



American Planning Association Texas Chapter Creating Great Communities for All

The American Planning Association's Texas Chapter and its 2,400 members—community leaders, private developers, design professionals, and local officials—work with the private and public sectors in communities throughout Texas. We use our expertise and innovation to shape livable and sustainable Texas communities that reflect the character and values of each local city, town, or rural area.

2023 APATX Annexation & Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) Policy Priorities

Based on the experience of our public and private sector members, the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association has identified the following six annexation/ETJ priorities for the 88th Session of the Texas Legislature.

Provide Regional Growth Management Tools

Support legislation effort to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of landowners and residents in cities and outlying areas in the ETJ, by preserving the concept of municipal ETJ.

Support legislation that would provide a more rural set of annexation and ETJ rules, which would benefit landowners, developers, cities, counties, and the entire State.

Oppose legislation efforts which may result in multiple and conflicting jurisdictions and rules for landowners, developers, cities, and counties, by allowing landowners to disannex from the city limits or the ETJ without the city's consent.

APATX SUPPORTS ANY
LEGISLATION THAT ALLOW
TEXAS CITIES TO USE GROWTH
TOOLS TO GUIDE DEVELOP-
MENT IN THEIR MUNICIPAL
BOUNDARIES AND ETJ'S.

Protects Military Missions and Installations

Support legislation that continues to protect military installations by updating provisions found in Chapter 43 of the Texas Local Government Code with the latest Department of Defense's classification of military plans and studies.

Supports the Economic Health of Cities

Support legislation to protect the economic health of the State and increase economic opportunities in Texas cities and by allowing annexation of those areas.

Preserves Natural, Cultural, and Historic Assets

Support legislation to protect and preserve natural resources, including floodplains, watersheds, wildlife habitats, and drinking water sources for the Texas residents, communities, and the State by allowing annexation of natural assets.

Support legislation to protect and preserve cultural and historic assets which are crucial for recreation, tourism, and economic development in by allowing annexation of vital assets in the State.

Encourages Orderly and Compatible Development and Protects Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

Support legislation to provide vital services and infrastructure to prevent or mitigate adverse impacts to the health, and welfare of Texas residents living inside and outside of its city limits by the extension of planning and development tools including annexation of these areas in the ETJ.

Support legislation to ensure safe, orderly, compatible, and sustainable development in the State by the extension of planning and development tools including annexation of these areas in the ETJ.

Fosters Collaboration between Regional Partners and Efficient Expansion of Services

Support legislation which protects the financial well-being of landowners and taxpayers by requiring emergency service districts (ESDs) which expand into a city's ETJ to obtain city's consent.

Support legislation that benefits and protect landowners and developers by encouraging coordination between local jurisdictions to arrive at mutually beneficial inter-local agreements for platting and other service provisions in ETJs.

Support legislation, which protects the interest of landowners and rate payers in special districts as well as city residents by providing cities with more input and adding transparency in the creation process of special districts.