



**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 Policy Priorities for Economic Development & Redevelopment

Based on the experience of our public and private sector members, the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association has identified these four priorities for the 88<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature.

### Protect Historic and Cultural Assets in Our Local Communities

Support legislation that preserves and utilizes historic structures and districts for economic activity.

Support legislation and funding that incentivizes the preservation and revitalization of historic buildings and spaces to drive economic and development opportunities throughout our state.

Support legislation that creates, recognizes and accommodates economic incentive programs for historic and historically underutilized or disadvantaged spaces, districts and communities.

### Encourage the Creation and Growth of Economic Development

Support legislation that establishes or expands the economic incentive tools that developers, entrepreneurs and local communities can use to engage in and encourage economic development on the local level.

Support legislation and funding that provides tools and resources that communities can utilize to develop economic development districts and related infrastructure.

Support legislation that broadens the uses of funding for economic development-related purposes.

APA TEXAS SUPPORTS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR ROLE IN ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REALIZING THE FISCAL IMPACT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, REDEVELOPMENT AND FISCAL RESILIENCY IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

Support legislation that allows cities to preserve and increase their sales tax base and generation for maximum healthy growth of local cities statewide.

## Enable Cities to Revitalize and Protect Neighborhoods and Commercial Areas

Support legislation that utilizes economic development funding and regulatory tools to protect and revitalize historic and historically disadvantaged areas from uses that have a negative impact on their utilization, preservation and economic vibrancy.

Support legislation that allows flexibility in the determination of suitable uses for economic development incentives and funds for restoring, revitalizing and activating land uses, such as blighted residential, commercial and mixed-use areas, so these can be targeted to best address the specific conditions in local areas and communities to increase economic growth.

Support legislation and funding that establishes economic development opportunities for historically disadvantaged or underutilized areas, neighborhoods, uses or districts in local communities.

## Enable Cities and Counties to Have a Larger Part in Sustainable Growth

Support legislation that preserves and enhances the flexibility of local jurisdictions to encourage, determine and manage new development that increases positive economic activity.

Support legislation that grants flexibility to municipalities to set their own standards and options for building materials and land development that will have a positive impact on the economic value and attractiveness to their community for growing populations, developers and business leaders.

Support legislation that increases or enhances local communities' ability to acquire, develop, or incentivize development or uses of the land for purposes of increasing the economic attractiveness, development and activity on the local level.