



# **Approval of a Resolution for Legislative Priorities on Governance for the 89th Session of the Texas Legislature**

**Committee-of-the-Whole**  
March 25, 2025

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# Board Action

- Approval of a resolution to adopt DART's legislative priorities on governance as shown in Exhibit 1 to the Resolution.

# Background

- On October 22, 2024 (Resolution No. 240127), the Board approved DART's legislative priorities for the 89th Session of the Texas Legislature.
- The 89th Texas Legislature is in session, and Senate Bill 2118 was filed on March 10, 2025, related to the governance of DART. An identical companion bill, House Bill 5049, was filed March 13, 2025.
- On March 7, 2025, prior to Bill filing, DART convened a small working group of four city managers (Dallas, Farmers Branch, Irving, and University Park) to discuss governance and provide input on potential opportunities to address concerns identified by some cities.

# Background

- During the March 11, 2025, Committee-of-the-Whole meeting the Board reviewed Senate Bill 2118 and its potential impact on DART's governance.
- On March 13, 2025, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved an item to initiate a local partnership discussion/mediation process to resolve the matter between the cities and DART. The RTC voted to not oppose the legislation affecting DART funding pending feedback from the mediation process.
- On March 14, 2025, the first meeting of the local mediation process was held. Additional meetings have been scheduled for March 24 and March 25.

# Purpose

- The purpose of this item is to provide input to the mediation process and city leadership on each of the proposed changes.
- The Board will discuss each of the proposed changes to DART's legislation to determine whether to support, amend, oppose, or defer taking a position on the different sections of the Bill.

# Summary of SB 2118

- Each member of the Board will appoint members to advisory committees
- Board composed of one member appointed by service area city
- Member of principal city (Dallas) entitled to cast three votes
- Presiding officer rotates among the members in order decided by Board
- Term of presiding officer is two years
- Board member may not serve consecutive terms as presiding officer
- Board members serve staggered terms of two years, with one-half of members expiring on July 1 of each year
- Repeals six Sections of Transportation Code §452

# Subregional Board Committees

## SECTION 1

- Section 452.112, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows: (a-1) Each member of the subregional board shall appoint an equal number of members to the committee.

Support, Amend, Oppose or Defer?

# Board Composition and Voting Strength

## SECTION 2

- Section 452.543(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:(a) Except as provided by Section 452.5725(a), a [A] subregional board shall elect from its membership a presiding officer, assistant presiding officer, and secretary.

Support, Amend, Oppose or Defer?

# Board Composition and Voting Strength (continued)

## SECTION 3

- Section 452.572, Transportation Code. BOARD MEMBERSHIP; MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATION.
- (a) The subregional board is composed of one member [~~15 members~~] appointed by the governing body [~~bodies~~] of each municipality [~~the municipalities~~] in the subregional authority.
- (b) The member appointed by the governing body of the principal [~~a~~] municipality is entitled to [~~appoint more than one board member may appoint a number of members less than the number allocated to the municipality. Those appointed members may~~] cast three [~~the same number of~~] votes [~~as the number of members allocated, but a member may not cast a divided vote~~].

Support, Amend, Oppose or Defer?

# Board Composition and Voting Strength (continued)

## SECTION 5.

- Section 452.578(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows: (a) Members [~~Each member~~] of the subregional board serve for [~~serves a~~] staggered terms [~~term~~] of two years, with the terms of one-half of the members, or as near to one-half as possible, expiring [~~Eight of the terms begin~~] on July 1 of each year [~~odd numbered years, and seven terms begin on June 1 of even numbered years~~].

Support, Amend, Oppose or Defer?

# Presiding Officer

## Section 4

- Subchapter O, Chapter 452, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 452.5725 to read as follows:
- Sec. 452.5725. PRESIDING OFFICER. (a) The position of presiding officer of a subregional board rotates among the members of the board in an order established by the board. A term as presiding officer is two years. (b) A member of the subregional board may not serve consecutive terms as presiding officer.

Support, Amend, Oppose or Defer?

# Repeal of Six Sections

## Section 6: (Repeal of six Sections)

- The following provisions of the Transportation Code are repealed:
- (1) Section 452.573; Allocation of Membership Among Municipalities
- (2) Section 452.574(c); Board Membership
- (3) Section 452.575; Appointments to Reflect Composition of City
- (4) Section 452.576; Maximum City Membership
- (5) Section 452.577; Reapportionment
- (6) Section 452.578(b); Terms of Board Members

Support, Amend, Oppose or Defer?

# Other Governance Proposals Submitted by Board member for Discussion

- Term Limits
- Fiduciary Responsibility
- Concurrent Service of Appointing Municipality

# Board Action

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**DART**

*let's go.*



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