

TMIL
T E X A S
MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



Empowering Texas cities to serve their citizens.

★ Established in 1913 ★



The Texas Municipal League (TML) has been around since 1913 to help city leaders meet the ever-changing challenges of governance.

Guided by our purpose statement—*Empowering Texas cities to serve their citizens*—the League exists solely to provide support and services to city governments in Texas.

Who is Part of the TML Team?

Membership in the League is voluntary and is open to any Texas city. From the original 14 members, TML's membership has grown to more than 1,150 cities. Over 16,000 mayors, councilmembers, city managers, city attorneys, and department heads are member officials of the League by virtue of their cities' participation.

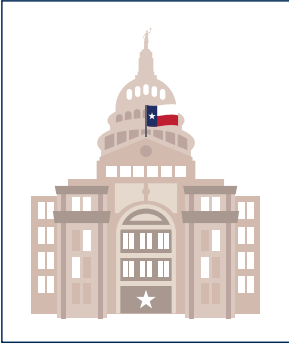
Associate memberships are available to private sector organizations and companies that provide quality services to municipal government.

Our Commitment to Members

TML provides a variety of services, under the leadership of our Board of Directors, which is made up of elected and appointed city officials from all across the state. The League's services are designed to support municipalities as they carry out the critical mission of serving their citizens.

TML is dedicated to:

- ◆ Represent the interests of member cities before legislative, administrative, and judicial bodies at the state and federal levels.
- ◆ Sponsor and conduct an annual conference and other conferences, seminars, meetings, and workshops for the purpose of studying municipal issues and exchanging information regarding municipal government.
- ◆ Publish and circulate an official magazine and other publications, reports, and newsletters of interest to member cities.
- ◆ Provide for and conduct research on relevant and timely topics related to municipal government.
- ◆ Alert member cities of important governmental or private sector actions or proposed actions that may affect municipal operations.
- ◆ Promote the interests of League affiliates (which represent specific professional disciplines in municipal governments) and TML regions by providing organizational and technical assistance as directed by the Board of Directors and consistent with financial resources.
- ◆ Promote constructive and cooperative relationships among cities and between the League and other levels of governments, councils of governments, the National League of Cities, educational institutions, and the private sector.
- ◆ Provide, in a timely manner, any additional services or information that individual members may request, consistent with the member cities' common interests and the League's resources.



Legislative Advocacy

One of the principle purposes of the League is to advance and represent the interests of Texas cities at the state and federal levels.

The Texas Legislature meets for 140 days each odd-numbered year and meets frequently in special “called” sessions. There are hundreds of bills that adversely impact cities among the thousands of bills introduced each legislative session. Most would erode the authority of Texas cities to govern their own affairs or impose mandates that do not provide a commensurate level of compensation.

The League, working through its Legislative Services Department, makes every effort to assure that bad-for-city bills are defeated and bills that help cities operate more effectively are passed.

Through the years, thousands of proposals that would have undermined city government have been defeated. The League’s legislative track record is one of unparalleled success.

Legal Services

The League employs full-time attorneys who are available to provide legal information on municipal issues to member cities, as well as example documents to assist cities in drafting ordinances and other required legal notices. The legal staff provides cities with information on changes in federal and state laws and regulations, as well as city-related developments in the courts. During legislative sessions, the legal staff is frequently called on to provide testimony to legislative committees on a variety of city issues.

In addition, the legal staff is available to deliver workshops on a variety of legal subjects to small cities’ problem-solving clinics, affiliate organizations, and regional groups.

Publications and Resources

Whether it is connecting a city leader to our library of information and publications, an expert in the field, revenue sources, example ordinances, or national and state programs, we’ve got the network of resources and experts to help cities seize an opportunity or creatively solve a problem.

The best known TML publication is its monthly magazine, *Texas Town & City*. With a circulation of more than 11,000, the magazine is a primary means of communicating with the TML membership. Each issue focuses on a variety of contemporary municipal issues. During the course of a year, the League also prints a variety of handbooks and reference guides to assist member city officials perform their duties. These include the *Handbook for Mayors and Councilmembers*, *A Guide to Becoming a City Official*, *How Cities Work*, the *Revenue Manual for Texas Cities*, and more.

In addition to printed pieces, the League offers a number of ways for members to connect to online resources. The TML website (www.tml.org) is a go-to source for information on municipal issues and TML services. The weekly TML Exchange email keeps members up-to-date on legislative and administrative actions, training opportunities, regional activities, and programs. City officials can also access information and other members through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and the SolutionsNet listserv.

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Federal Representation

Through its membership in the National League of Cities, the Southern Municipal Conference, and other similar organizations, TML has a voice in Washington, D.C. Working with these groups, TML ensures that the voice of Texas cities is heard in congressional offices and in the headquarters of various federal agencies.

Continuing Education

Cities do important work, and there is a lot of information city officials must know to be effective. The League conducts a number of training events each year to keep members up-to-date on current trends and best practices. From our Annual Conference and Exhibition, to single-day workshops on municipal hot-topics, to webinars on developing legislative issues, the League helps prepare city officials for their important roles as visionary leaders and problem solvers.

The two largest training efforts each year are the TML Annual Conference and Exhibition and the TML-TAMCC Elected Officials' Conference.

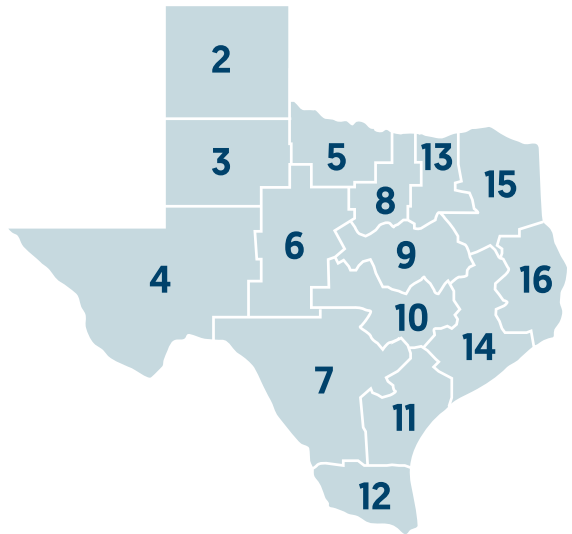
The TML Annual Conference and Exhibition is one of the nation's largest gatherings of municipal officials. Held in October, it is at this conference that the League conducts its annual business meeting. In addition to a wide variety of training opportunities, the conference includes an exhibit hall with more than 350 exhibiting companies that provide products and services geared for municipal government.

The TML-TAMCC Elected Officials' Conference is the annual meeting of one of the League's affiliate groups, the Texas Association of Mayors, Councilmembers and Commissioners. Held in February, the conference focuses on issues of interest to elected officials in small, medium, and large cities. Following May and November elections, TML offers specialized training for newly elected officials in both the summer and at the end of the year.

TML Regions

TML has 15 sub-state regions that were formed in 1958 and are the League's grassroots. Regions exist to promote interests in city government on a regional level, foster the exchange of information among cities, and help the TML Board of Directors develop policy that represents the state's diverse interests.

Every TML region elects officers, including a representative who serves on the TML Board of Directors, and conducts regional meetings at least twice each year.



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Affiliate Groups

The League's 21 affiliated groups represent the various professional disciplines in municipal government and provide opportunities for professional growth and specialized training.

The groups are:

1. Association of Hispanic Municipal Officials (**AHMO**)
2. Building Officials Association of Texas (**BOAT**)
3. Government Finance Officers Association of Texas (**GFOAT**)
4. Texas Association of Black City Council Members (**TABCCM**)
5. Texas Association of Governmental Information Technology Managers (**TAGITM**)
6. Texas Association of Mayors, Councilmembers and Commissioners (**TAMCC**)
7. Texas Association of Municipal Health Officials (**TAMHO**)
8. Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers (**TAMIO**)
9. Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association (**TXAPA**)
10. Texas City Attorneys Association (**TCAA**)
11. Texas City Management Association (**TCMA**)
12. Texas Court Clerks Association (**TCCA**)
13. Texas Fire Chiefs Association (**TFCA**)
14. Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc. (**TMCA, Inc.**)
15. Texas Municipal Human Resources Association (**TMHRA**)
16. Texas Municipal Library Directors Association (**TMLDA**)
17. Texas Municipal Utilities Association (**TMUA**)
18. Texas Police Chiefs Association (**TPCA**)
19. Texas Public Purchasing Association (**TxPPA**)
20. Texas Public Works Association (**TPWA**)
21. Texas Recreation and Park Society (**TRAPS**)

The purposes and activities of the affiliates are consistent with the purposes and functions of the League. Many of these groups have active training and educational programs coordinated by League staff. Membership in the individual groups is by separate membership in each affiliate.

Risk Pool Services

For more than 40 years, the Texas Municipal League risk pools have sought to provide Texas cities with quality risk coverage specifically designed to meet municipal needs. These pools are separate entities from the League, but maintain a close relationship.

Benefit coverage for municipal employees and their families is a major expense item in virtually every city budget. Cities throughout the state are holding the line on costs by participating in the TML MultiState Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool.

The TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool works to reduce the cost of workers' compensation and other risks in Texas cities. The Pool offers education to its members to avoid and reduce risk, control losses, and offer information on risk management.

Membership in the Intergovernmental Risk Pool and the MultiState Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool is open to Texas public entities. Additional information is available from the individual risk pools.

★ Texas Municipal League ★

Learn more about TML services:
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