTIMATES

IN 2024-2025, OUR DISTRICT COSTS EXCEED STATE FUNDING FOR SEVERAL IMPORTANT AREAS:

- \$2.5M** Pre-K Programs
- \$9.9M** Special Education
- \$7.4M** Transportation
- \$4.4M** Safety & Security




Denton ISD calls for local control and locally determined frameworks for

SENSIBLE ACCOUNTABILITY

along with a reduction in both mandatory state assessments and high stakes in the A-F rating system that impact students, teachers, and schools.

THE EXPANSION OF CHAPTER 37 HAS REDUCED LOCAL CONTROL OVER STUDENT DISCIPLINE.

SCHOOLS NEED THE AUTHORITY TO ADDRESS DISRUPTIVE STUDENTS WHO AFFECT OTHERS' LEARNING OR COMPROMISE SAFETY.

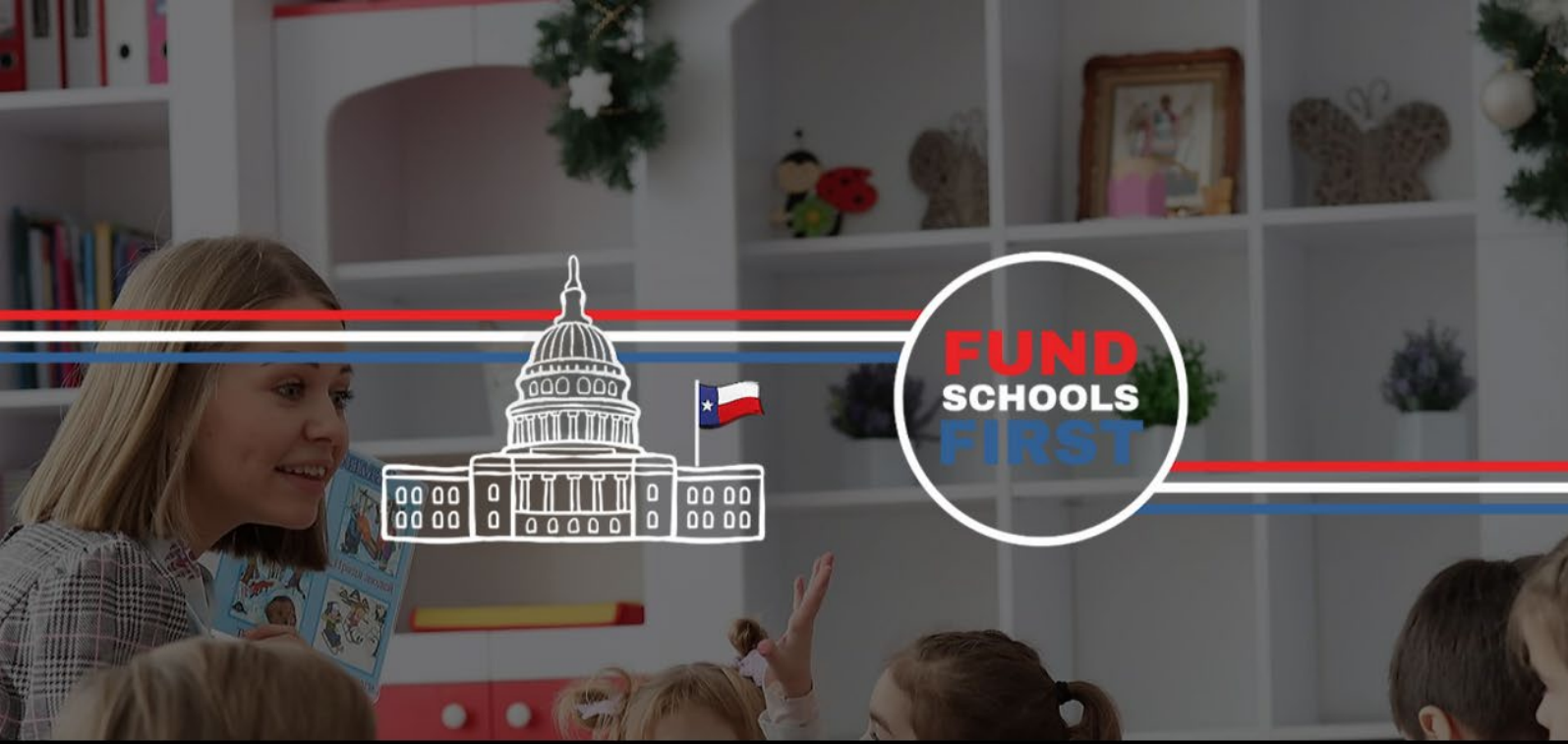
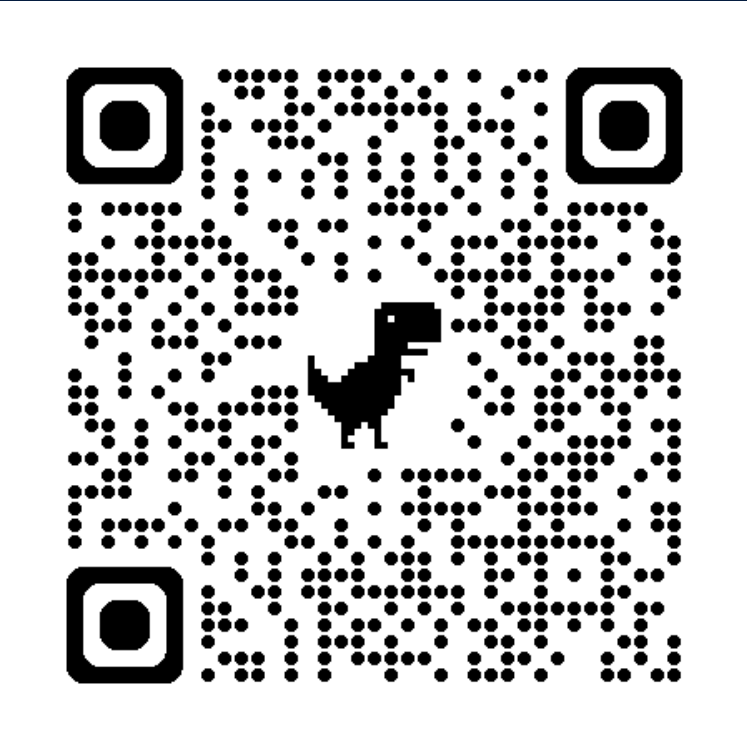


DENTON

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

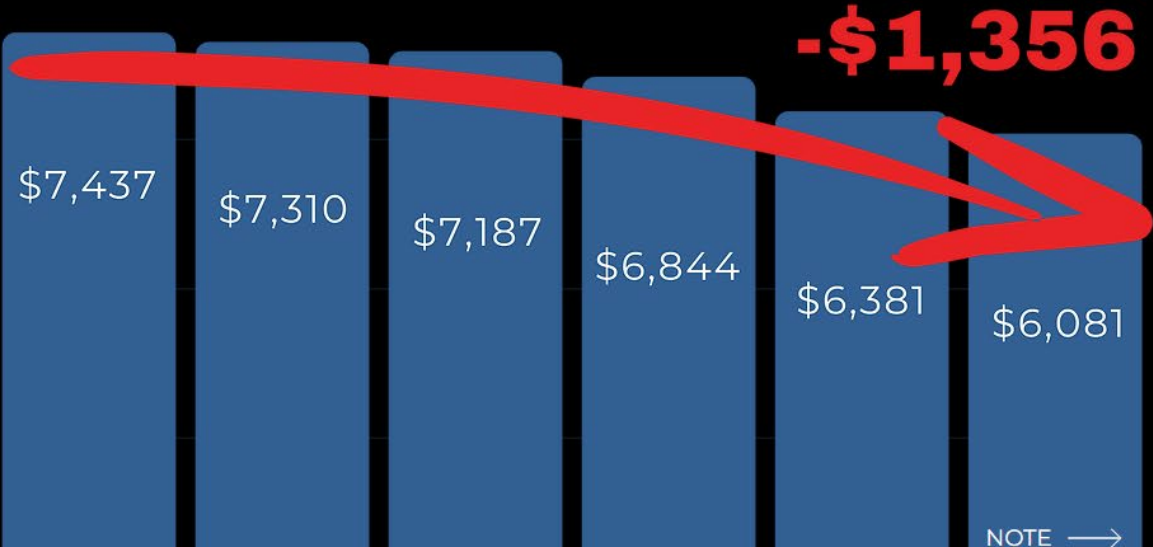
www.dentonisd.org/1925

FUND SCHOOLS FIRST WEBSITE

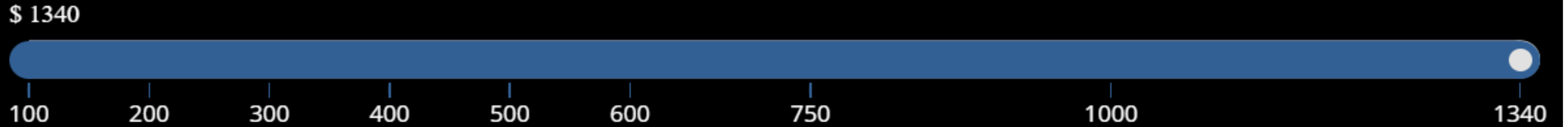


TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEED A **\$10 BILLION** INCREASE TO ANNUAL FUNDING TO MAKE UP FOR INFLATION SINCE 2020

INFLATION ADJUSTED PER-WADA FUNDING



Increase in the Basic Allotment



Average Raise for Teachers, Counselors, Librarians, & Nurses

\$5,505

Special Education Allotment Increase

\$1.38 Billion

School Safety Allotment Increase

\$133.9 Million

Decrease in Recapture

-\$788 Million

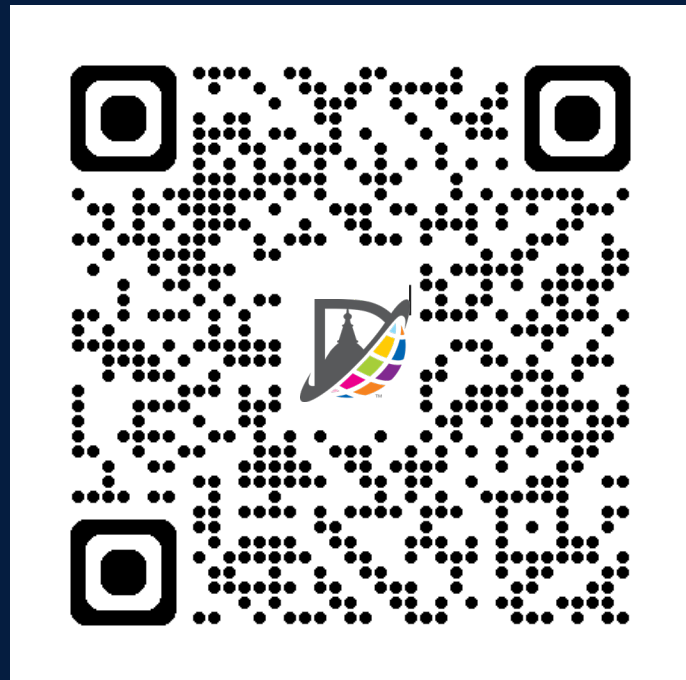


Transparency in Denton ISD

Denton ISD is focused on ensuring transparency throughout this educational budget planning process.

All meeting information can be accessed at:

www.dentonisd.org/1925



DENTON
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

1925 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1925 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1925 Home

Committee

Values
Growth & Management... In pursuit of excellence, we value utilizing citizens' advisory committees to focus on short and long-term tasks.

Committee Objective
This Committee is being created to understand Texas School Finance, evaluate staffing formulas and programming, analyze budgeted allocations of resources to current District programs, and offer feedback to the District's executive cabinet regarding how to prioritize reductions to budgeted expenditures and to maximize revenues in order to accomplish District budget goals. It is our desire to educate leaders within our community in order to seek input and facilitate informed decision making and advocacy in ways that align with the District's mission, vision and goals.

The 1925 Committee is a valuable group of volunteers who will collaboratively provide input, advice and planning assistance on developing the 2025-2026 Denton ISD Operating Budget. This Committee receives feedback from community members and Denton ISD staff regarding our needs based on educational trends and population.

RAISE How Public Schools in Texas are Funded... PROVIDE...
HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS
SAFE AND EFFICIENT FACILITIES
VALUED PROGRAMS
Watch on YouTube



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney St.
Denton, Texas 76201
www.cityofdenton.com

Legislation Text

File #: ID 25-503, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the City of Denton's legislative priorities.

[Estimated Presentation/Discussion Time: 30 minutes]



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

CM/DCM/ACM: Sara Hensley

DATE: April 1, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the City of Denton's legislative priorities.

BACKGROUND

The Texas Legislature has convened for 89th Legislative Session. As a political subdivision of the State, the City of Denton has a vested interest in the actions taken by the State Legislature during session. To ensure that the City's priorities are effectively represented at the state level, Council has approved a Legislative Program that outlines key policy areas that are most important to the City and guides the City's legislative efforts.

DISCUSSION

Staff will present information on the City's Legislative Program and relevant bills that are moving through the legislative process.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. 89th Legislative Session Program
3. Presentation

Respectfully submitted:
Kristi Fogle
Chief of Staff

Community Focus

The City of Denton values strong partnerships with key community organizations—including Denton ISD, Denton County, Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA), North Central Texas College (NCTC), Texas Woman’s University (TWU), and the University of North Texas (UNT). To advance legislation that addresses shared priorities and enhances the well-being of the entire Denton area, the City supports the following initiatives:

- Expand access to affordable mental health care through legislation and funding.
- Support legislation and funding for community-based services for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Protect the autonomy of local officials to make decisions in the best interest of their communities.
 - Oppose restrictions on cities' ability to contract with registered lobbyists for legislative services. If restrictions are imposed, allow cities to maintain contracts for non-lobbying legislative services, such as bill analysis and tracking.
- Support legislation that enhances the City’s vibrant community and economy including affordable housing, economic development agreements, environmental sustainability, public and higher education funding, public safety, and tourism.

City Services

- Support legislation that designates essential city employees, like solid waste, utilities, and animal control officers, as first responders.
- Support legislation mandating that retail pet stores only sell animals acquired from animal control agencies, shelters, or rescue organizations, and require stores to maintain records of the animals’ origins.
- Support legislation that restores a city’s ability to regulate retail pet stores.
- Support legislation and funding for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Local Parks Grant Program.
- Oppose legislation that limits franchise fee authority for solid waste services.
- Oppose legislation that restricts libraries' authority to make decisions regarding materials, implements a state-issued rating system for purchases, or prohibits libraries from hosting community events.

Land Use & Development

- Support legislation that protects and clarifies the City’s role in requests for removal from their extraterritorial jurisdictions (ETJ).
- Support legislation that preserves the City’s authority to establish lot sizes, parking requirements, density, and accessory dwelling unit (ADU) requirements within city limits.
- Oppose legislation that restricts a city’s authority over development issues, including annexation, eminent domain, zoning, regulatory takings, building codes, tree preservation, short-term rentals, and manufactured housing.
- Oppose legislation that diminishes the City’s authority to manage and control its rights-of-way, including limitations on requiring dedications or studies as part of plat submissions.

Municipal Court

- Support legislation that amends extended-term protective orders to include offenses against pregnant individuals and those involving strangulation.
- Support legislation that creates a nominal court fee to provide need-based funding for court-appointed attorneys in Class C misdemeanor cases.
- Support legislation that improves virtual or remote access for defendants in municipal court.
- Oppose legislation that eliminates the option of issuing warrants for Class C misdemeanors.

Taxation & Financial Strategies

- Support legislation allowing municipalities to issue debt and protecting debt issuances.
- Support increasing the competitive bidding threshold to reflect rising costs and inflation.
- Oppose legislation limiting a city's ability to issue Certificates of Obligation (COs) and levy necessary fees.

Transportation & Aviation

- Support legislation that invests in the State's multimodal transportation systems and increases funding for growing urban areas.
- Support legislation that provides cities with greater flexibility to fund local transportation projects.
- Support legislation that invests in the State's aviation program capital improvement.

Utilities

- Support legislation that increases state grant funding to the Texas Water Development Board, in alignment with the priorities outlined in the State Water Plan.
- Support legislation that promotes direct potable reuse water, and other water conservation initiatives.
- Support legislation that clearly defines technology resources capable of meeting the goals of the Dispatchable Reliability Reserve Service.
- Support legislation that classifies electric power generation units as critical infrastructure, giving them the same priority protections as entities with priority access to natural gas during emergencies.
- Oppose any legislation that restricts large load interconnections to the distribution systems of Municipal-Owned Utilities (MOUs).
- Oppose legislation that creates unfunded mandates on Municipal-Owned Utilities.





89th Legislative Session Update

Session by the numbers

- Day 78 of 140
- 5,792 bills filed in the House
- 3,106 bills filed in the Senate
- 496 bills tracked by the City
- 60 bills related to the City's Legislative Program
- 2,000+ bills tracked by Texas Municipal League

City of Denton Legislative Program



COMMUNITY FOCUS



CITY SERVICES



**LAND USE AND
DEVELOPMENT**



MUNICIPAL COURT



**TAXATION AND
FINANCIAL
STRATEGIES**



**TRANSPORTATION
AND AVIATION**



UTILITIES



Community Focus

The City of Denton values strong partnerships with key community organizations—including Denton ISD, Denton County, Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA), North Central Texas College (NCTC), Texas Woman’s University (TWU), and the University of North Texas (UNT). To advance legislation that addresses shared priorities and enhances the well-being of the entire Denton area, the City supports the following initiatives:

- Expand access to affordable mental health care through legislation and funding.
- Support legislation and funding for community-based services for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Protect the autonomy of local officials to make decisions in the best interest of their communities.
 - Oppose restrictions on cities' ability to contract with registered lobbyists for legislative services. If restrictions are imposed, allow cities to maintain contracts for non-lobbying legislative services, such as bill analysis and tracking.
- Support legislation that enhances the City’s vibrant community and economy including affordable housing, economic development agreements, environmental sustainability, public and higher education funding, public safety, and tourism.



City Services

- Support legislation that designates essential city employees, like solid waste, utilities, and animal control officers, as first responders.
- Support legislation mandating that retail pet stores only sell animals acquired from animal control agencies, shelters, or rescue organizations, and require stores to maintain records of the animals' origins.
- Support legislation that restores a city's ability to regulate retail pet stores.
- Support legislation and funding for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Local Parks Grant Program.
- Oppose legislation that limits franchise fee authority for solid waste services.
- Oppose legislation that restricts libraries' authority to make decisions regarding materials, implements a state-issued rating system for purchases, or prohibits libraries from hosting community events.



Land Use and Development

- Support legislation that protects and clarifies the City's role in requests for removal from their extraterritorial jurisdictions (ETJ).
- Support legislation that preserves the City's authority to establish lot sizes, parking requirements, density, and accessory dwelling unit (ADU) requirements within city limits.
- Oppose legislation that restricts a city's authority over development issues, including annexation, eminent domain, zoning, regulatory takings, building codes, tree preservation, short-term rentals, and manufactured housing.
- Oppose legislation that diminishes the City's authority to manage and control its rights-of-way, including limitations on requiring dedications or studies as part of plat submissions.



Municipal Court

- Support legislation that amends extended-term protective orders to include offenses against pregnant individuals and those involving strangulation.
- Support legislation that creates a nominal court fee to provide need-based funding for court-appointed attorneys in Class C misdemeanor cases.
- Support legislation that improves virtual or remote access for defendants in municipal court.
- Oppose legislation that eliminates the option of issuing warrants for Class C misdemeanors.



Taxation and Financial Strategies

- Support legislation allowing municipalities to issue debt and protecting debt issuances.
- Support increasing the competitive bidding threshold to reflect rising costs and inflation.
- Oppose legislation limiting a city's ability to issue Certificates of Obligation (COs) and levy necessary fees.



Transportation and Aviation

- Support legislation that invests in the State's multimodal transportation systems and increases funding for growing urban areas.
- Support legislation that provides cities with greater flexibility to fund local transportation projects.
- Support legislation that invests in the State's aviation program capital improvement.



Utilities

- Support legislation that increases state grant funding to the Texas Water Development Board, in alignment with the priorities outlined in the State Water Plan.
- Support legislation that promotes direct potable reuse water, and other water conservation initiatives.
- Support legislation that clearly defines technology resources capable of meeting the goals of the Dispatchable Reliability Reserve Service.
- Support legislation that classifies electric power generation units as critical infrastructure, giving them the same priority protections as entities with priority access to natural gas during emergencies.
- Oppose any legislation that restricts large load interconnections to the distribution systems of Municipal-Owned Utilities (MOUs).
- Oppose legislation that creates unfunded mandates on Municipal-Owned Utilities.

Important Deadlines

- June 2 – Last day of session (Sine Die)
- June 22 – Governor's veto period ends
- September 1 – Bill effective date