



2025 Local Government Priorities Agenda

The Austin Chamber of Commerce serves as a voice for the business community in local government and is committed to advancing policies that make Central Texas the best place to live and do business. Central Texas has experienced tremendous growth in recent years, and our local governments play an important role in shaping policies that support this growth. Our 2025 priorities reflect what matters most to our members—lower costs, smarter growth, better infrastructure, and a stronger workforce—to ensure that Central Texas remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

EXECUTIVE PRIORITIES

Fiscal Policy, Budget & Governance

- Advocate for property tax relief to ease burdens on businesses
- Monitor and influence tax rate changes that impact you
- Ensure new tax revenues—like the childcare tax—are implemented effectively to support working families and employers
- Support efforts to recruit and retain police officers and implement a strong new police contract
- Promote balanced criminal justice reform and better coordination between law enforcement and mental health professionals

Economic Competitiveness & Business Climate

- Support tools and incentives that help local businesses grow and attract new investment
- Expand internships, apprenticeships, and workforce training in high-demand industries
- Cut red tape by advocating for streamlined permitting and faster approvals

Education, Workforce & Healthcare

- Improve access and funding for trauma, maternal, and rural healthcare
- Support programs that build the healthcare workforce and protect frontline workers
- Back mental health diversion programs and workplace wellness initiatives that keep your teams healthy and productive

Infrastructure, Mobility, Energy & Utilities

- Back major investments in roads, transit, airport expansion, Project Connect, and I-35 improvements to ease commutes and strengthen regional connectivity
- Encourage transit-oriented development to reduce congestion and improve access to job centers
- Promote affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy through diversified sources, clean energy investment, and grid improvements to keep utility costs low
- Invest in water, broadband, convention center expansion, and digital upgrades to modernize city services and support economic growth

Housing & Land Use

- Push for zoning and permitting reforms to accelerate affordable housing
- Champion housing options that support your employees' ability to live and work locally
- Collaborate on homelessness solutions that connect people to housing, jobs, and services