



Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce **Legislative Agenda for the 86th Legislature**

Education

The Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce urges the Texas Legislature to provide a fair, adequate and sustainable system for funding public education. We support strong local governance of schools, which means encouraging district innovation, cost savings, and improvement through local initiatives. We support the elimination of unfunded mandates. The Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce urges the passage of reasonable legislation to provide adequate funding to assure school safety and security for students, teachers, and the community.

The Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce requests the legislature to focus on performance funding since community colleges are increasing the use of key metrics for student success. We encourage additional funding for the skills Development Fund and the Jobs in Education for Texans fund. Increase the funding for community college success without taking away funding for enrollment. Encourage dual credit completion and expand CTE dual credit leading to certification or an associate's degree for high school students.

Coastal Storm Surge Protection System

The Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce urges action to expedite the completion of USACE studies required for the tentatively selected plan that can advance the storm suppression system project toward authorization and construction funding.

Gulf Coast Water Authority

The Chamber advocates for measures necessary to ensure the Gulf Coast Water Authority has access to water requisite to the needs of users served by the Gulf Coast Water Authority. The Chamber supports the Lower Brazos River Coalition to protect downstream interests.

Windstorm Insurance

- Coastal communities rely heavily upon affordable windstorm insurance that provides realistic replacement cost coverage. Support of requiring replacement cost determination at the purchase point of the policy is strongly urged.
- Excessively high premiums lead to underinsurance. In addition, the economic impact of coastal counties is extremely significant to the State of Texas as well as the nation and keeping that factor vital is of the utmost importance to all concerned. Keeping this in mind, the support of legislation that will ensure affordable TWIA rates as well as ensuring that Texas private insurers write policies equitably across the state, including windstorm policies in coast communities is imperative.