

Information about Boards and Commissions

City government depends heavily on residents who volunteer their time and energy to participate as members of boards and commissions. The involvement of residents is important to setting the direction of Grand Prairie's future.

Qualifications for Appointment

Each board may have specific requirements for members (these are listed below in the description of each board). With very few exceptions, members must be residents of the City of Grand Prairie.

Selection Process

Members of boards and commissions are appointed for three-year terms by a majority vote of the mayor and city council. Appointees are selected in July of each year and as vacancies occur. If the board has nine members, the mayor and each council member

appoint one member. Terms are limited to two consecutive three-year terms. Any member who is absent from three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings is subject to removal. Citizens may only serve on one board or commission at the same time.

Boards and Commissions

Airport Advisory Committee

Serves as an advisory board to the city council and makes recommendations for operation, management, maintenance, expansion and improvements to the municipal airport.

- Meets as needed.
- Nine members: two members must be pilots, one must be a registered engineer, one must be selected from a development-related profession, and three must have an interest and knowledge of aviation and will be selected at large.
- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

Provides advice and recommendations to the city council related to the Animal Shelter and general animal control throughout the community.

- Meets quarterly, third Thursdays in Feb., May, Aug. and Nov. at 7 p.m.
- Thirteen members: nine members shall be citizens; one member shall be a licensed veterinarian; one member shall have duties which include the daily operation of an

animal shelter; one member shall be the city's Environmental Services Director; and one member shall be a representative of an animal welfare organization.

Building Advisory and Appeals Board

Makes recommendations to City Council relating to the International Property Maintenance Code. Conducts hearings related to junked or inoperable vehicles; abatement of nuisances; substandard structures; and appeals of decisions of the City's plumbing, mechanical, and/or electrical inspectors.

- Meets second Monday at 6 p.m.
- Nine members: architect; licensed engineer (preferably in the structural field); home builder or contractor operating in the city; plumber or mechanical contractor; electrician; remaining members selected from among building-related professions.
- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Civil Service Commission

Monitors the city's personnel practices relating to the hiring, firing and administration of disciplinary action of police and fire civil service personnel, and ensures the provisions of Chapter 143, Local Government Code

are enforced.

- Meetings are called as needed.
- Three members must be a resident of the city for three years, over the age of 25 and have not held a public office in the previous three years.
- Appointees must not conduct business as a supplier or vendor to the city.
- Appointments are made by the city manager and ratified by the city council.

Commission on Aging

Makes recommendations to the city council concerning transportation, medical, financial, housing and entertainment needs of the aging.

- Meets second Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
 - Nine members.
 - Mayor and council members appoint one member each.
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Housing and Community Improvement Commission

Serves as an advisory board to the city council and makes recommendations concerning federal, state and local programs relevant to community welfare. It solicits the cooperation of local civic organizations and the local press in making the city a better place to live, work and play. The commission sponsors and initiates programs by citizens to improve the community, and makes recommendations to the city council for the allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds.

- Meets third Mondays at 6:30 p.m.
- Nine members.
- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Housing Finance Corporation

A legally incorporated entity which functions to stimulate the housing market in the city through the use of tax exempt bonds.

- Meets third Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.
- Five members: must have experience in the field of finance, real estate or public housing.
- Nominations are submitted by the mayor and council members based on qualifying factors and a consensus is drawn by the council.

Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful Commission

Proposes city-wide clean city and environmental program plans, including community pride advocacy; neighborhood beautification/cleanup; business beautification/cleanup, paint-up and fix-up. The commission also monitors city performance from data collected and examined under the Keep America Beautiful Inc. Clean Community System guidelines. The commission makes reports for the city council and seeks government and private sector recognition for achievement.

- Meets second Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- Nine members: members must be residents of the city or own a business in the city. No more than three members can be non-residents.
- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Library Board

Advises the city council on library policies and issues, including the rules, regulations and by-laws which may be deemed necessary for the administration, government and protection of the library. Also helps determine the need for the purchase of books and related library materials; library improvements; establishment of branch libraries and facilities; and administration of gifts and bequests or legacies made to the city for library purposes.

- Meets fourth Mondays at 6 p.m.
- Nine members.
- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Park Board

Meets monthly for the purpose of making recommendations to the city council relating to the management and maintenance of parks, parkways, lakes, waterways, municipal squares and beautification of municipal grounds. The board also participates in the institution of condemnation proceedings whenever it deems private property should be taken for park property. Each member appointed to the Park Board automatically becomes a member of the Tree Board and Park Board of Trustees. The Tree Board meets at least annually and administers a plan for the care, preservation and planting or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas.

- Meets fourth Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- Nine members.

- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Reviews and makes recommendations to the city council on all applications for rezoning, site plans, requests for specific use permits, zoning ordinance amendments and sector plans. The commission has been charged by the state and by the city council to solely act upon and approve or deny all plans submitted by the city.

- Meets first Monday at 6:30 p.m.
- Nine members.
- Appointees must not conduct business as a supplier or vendor to the city.
- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Public Health Advisory Committee

Serves as an advisory board to the city council on issues related to public health. These issues may include disabled services, communicable disease control, emergency planning, community health indicators, air quality, public health policies/regulations, and other health or environmental issues. The committee may recommend to the city council methods for promoting awareness and understanding regarding public health issues within the community, make recommendations to the city council regarding those issues, and identify areas in which the city could enhance/modify public health services, policies and regulations.

- Meets second Monday at 6:30 p.m., Feb., May, Aug. and Nov.
 - Nine members: Two members shall be employed in a medically-related profession, one shall be a disabled citizen, a care provider for the disabled, or a represen-
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(continued, Public Health Advisory Committee)

tative of any agency serving the disabled, one shall be an official of the Grand Prairie Independent School District, one shall be a representative of a local social services agency, and four shall be other residents. In the absence of a qualified applicant for any of the committee positions, the City Council shall have the right to appoint a non-Grand Prairie resident. A minimum of 7 of the 9 committee members shall be Grand Prairie residents.

- Mayor and council members appoint one member each.

Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals

Responsible for the requests of variances to the Unified Development Code due to unusual circumstances, unique or restricted physical limitation or hardships where absolute adherence to the UDC might or would preclude any development whatsoever of a piece of property. They also can consider expansions of non-conforming uses, and appeals to administrative decisions of staff.

- Meets third Mondays at 7 p.m.
- Nine members; 4 alternates.
- Appointees must not conduct business as a supplier or vendor to the city.
- The mayor and council members appoint one member each and alternate members are appointed by consensus of the council.

City of Grand Prairie • 2016 by the Numbers

Demographics

Land Area	81 sq. mi.
Population	182,620
Average Age	31.3
Median Household Income	\$56,028

Development

Single Family Bldg. Permits Issued	397
Value of Avg. Single Family Permit	\$308,908
New Commercial/Industrial Sq. Ft. (Projects underway/proposed)	4.8 million

Top Ten Taxpayers

Grand Prairie Premium Outlets LLC
Poly America LP
Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.
Duke Realty
Lockheed Martin Corp.
Oncor Electric Delivery
2803 Riverside Apt Investors LLC
Mars Partners Ltd.
MBS-Stone Lake LTD
PRCP-Dallas St Laurent LP

Property Tax Rates

<i>(Per \$100 Assessed Property Value)</i>	
City of Grand Prairie	\$0.669980
Grand Prairie ISD	\$1.595000
Arlington ISD	\$1.390080
Cedar Hill ISD	\$1.516000
Mansfield ISD	\$1.510000
Dallas County	\$0.654704
Tarrant County	\$0.6233207

Retail Sales Tax Rates

City	1.00%
Central Park/Epic	0.25%
Parks Improvements	0.25%
Street Improvements	0.25%
Crime Control District	0.25%
State	6.25%
Total Sales Tax	8.25%

Operating Budget (2015-2016)

General Fund	\$126,395,145
Water/Wastewater	\$72,024,244
Other	\$132,673,669
TOTAL	\$331,093,058

Municipal Employees

Police/Fire Civil Service	475
Full Time General	785
Seasonal/Part-Time	171
Crossing Guards	85

Libraries

Main Library	
Total Collection	124,632
Warmack Branch Library	
Total Collection	84,388
Shotwell Branch Library	
Total Collection	7,329
E-books	11,131
Cardholders	86,494
Computer hours used	79,554
Books Checked Out/Year	307,491

Parks and Recreation

Acres of Park Land	5,010
Number of Park Sites	58
Rounds of golf played	81,723
Special Events Attendees	251947,370

Utilities

Water Production (Avg. Gallons/Day)	25.7 million
Fire Hydrants	7,604
Miles of Water Lines	893
Collection Line	872
Customer Accounts	47,502

Solid Waste/Recycling

Garbage Disposed	198,529 tons
Commercial Recycling	97,768 tons
Residential Recycling	5,907 tons

Transportation

Municipal Airport	
Takeoffs and Landings	61,835
Grand Connection	
Bus Passengers	49,331



Take a tour of the City of Grand Prairie on the Internet at www.gptx.org

Board/Commission Candidate Application

The information contained in this application will become public record. Any false information given will be grounds for removal from boards and commissions.

Name _____

Home Address _____, Grand Prairie, TX (Zip) _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

Employer Address _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

Email address: _____

Resident of city for _____ years. I live in city council district number _____

Board or Commission Applying for: (List top 3 choices)

1.

2.

3.

Have you ever been a member of a Grand Prairie Board or Commission? If so, indicate your previous appointment and approximate dates of service: _____

Special knowledge, education, experience, interest or other information applicable to the board(s) for which you are applying:

Applicant Signature

Date _____

Return to: City Secretary
City of Grand Prairie
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Grand Prairie, TX 75053-4045
Phone: 972-237-8035
Fax: 972-237-8088
E-mail: cdimaggio@gptx.org