

THE ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF TEXAS LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

FUNDING SOURCES

TxDOT Funding - HB 1

- Over \$32 billion appropriated to TxDOT for the design, construction, and maintenance of the state highway system
- Increase of 349 full-time equivalents (FTEs) and budget flexibility provided to TxDOT
- Over \$580 million appropriated for construction and maintenance of rail, public transportation, and general aviation projects
- \$600 million appropriated for construction of maritime port infrastructure projects

Water & Flood Infrastructure - HB 1, SB 28, & SJR 75

- Over \$1 billion appropriated for the design and construction of critical flood infrastructure projects - including \$500 million for the coastal spine project
- Constitutional amendment in November 2023 to approve \$1 billion in funding for new water infrastructure projects

Proposition 1 & 7 Funding Extension - HB 2230 & SCR 2

- Both constitutionally approved revenue streams for TxDOT extended until 2042
- Propositions 1 and 7 constitute approximately 40 percent of TxDOT funding in the Unified Transportation Program (UTP)

Electric Vehicle Registration Fee - SB 505

- \$400 initial registration fee and a \$200 annual renewal fee for electric vehicles
- Funding dedicated to the State Highway Fund for the construction and maintenance of the state highway system

LEGAL REFORMS

Creation of a Texas Business Court and Fifteenth Circuit of Appeals - HB 19 & SB 1045

- Establishes a specialized business court with statewide jurisdiction over complex business law cases with more than \$10 million dollars in dispute
- The Fifteenth Circuit of Appeals will have exclusive jurisdiction over appeals of certain civil cases to which the state or a state agency is a party and will also handle appeals of cases when the constitutionality or validity of a statute or state agency rule is challenged

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Sunset Legislation - SB 1397

- Creates a specific concrete batch plant permit for public works projects
- Increased public participation in permit application process
- Agency continued for 12 years

Protectiveness Review for Concrete Batch Plants - SB 1399 (Vetoed)

- TCEQ will conduct a protectiveness review of the concrete batch plant air permit every 6 years
- Duration of a concrete batch plant permit reduced from 10 to 6 years

Prohibiting Cities from Regulating Engine Sources or Engines - SB 1017

- Prohibits political subdivisions from adopting ordinances which would limit access to specific fuel sources or prohibit the sale of engines based on their fuel source

State Jurisdiction for Regulation of Greenhouse Gases - SB 784

- Prohibits political subdivisions from enacting ordinances that directly regulate greenhouse gas emissions

TCEQ Complaint Reform - SB 471

- Agency is not required to investigate a complaint made by an individual who has made numerous unsubstantiated complaints about the same alleged nuisance

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Smoother Pathways to Obtain Texas Commercial Driver's License - HB 1846 & HB 3646

- Requires DPS to allow individuals who hold a commercial driver's license (CDL) from a different state to obtain a Texas CDL
- Eases restrictions and amends the testing procedure for obtaining a CDL

Creation of the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund - HB 1755

- Creates the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund and grant program to create and sustain a supply of qualified workers for entry-level to mid-level jobs in high demand occupations

