



**The Texas Coalition of Cities For
Utility Issues**

Texas Cities for You

www.tccfui.org

The Beginning

On February 16, 1996, over one hundred representatives of cities from the service areas of virtually every investor owned electric, gas, and telephone utility met in Austin. On March 1, 1996, the Board of Directors met at Love Field in Dallas. TCCFUI, originally known as Texas Coalition of Cities on Franchised Utility Issues, but now officially known as the Texas Coalition of Cities For Utility Issues, was formed and began meeting the needs of Texas cities to coordinate and clarify cities' response to the changing developments in telecommunications, cable and utility law.

Ten Years Later

Since that beginning TCCFUI has:

- Created model utility franchises and an antenna siting handbook.
- Helped develop the strongest state telecommunications legislation, preserving cities' right to have access line fees and having that specific exemption included in proposed federal telecommunication legislation.
- Established a presence in Washington D.C. for Texas cities.
- Participated in the successful defeat of the challenge to SB5 by cable companies.
- Provided a daily newsletter on utility matters.
- Provided seminars, workshops and speakers, both alone and with TML and the University of Texas School of Law.
- Worked both independently and jointly with other city groups on filings at the FCC, PUC and the Railroad Commission.
- Participated in lawsuits by opposing challenges to city authority.
- Worked with TML on proposed legislation.

In the Immediate Future

TCCFUI will:

- Provide a new model, post-deregulation electric franchise.
- Work with TML to preserve the rights of cities during the next Texas Legislature and the next session of Congress.
- Continue the beneficial relationship among members talking with members.
- Continue with the undertakings begun in the first ten years.

Where do I sign up?

Interested in having your city join TCCFUI? It's a simple process. Just use the sample resolution on the following page to authorize your City to join and send a copy of the executed resolution along with a check for 5 cents times your city's population (as shown in the most recent TML Directory) to:

Mary Bunkley
c/o Arlington City Attorney's Office
P.O. Box 90231 MS63-0300
Arlington, Texas 76004-3231.

Questions?

Email Executive Director, Janis Everhart at jeverhar@earthlink.net

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CITY OF _____ WITH OTHER TEXAS CITIES IN THE TEXAS COALITION OF CITIES FOR UTILITY ISSUES; NAMING A REPRESENTATIVE; AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF AN ANNUAL FEE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, market forces, technological changes, utility industry practices, and federal and state legislative and administrative body laws and rules have greatly impacted the ability of cities to maintain local control of land use decisions, city property, and to preserve city revenue streams and a meaningful role for cities as a process participant; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that cities stay informed in these matters, and participate and work cooperatively to protect the interests of cities and the public; and

WHEREAS, there exists among Texas cities a strong interest in participating in a common effort to protect these interests; and

WHEREAS, the Texas coalition of Cities For Utility Issues has: (a) collected, analyzed, discussed and distributed information on telecommunications and utility matters to its membership and authorities deliberating these issues; (b) participated and developed positions in telecommunications and utility regulatory body rulemaking dockets and on bills proposed in the legislature relating to such matters; and (c) worked cooperatively on these matters;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the City of _____ agrees to become a member of the Texas Coalition of Cities For Utility Issues ("TCCFUI").

Section 2. That _____, _____ (title) is designated to be the representative at TCCFUI meetings, to vote on matters being considered by TCCFUI, to receive any information from TCCFUI and to participate in any matter related to TCCFUI and its membership.

Section 3. That payment in an amount not to exceed \$ _____ is authorized to be paid to the Texas Coalition of Cities For Utility Issues for the fiscal year 200_ - 200_.

Section 4. That the City Manager is authorized to take those steps reasonable and necessary to comply with the intent of this resolution.

Section 5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PRESENTED AND PASSED on this the day of _____, 200__ by a vote of ayes and nays at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of _____, Texas.

Mayor

ATTEST:
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
City Attorney
