



# Public Service Opportunities

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

### 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 structur-

al 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.

---

## **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 medical-related profession, one shall be a disabled citizen, a care provider for the disabled, or a represen-
-

**(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 • 2019 by the Numbers**

**Demographics**

Land Area	81 sq. mi.
Population	191,720
Median Age	32.5
Median Household Income	\$63,882

**Development**

New Single Family Bldg. Permits Issued	208
Value of Avg. Single Family Permit	\$283,372
New Commercial/Industrial Sq. Ft. (Projects underway/proposed)	639,689

**Top Ten Taxpayers**

Lockheed Martin
Duke Realty LTD PS
Poly America LP
Grand Prairie Outlets LLC
Oncor Electric Delivery
Hell Helicopter-Textron, Inc.
CHI/Wildlife 5, LP
Triumph Group Aerostructures 1
2803 Riverside Apartment Investors
WMCI Dallas V, LLC

**Property Tax Rates**

(Per \$100 Assessed Property Value)

City of Grand Prairie	\$0.669998
Grand Prairie ISD	\$1.595
Arlington ISD	\$1.368700
Cedar Hill ISD	\$1.3760
Mansfield ISD	\$1.540000
Dallas County	\$0.6567
Tarrant County	\$0.4584
Average Annual City Property Tax Paid on a \$128,111 home with homestead exemption	\$794

**Retail Sales Tax Rates**

City	1.00%
EPIC	0.25%
Park Improvements	0.25%
Street Improvements	0.25%
Crime Control District	0.25%
State	6.25%
Total Sales Tax	8.25%

**Municipal Employees**

Police/Fire Civil Service	510
General	843
Seasonal/Part-Time	308
Crossing Guards	91

**Libraries**

E-resources	78,616
Library Cardholders	90,217
Physical Materials	124,739
Number of Visits	514,268

**Parks and Recreation**

Acres of Park Land	5,009
Number of Park Sites	60
Rounds of golf played	82,476
Special Events Attendees	242,000

**Utilities**

Water Production (Avg. Gallons/Day)	25 million
Fire Hydrants	7,209
Miles of Water Lines	844
Collection Line	771
Customer Accounts	48,351

**Streets**

Potholes Repaired	6,252
Tons of Brush Collected	4,876
Sidewalk Repaired	19,244 ft.
Crack Seal Installed	704,556 ft.

**Transportation**

Municipal Airport Takeoffs and Landings	98,034
Grand Connection Bus Passengers	53,229

**Operating Budget (2019-2020)**

General Fund	146,480,118
Enterprise Funds	121,578,841
Other	141,742,948
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>409,801,907</b>



Take a tour of the City of Grand Prairie on the Internet at [www.gptx.org](http://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 (you may attach a resume or include additional information on a separate sheet):

Applicant Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: City Secretary  
City of Grand Prairie  
P.O. Box 534045  
Grand Prairie, TX 75053-4045  
Phone: 972-237-8035  
Fax: 972-237-8088  
E-mail: [cdimaggio@gptx.org](mailto:cdimaggio@gptx.org)