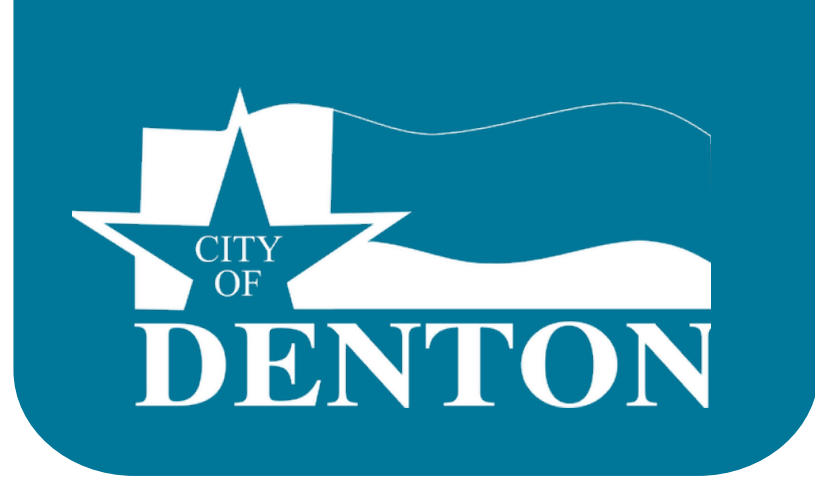




90th Legislative Session



Kristi Fogle, Chief of Staff

Key Issues

- **Preemption & Home Rule**
 - State preemption of local authority remains a top threat. Bills restricting municipal zoning, short-term rentals, tree preservation, and rights-of-way management are expected.
- **Property Tax & Finance**
 - Continued pressure on municipal revenue caps, appraisal reform, and limits on Certificates of Obligation, Impact Fees, and General Fund Transfers will require active monitoring and engagement
- **Growth & Infrastructure**
 - Rapid population growth, data centers, and water supply strains are driving new legislation affecting land use, utilities, and transportation funding

The 89th Recap

- A record-breaking **8,731** bills were filed; 1,222 were passed
 - Record-low pass rate of 14%
- Over **1,700** city-related bills filed
 - **262** bills directly impacting cities passed
- **711** bills tracked by the City
 - **229** bills directly impacting the City of Denton passed

Bringing Legislative Services in-House

Delivering higher-quality legislative support at a lower overall cost

PREVIOUS APPROACH

Third-Party Consultant

- External lobbyist engaged on the City's behalf
- Limited internal knowledge building
- Less control over advocacy messaging
- Consulting contract costs



NEW APPROACH

In-House Team

- Dedicated City staff leading advocacy directly
- Deeper institutional knowledge and continuity
- Greater control over City's legislative voice
- Supported by sophisticated bill-tracking technology
- Ability to contract on an as-needed basis with issue area experts
- Increased Council engagement

Legislative Team

Denton's in-house legislative team will lead all advocacy, bill-monitoring, and stakeholder engagement during the 90th session.



Frank Dixon
Assistant City Manager



Kristi Fogle
Chief of Staff



Kennedy Moore
Senior Management Analyst

Legislative Program

Council reviewed the proposed priorities on August 4, 2026, and the following slides reflect the feedback received.

The final program will be presented to Council for final approval on October 27, 2026.

Our Guiding Principles

The City of Denton’s legislative efforts are guided by five core principles that shape every Support or Oppose position in the program.



Foster strong partnerships with state leaders, regional partners, and community institutions.



Support investments in infrastructure, public safety, and economic opportunity.



Advance the health, safety, and well-being of Denton residents.



Support accountable and transparent local government principles and decision-making.



Ensure strong financial stewardship to support dependable, high-value services for residents.



Active Legislative Priorities

The City of Denton is actively pursuing legislation on the following high-priority items:

First Responder Retirement & Property Tax Benefits

The City supports legislation providing full retirement benefits and expanded property tax exemptions to first responders catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

Housing Authority Reform (Ch. 392)

The City supports amending Chapter 392 to ensure the legislature's prior changes to Chapter 303 Public Facility Corporations also apply to Public Facility Corporations and partnerships created under Chapter 392.

Public Information Request Clarification

The City supports clarifying PIR requirements regarding the release of records involving deceased suspects versus deceased victims.

Qualified Hotel Project Program Extension

The program is set to expire. The City supports extending it to preserve a critical economic development tool for municipalities.

Legislative Positions

Staff will monitor bills in these areas and make known the City’s Support or Opposition if legislation is introduced.

Taxation & Finance

- ▲ Municipal debt issuance authority, BPP No New Revenue Rate calculation, sales tax flexibility to fund a transportation authority and an Economic Development Corporation (EDC).
- ▼ Restrictions on COs; limits on tax and fee authority.

Land Use & Development

- ▲ ETJ authority; local control over lot sizes, density, ADUs.
- ▼ Restrictions on annexation, zoning, building codes, STRs, rights-of-way.

City Services

- ▲ First responder designation; Parks grant funding; humane pet store regulation.
- ▼ Library restrictions.

Transportation & Aviation

- ▲ Multimodal transportation funding; local project flexibility; aviation capital investment.

Community & Partnerships

The City of Denton values its strong partnerships with Denton ISD, Denton County, DCTA, NCTC, TWU, and UNT, and supports legislation that advances shared community priorities.

Alongside a coalition of 15 key regional organizations, including Denton County MHMR and United Way, the City of Denton supports creating a countywide mental health and jail diversion center.

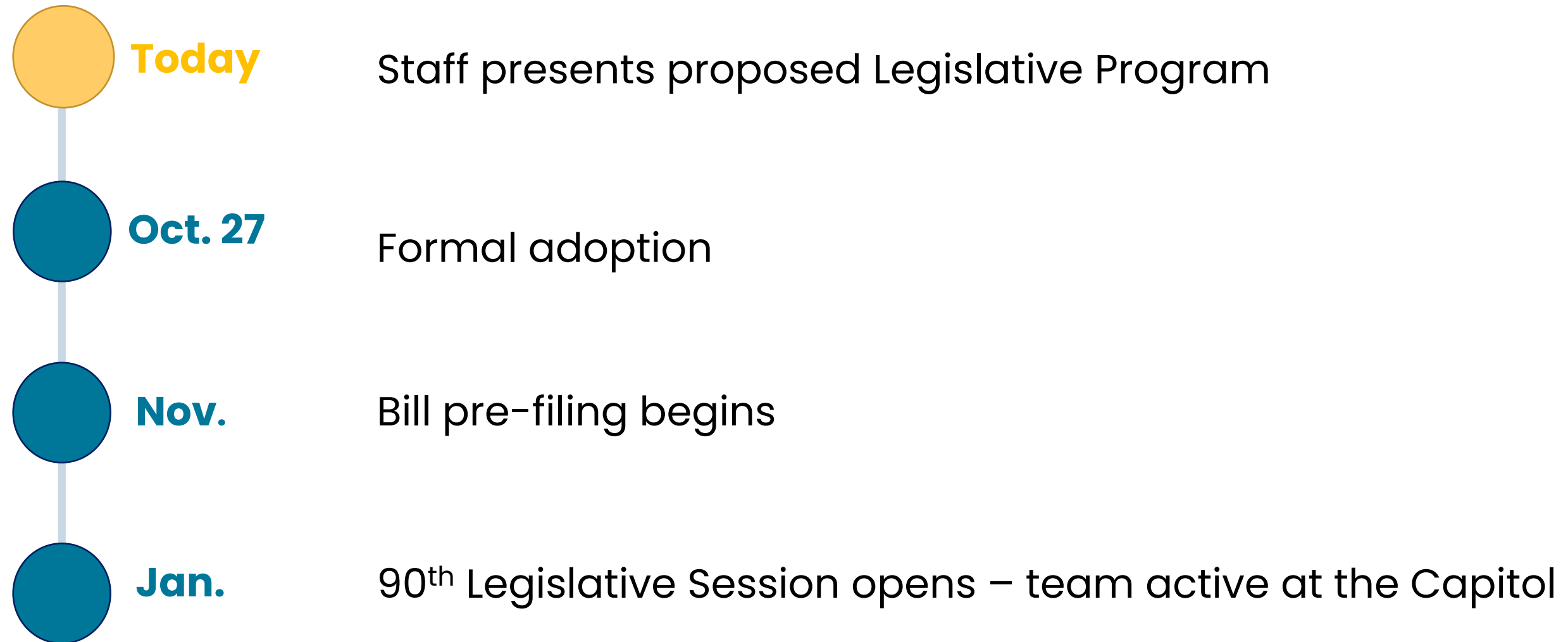
The City of Denton strives to be a good place to live for everyone, and supports legislation that upholds that goal at the state level.

- ▲ Mental health access; homelessness services; public school and higher education funding; local decision-making authority.

Utilities

- ▲ TWDB grant funding; direct potable reuse; DRRS technology definition; critical infrastructure classification, data center regulation, upholding MOUs.
- ▼ Large load interconnection restrictions on MOUs; unfunded MOU mandates; General Fund Transfer impacts.

Next Steps



QUESTIONS?

