

Office of the City Manager

City of Richland Hills, Texas

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Bill Agan and members of the Richland Hills City Council
From: Eric Strong, City Manager
Date: September 16, 2014
Subject: Resolution regarding The T

Council Action Requested:

Consider resolution requesting that the Tarrant County Commissioners Court give primary consideration to residents of member cities of The T system when making future appointments to The T Executive Board.

Background Information:

For over 20 years, the City of Richland Hills has been a member city of the T transportation system. This means that the City of Richland Hills has allocated ½ cent of our sales tax to the regional T transportation system.

The T Executive Board is composed of nine members. Eight of those members are appointed by the Fort Worth City Council. The ninth is appointed by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court. The Tarrant County appointment has always been a resident of one of the member cities other than Fort Worth. The current non-Fort Worth member cities include Richland Hills and Blue Mound.

Last year, legislation passed that allows the Executive Board to have members that are not from the member cities, but also from “contract” agencies. This means that if a city has a contract with the T for any level of service, a resident from that city can be appointed to the Executive Board. This year, Tarrant County made their one appointment, and the person appointed is from a contract city (Grapevine).

The attached resolution serves to express our disappointment that there is no longer any representation on the Executive Board from two of the three member cities, and encourages the Commissioners Court to consider giving residents of member cities primary consideration for future appointments.

Board/Citizen Input: This item was discussed by the Transportation Committee of the Council on September 10, 2014.

Financial Impact: N/A

Staff Contacts:

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City Manager
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Attachments: Resolution

RESOLUTION 435-14

**A RESOLUTION OF THE RICHLAND HILLS CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING
TARRANT COUNTY TO CONSIDER FUTURE APPOINTMENTS TO THE T
EXECUTIVE BOARD COME FROM MEMBER CITIES**

WHEREAS, the T Executive Board is composed of nine members, and one of the members is appointed by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court; and

WHEREAS, the Tarrant County Commissioners Court appointment has historically been a resident from one of the member cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richland Hills, along with the City of Blue Mound, are long-standing member cities of the T; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the City of Richland Hills has helped to make the T a regional authority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richland Hills has invested over \$15,000,000 in the T system since membership started in 1993; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the dedicated sales tax the City of Richland Hills has allocated to the T, the City of Richland Hills is also moving forward with plans to further enhance the T system by creating a Transit Oriented Development surrounding the T rail stop in Richland Hills; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Richland Hills believes that the Tarrant County appointment to the T Executive Board should continue to be a resident from member cities to represent the T's appreciation and recognition of member cities dedicated, long-term, ongoing and significant financial and political commitments and sacrifices member cities have made for the betterment of the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, appointment to the Executive Board by a resident from a non-member city leaves a significant portion of the T membership and a majority of member cities with no representation on the Executive Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF RICHLAND HILLS that the City Council respectfully requests that all future appointments by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to the T Executive Board be made with primary consideration being given to residents of member cities.

Mayor, Bill Agan

ATTEST:

City Secretary, Cathy Bourg