

## CITY OF DENTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 31, 2020

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Closed Meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, at 1:04 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor, and Paul Meltzer

**ABSENT:** None

Also present were City Manager Todd Hileman and City Attorney Aaron Leal

**Note: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth, and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor and Paul Meltzer participated in closed meeting, work session, and special called meeting via teleconference under the provisions allowed by the Texas Government Code Section 551.127.**

### **CLOSED MEETING**

#### **1. Closed Meeting:**

The City Council convened into a Closed Meeting at 1:04 p.m. consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, as follows.

- A. ID 20-793 Deliberations regarding a Personnel Matter - Under Government Code, Section 551.074; and Consultation with Attorneys - Under Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 Deliberate and discuss the appointment, employment, evaluation, discipline, duties, dismissal, complaints against, and contract of the Presiding Municipal Judge; consult with the City's attorneys regarding the legal issues associated with the above, where a public discussion of the same would conflict with the duty of the City's attorneys to the City of Denton and the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, or would jeopardize the City's legal position in negotiations or potential litigation.

#### **DELIBERATED**

The item related to the Special Called Meeting, Individual Consideration Item 2.D (ID 20-800), to be considered later in the day.

The Closed Meeting started at 1:04 p.m. and ended at 1:29 p.m. No votes or actions were taken during the Closed Meeting.

### **WORK SESSION**

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Work Session on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor, and Paul Meltzer

**ABSENT:** None

Also present were City Manager Todd Hileman and City Attorney Aaron Leal

**Note: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth, and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor and Paul Meltzer participated in closed meeting, work session, and special called meeting via teleconference under the provisions allowed by the Texas Government Code Section 551.127.**

**1. Citizen Comments on Consent Agenda Items**

None.

**2. Requests for clarification of agenda items listed on this agenda.**

- Consent Item 4.M (ID 20-766) - Pulled from consideration at Staff's request. (Mayor Watts)
- Consent Item 4.N (ID 20-786) - Pulled for Individual Consideration. (Briggs)

**3. Work Session Reports**

- A. ID 20-791 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on the temporary amendment of certain provisions of Section 2-29 of the Code of Ordinances (City Council Rules of Procedure) to accommodate temporary videoconferencing and public comment procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Following discussion, staff was directed to place the speaker guideline registration process for remote participation as part of all upcoming agendas, as applicable.

- B. ID 20-733 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding an update to the City of Denton's COVID-19 response.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Following discussion, staff to continue closely monitoring level of services and citizen needs with updates to be provided at future work sessions.

The Work Session was recessed for a short break at 3:45 p.m. and reconvened at 3:59 p.m.

- C. ID 20-697 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Public Safety Substation and Firing Range with a focus on façade, sustainability, and budget considerations.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Following discussion, staff was directed to continue looking at options with the façade for the headquarters and break out cost factors, as well as archway.

- D. ID 20-010 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on pending City Council requests for:
1. Passing an ordinance issuing a 60-day grace period for owed rent for residents and small businesses.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Following discussion, results were as follows:

- Item 20-010: 1. Passing an ordinance issuing a 60-day grace period for owed rent for residents and small businesses.
  - No consensus to discuss at a future work session

The Work Session ended at 4:55 p.m.

### **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, at 4:55 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor, and Paul Meltzer

ABSENT: None

Also present were City Manager Todd Hileman and City Attorney Aaron Leal

**Note: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth, and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor and Paul Meltzer participated in closed meeting, work session, and special called meeting via teleconference under the provisions allowed by the Texas Government Code Section 551.127.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The City Council convened into an Executive Session 4:56 p.m. consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, under Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) specific to Special Called Meeting, Individual Consideration Item 2.C (ID 20-788) as a result of the New order issued by Governor Abbott and how that impacted the City Council's proposed action on the item to be considered.

The Closed Meeting started at 5:12 p.m. and ended at 5:57 p.m. No votes or actions were taken during the Executive Session.

The Special Called Meeting was recessed for a short break at 5:57 p.m. and reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

#### **1. CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda consisted of Items 1.A-N. During the Work Session held earlier in the day, Item 1.M (ID 20-766) was pulled from consideration by Mayor Watts at staff's request. Item 1.N (ID-20-786) was pulled for Individual Consideration by Council Member Briggs.

Council Member Davis moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, now consisting of items 1.A-L. Motion seconded by Council Member Ryan. Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Briggs, Davis, Ryan, Armintor, and Meltzer

NAYS (0): None

- A. ID 20-511 Consider approval of a resolution of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to certify to the United States Environmental Protection Agency the City's compliance with the risk and resilience assessments requirement of the Federal America's Water Infrastructure Act; and, providing an effective date.

#### **ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 20-511**

[NOTE: Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A. All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

The summary of public commentary/registrations was as follows. See Exhibit A.

- 1 online comment: 1 in Support and 0 in Opposition]



- B. ID 20-623 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Denton approving the Development Fee Grant Program; rescinding ordinance 19-390 establishing the affordable housing fee grant program; establishing the guidelines for the program and the provisions for enforcement thereof; establishing an annual budget; and providing an effective date.

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-623**

[NOTE: Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A. All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

The summary of public commentary/registrations was as follows. See Exhibit A.

- 2 online comment: 2 in Support and 0 in Opposition]

- C. ID 20-631 Consider adoption of an ordinance approving a Pipeline Crossing Contract by and between the City of Denton and the Kansas City Southern Railway Company, relating to the location of a City sewer pipeline within the railroad right-of-way, located at the railroad's intersection with Highland Park Road at Mile Post D103.02 Alliance Subdivision, within the County and City of Denton, Texas; authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement; authorizing the expenditure of funds therefore; and providing an effective date.

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-631**

- D. ID 20-632 Consider adoption of an ordinance approving a Pipeline Crossing Contract by and between the City of Denton and the Kansas City Southern Railway Company relating to the location of a City water pipeline within the railroad right-of-way, located at the railroad's intersection with Highland Park Road at Mile Post D103.03 Alliance Subdivision, within the County and City of Denton, Texas; authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement; authorizing the expenditure of funds therefore; and providing an effective date.

**ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 20-632**

[NOTE: Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A. All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

The summary of public commentary/registrations was as follows. See Exhibit A.

- 1 online comment: 1 in Support and 0 in Opposition]

- E. ID 20-679 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City Of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Bridgefarmer & Associates, Inc., for construction administration services for the Bonnie Brae Street Phase II (Vintage) Improvement Project as set forth in the contract; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFQ 6590-089 - Professional Services Agreement for construction services awarded to Bridgefarmer & Associates, Inc., in the not-to-exceed amount of \$98,696).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-679**

- F. ID 20-682 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the approval of a first amendment to a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Denton and Walter P. Moore and Associates, Inc., amending the contract approved by City Council on May 7, 2019, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$537,300, said first amendment to provide engineering services for the Mobility Plan in the not-to-exceed amount of \$140,000; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (File 6999 - providing for an additional first amendment expenditure amount not-to-exceed \$140,000, with the total contract amount not-to-exceed \$677,300).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-682**

- G. ID 20-683 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Carahsoft Technology Corporation, through the Department of Information Resources (DIR) Cooperative Purchasing Network Contract# DIR-TSO-4288 for the purchase of various software as a Service, Products and Related Services; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (File 7319 - awarded to Carahsoft Technology Corporation, in the five (5) year not-to-exceed amount of \$400,000).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-683**

- H. ID 20-684 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Garver, LLC to perform preliminary design, permit identification, surveying, environmental, and geotechnical services for the Clear Creek Wastewater Lift Station and Forcemain as set forth in the contract; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFQ 6590-088 - Professional Services Agreement for design services awarded to Garver, LLC in the not-to-exceed amount of \$493,685). The Public Utilities Board recommends approval (7-0).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-684**

- I. ID 20-705 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas municipal home-rule corporation, approving a power purchase agreement between the City and Texas Woman's University, a Texas higher education institution; providing for the expenditure of funds; and, providing for an effective date.

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-705**

- J. ID 20-709 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the approval of a first amendment to a contract between the City of Denton and Rizikon, Inc., amending the contract approved by the City Manager on January 16, 2020, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$56,590; said first amendment for the development of policies and procedures for the City's Safety Program and Risk Management; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (RFP 7199 - Providing for an additional first amendment expenditure amount not-to-exceed \$77,580, with the total contract amount not-to-exceed \$134,170).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-709**

- K. ID 20-724 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the approval of a first amendment to a contract between the City of Denton and SAE Towers, LTD, amending the contract approved by City Council on December 17, 2019, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,718,905; said first amendment for the cost of additional anchor bolt cage lengths for Denton Municipal Electric; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (File 7152 - providing for an additional first amendment expenditure amount not-to-exceed \$340,150, with the total contract amount not-to-exceed \$2,059,055).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-724**

[NOTE: Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A. All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

The summary of public commentary/registrations was as follows. See Exhibit A.

- 2 online comment: 1 in Support and 1 in Opposition]

- L. ID 20-750 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Xylem Water Solutions U.S.A., Inc., for the purchase of equipment, materials and parts for the operation and maintenance of the ultraviolet disinfection system at the Wastewater treatment plants; providing for the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date (IFB 7299 - awarded to Xylem Water Solutions U.S.A., Inc., in the five (5) year not-to-exceed amount of \$550,000).

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-750**

### **ITEM PULLED FROM CONSIDERATION**

- M. ID 20-766 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, authorizing the City Secretary or her designee to file a Catastrophe Notice with the Office of the Texas Attorney General, pursuant to Section 552.233(b) of the Government Code, to suspend the applicability of the requirements of the Public Information Act (the "PIA") in accordance with Sections 552.233(c) and 552.233(e) of the Government Code; and providing an effective date.

#### **NOT CONSIDERED**

As announced earlier during the Work Session, the item was pulled from consideration by Mayor Watts at Staff's request.

### **ITEM PULLED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

- N. ID 20-786 Consider adoption of an ordinance authorizing expenditure of \$100,000.00 in previously budgeted funds for outside counsel and other trial expenses in the litigation styled "City of Denton v. Robert P. Donnelly," pending in the Denton County Probate Court, Denton County, Texas; and declaring an effective date.

#### **ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-786**

*Pulled for individual consideration by Council Member Briggs.*

This item was not presented or discussed.

Council Member Ryan moved to adopt the item as presented. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth. Motion carried.

AYES (5): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Davis, Ryan, and Meltzer

NAYS (2): Council Members Briggs and Armintor

### **2. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

- A. ID 20-792 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton confirming the suspension of City of Denton Code of Ordinances (Code) Sections 2-29(b)(14) and 2-29(c)(6) in accordance with City of Denton Code of Ordinances 2-29(b)(13); temporarily amending Code Section 2-29 (City Council Rules of Procedure) because of a declared state of emergency; providing for a severability clause; and providing for an effective date.

#### **ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-792**

The item corresponded with Work Session Item 1.A (ID 20-791) presented and discussed earlier in the day. Therefore, no presentation was needed.

Council Member Briggs moved to adopt the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Davis. Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Briggs, Davis, Ryan, Armintor, and Meltzer

NAYS (0): None

- B. A20-0001b Conduct the second of two readings and consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, Texas annexing approximately 131.94 acres of land, generally south of Allred Road and west of Fort Worth Drive, to the City of Denton, Denton County, Texas, described in Exhibit "A" and depicted on Exhibit "B"; providing for a correction to the City map to include the annexed lands; and providing for a savings clause and an effective date. (A20-0001b, Sagebrook, Hayley Zagurski)

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. A20-0001b**

The item was presented.

As required, staff read the following into the record to be considered by the City Council:

*"An ordinance of the City of Denton, Texas annexing approximately 131.94 acres of land, generally south of Allred Road and west of Fort Worth Drive, to the City of Denton, Denton County, Texas, described in Exhibit "A" and depicted in Exhibit "B"; providing for a correction to the city map to include the annexed lands; and providing for a savings clause and an effective date."*

Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A. All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

Mayor Watts announced the summary of public commentary/registrations as follows. See Exhibit A.

- 1 online comment: 0 in Support and 1 in Opposition

Following discussion, Council Member Davis moved to adopt the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Briggs. Motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Briggs, Davis, Ryan, and Meltzer

NAYS (1): Council Member Armintor

- C. ID 20-788 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, amending Ordinance No. 20-740 regarding the first amendment to the declaration of emergency; amending the Order of Council of the City of Denton issued March 17, 2020 approved by Ordinance No. 20-721; authorizing the expenditure of funds; and providing an effective date.

[NOTE: Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A. All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

The summary of public commentary/registrations was as follows. See Exhibit A.

- 47 online comment: 46 in Support and 1 in Opposition]

Earlier in the meeting, the item was discussed in an Executive Session consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, under Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney). Therefore, the item was not presented or discussed.

Council Member Meltzer moved to postpone the item to an event certain that being when the City Attorney's Office could provide guidance on what could be regulated under the City of Denton's order. Motion seconded by Council Member Davis.

Discussion followed on whether to allow public input as the item was not a public hearing, a motion to postpone had been made/seconded, and the City had no clear direction on what it could/could not do. Results of the discussion were that speakers/registrations received would be heard once the City Council had a clear direction of what action it could/could not take on the item/issue.

Mayor Watts called the vote on Council Member Meltzer's motion, seconded by Council Member Davis, to postpone the item to an event certain that being when the City Attorney's Office could provide guidance on what could be regulated under the City of Denton's Order. Motion carried.

AYES (5): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Davis, Ryan, and Meltzer

NAYS (2): Council Members Briggs and Armintor

- D. ID 20-800 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton authorizing the Mayor to execute a separation, release, and waiver agreement with Holly Fox; authorizing expenditures; and providing an effective date.

**ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-800**

The item was discussed under Closed Meeting 1.A (20-793) held earlier in the day consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, under Section 551.074 (Deliberations regarding a Personnel Matter). Therefore, the item was not presented or discussed.



Council Member Briggs moved to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Davis. Motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Briggs, Davis, Ryan, and Meltzer

NAYS (1): Council Member Armintor

**3. CONCLUDING ITEMS**

Council Members expressed items of interest.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.



CHRIS WATTS  
MAYOR  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS



ROSA RIOS  
CITY SECRETARY  
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

MINUTES APPROVED ON:

April 21, 2020

March 31, 2020 City Council Meeting - EXHIBIT A

Speaker Commentaries/Registrations  
Online, Email, Phone

Name	Last	Address	Address Line 2	City	Agenda Item	Position	Comments
Eric	Pruett	2111 Westwood Drive		Denton	A20-0001b	Against	<p>Summary:</p> <p>I oppose this annexation not because I know it to be unwise, but because it has not yet satisfied the action "to evaluate potential short and long-term impacts of future annexations" requested by our long range plan (Action 3.10.1). This action is in part to keep our future tax rate low by ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability of all development exceeds the current state of the city. Please consider asking staff to fulfill the Denton Plan 2030 actions and ensure affordable future taxes by analyzing long-term fiscal sustainability before final consideration of this annexation.</p> <p>I understand this parcel is deemed important because of its proximity to Hunter-Cole and the future extension of Hickory Creek Road. But is it wise to abandon the recommendations of our long range plan by annexing this land without a fiscal analysis? If we conduct a limited-scope simple fiscal analysis including long-term liabilities (lifecycle replacement costs) and it will be fiscally positive long-term, then I would be happy to support this annexation. That remains true even though I would rather encourage infill and redevelopment near the core which generally provides a higher ratio of increased tax base to additional incurred public liability.</p> <p>More details below. A version of this with links and formatting has been sent directly via email to City Council members with the subject "A20-0001b: Sagebrook Annexation Fiscal Thoughts" for easier readability and browsing than this text-only format allows.</p> <p>DDC requirements and long-range plan justification:</p> <p>DDC 2.4.5.E.9 states:</p> <p>"Minimizes Adverse Fiscal Impacts: The proposed development should not result in significant adverse fiscal impacts on the city."</p> <p>The agenda information sheet satisfies this requirement with the following statement:</p> <p>"Annexation of the subject property would offer a financial benefit to the City as it would become part of the City tax roll."</p> <p>However, the presence of tax revenue is not the only side of the ledger which makes up fiscal stability "the magnitude of expenses, future liabilities, and tax revenue must be considered. By the response above, I can only conclude that a fiscal analysis has not been done.</p> <p>The Development Services Annexation Application and Checklist which the applicant fills out suggests fiscal considerations will be weighed:</p> <p>"At a minimum, the following shall be considered when reviewing an annexation request:</p> <p>The ability of the city to provide infrastructure and public services equal to other comparable areas inside the city limits.</p> <p>The reliability, capacity, and future public cost, if any, of current and planned provisions for community facilities, including but not limited to roads, drainage, and utilities.</p> <p>The need and quality of land use and building controls.</p> <p>Conformance of the proposed development with the Land Use Element of the City's comprehensive plan.</p> <p>Impact on the City, both current and long range, including at a minimum:</p> <p>Fiscal cost and benefits of Public Services;</p> <p>Traffic;</p> <p>Infrastructure of roads, utilities, water wells, on-site sewer facilities, and other community facilities;</p> <p>Safety or health;</p> <p>Building or development quality;</p> <p>Aesthetic quality, and</p> <p>Community character."</p> <p>Where is this analysis?</p> <p>Actions from the Denton Plan 2030 state:</p> <p>3.10.1 "Establish procedures to conduct fiscal impact analyses to evaluate the potential short and long-term impacts of future annexations and other land use decisions."</p> <p>2.12.1 "Revise the City's Annexation Plan and associated policies to reflect the sufficiency of undeveloped land within the present city limit, the need for a contiguous development pattern at the edge, and an assessment of the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of the provision of city infrastructure and services in various portions of the ETJ."</p>



Name	Last	Address	Address Line 2	City	Agenda Item	Position	Comments
							<p>2.12.2 "Base future annexations on considerations of fiscal impact, covering all public facilities and services, and on a determination of adequate public facilities (DP p.20)."</p> <p>Action Plan key action 23: "Revise the City's Annexation Plan and associated policies to reflect the sufficiency of undeveloped land within the present city limits, the need for a contiguous development pattern at the edge and an assessment of the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of the provision of city infrastructure and services in various portions of the ETJ. Base future annexations on considerations of fiscal impact."</p> <p>Denton Plan 2030 states this in providing the background for the previously mentioned actions (page 44: Growth and Annexation):</p> <p>"As noted in the description of the Growth Trend Scenario, the developable acreage within the present city limits and planned annexation areas is considerably more than will be needed to meet the growth needs of Denton through 2030. This situation is, in part, the result of the policy of "aggressive annexation" recommended in the 1999 Denton Plan. Although annexations provide a degree of control over what develops at the city's edge, the amount of unnecessary annexations the city has initiated has also been made it vulnerable to fragmented, leap-frog development and the costs associated with a widely dispersed development pattern and population. While developers are expected to cover much, if not all, of the capital costs to serve growth, the City and school districts are obligated to cover the cost to deliver public services to this expanded service area and to accept much of the maintenance costs on facilities built and financed privately, at taxpayer expense. Consequently, the City needs to slow its rate of annexation and apply strict annexation criteria based on need and fiscal impacts by applying adequate public facilities criteria for future annexations and development approvals."</p> <p>In explaining the Growth Trend Scenario, which Denton Plan 2030 did not support in part because it was less fiscally sustainable than the more compact Preferred Growth Concept, Appendix C states the following about its assumptions about land use:</p> <p>"Greenfield Development: No land beyond the existing city limits and none annexation agreement areas is needed to accommodate the projected growth. Due to the scale of undeveloped and agricultural land with existing residential and commercial zoning, no agricultural land would need to be rezoned to accommodate the projected population and land use growth."</p> <p>My Conclusions:</p> <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The parcel in question for item A20-0001b is not within an existing non-annexation agreement. Even the more spread-out and less fiscally stable "Growth Trend Scenario" analyzed during the Denton Plan 2030 development did not consider this parcel to be developed.</li> <li>- A fiscal analysis (even a cursory one) has not been performed. By extension of the explanation given, it appears all future development and annexations which pay any taxes are incorrectly deemed to meet DDG 2.4.5.E.9 regardless of the costs and future liabilities the city must incur as a result.</li> <li>- I do understand the benefits to control that annexation brings. All I'm asking is that we follow our long range plan and establish a practice of performing simple fiscal analysis including projected tax revenue, ongoing service costs, capital improvements, and future lifecycle replacement liabilities in order to inform these annexation and zoning change decisions.</li> </ul> <p>Please consider asking for even a cursory fiscal analysis before final action is taken. I understand that such an analysis must assume a particular zoning and site plan, but such a plan is already provided with this request. While the potential future rezoning from RR to R6 is also a germane time to demand a fiscal analysis, the annexation action which requires a 4/5 vote (Per city charter section 1.03) may be a more opportune time to ensure our long range plan is followed in this and future development applications.</p>
Chantel	Puga	706 Cook St.		Denton	ID 20-511	For	
Aakasha	Tallapally	2417 Charlotte Street	Apt #102	Denton	ID 20-623	For	I have seen the agenda of ID 20-623 and also ID 20-010. As an international student it's getting really tough for us to pay the rent at this crisis period without having an on campus employment. We are not even getting any kind of financial aid from our universities too. So, I would like to request to help us at this period with some financial aid so that we can survive at this hard times.
Clarissa	Thompson	2304 N Elm St #B		Denton	ID 20-623	For	<p>I'm Clarissa Thompson, a Denton City resident. As a worker in the food service industry my entire source of income has been cut off due to Covid-19. As a young local artist, my first opportunity to show and sell my work at the inaugural UNT arts festival, cutting me off from being able to find a secondary source of income and better connect to the arts community of Denton. I want to live here. I want this city to support its Artists and Service Workers. I want this city to support its residents. If I am not able to pay my rent, I will be forced to leave this city and will lose any connection to the wonderful creatives I have met here. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</li> <li>- If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund</li> <li>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy</li> <li>- Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to</li> </ul> <p>Thank you.</p>
Maria E	Puga	316 Audra Ln. #A		Denton	ID 20-632	For	
Nathan	Briggs	3400 Fallmeadow St. 3111a	Apt 3120B	Denton	ID 20-724	Against	<p>This is reference of item ID 20-733, which somehow has escaped discussion option on the drop down menu, on this matter but as stated by both DHS and the Texas State AG Ken Paxton Gun stores must remain open as they are essential Businesses. The City of Denton has refused to comply with this which is unacceptable. Also there are grumbling of wanting Free Rent for the next days. This I am out right opposed too for 2 points one it government's job to provide for people but since you are taking a large number of my fellow citizens Income, in name of public health. I am only willing to support this if funds for this comes from the reduction of pay temporarily of elected officials and city and Denton ISD Employees. If they are getting paid at full rate and by our tax dollars then it is only fair that bureaucrats and employees of the city have to tighten their belts as well not pass this on to the Taxpayers like myself by raising property taxes. Also I would like to see All of Denton open Business follow the POTUS Social distancing guidelines no later than April 6, 2020. We will beat this, but we must beat this with what makes Denton, Denton the small Businesses and local eatery and bars are the backbone of this town, and Denton can't be Denton without them.</p>
Kim	Yarbrough	3724 Lake Country		Denton	ID 20-724	For	How can the community help, other than stay in place, help others in the community? Homemade masks for medical staff, firemen and police? Do our food banks need food, TP, cleaning products or hand sanitizer? Does the Salvation Army or the King Center need supplies?
Aminat	Abiola	520 Rose St		Denton	ID 20-788	For	I'm Aminat and I live behind my school TWU off of frame and McKinney St. I'm a Nutrition major and organize with Denton Food Not Bombs. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. As residents, we have some demands: suspend utility chargers completely, provide at least \$1,000,000 in rental assistance, pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent, create a single 24/7 hotline residents with public health questions and concerns during the crisis, only deem emergency construction as an essential business for the safety of the workers, limit hospital restaurants and cafes to takeout only, give individuals who test positive for COVID-19 the option of isolating in hotels free of cost to reduce the risk to everyone else, reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection. Thank you
Amanda	Bacz	1903 Shawnee St		Denton	ID 20-788	For	

Name	Last	Address	Address Line 2	City	Agenda Item	Position	Comments
Vince	Baughier	2617 Pinto Dr.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Vince Baughier from Sandown Ranch. I have owned my chiropractic clinic in Denton for 20 years, am involved in the Rotary Club, mentoring programs and the Haha'i Faith. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</li> </ul> <p>The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection.</li> </ul> <p>For the safety of construction workers, I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential businesses?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-because enforcing social distancing on a construction site is impractical</li> <li>-because it is vital to allow construction employees to file for unemployment benefits</li> </ul> <p>Can the city contract to reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Less delivery fees means more money for tips for delivery workers who are at the front lines of this crisis</li> <li>- Subsidized delivery means more workers can be hired</li> </ul>
Lauren	Bordignon	2118 Stella St.	6	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Lauren from Cement City here in Denton. I, like many citizens of Denton, have been affected by COVID-19 and find myself unemployed, not only struggling to pay my rent but also feed myself and pay my utilities. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</li> <li>- If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund</li> <li>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy</li> <li>- Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to</li> </ul>
Kelly	Caster	1800 Willowwood St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Kelly Caster from Denia. I'm currently a stay at home mom to 4 kids and my husband works for UNT. We rent our home and I have resided in Denton since I came to Denton to attend TWU in 2001.</p> <p>I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. Please make a single, 24/7 hotline for all Denton residents who have public health questions or concerns about the behavior of others during this crisis. For the safety of construction workers, I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential business for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- because enforcing social distancing on a construction site is impractical</li> <li>- because working people are less likely to have a safety net when they get sick</li> <li>- because it is vital to allow construction employees to file for unemployment benefits</li> <li>- OSHA regulations allow workers to refuse unsafe work</li> <li>- Demand for new buildings is lower anyway due to the economy slowing down</li> </ul> <p>For the safety of hospital staff, patients, and visitors, I ask that hospital restaurants and cafes be limited to takeout only. Please give individuals who test positive for COVID-19 the option of isolating in hotels free of cost to reduce the risk to everyone else. Can the city contract to reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection?</p>
Javier	Cavazos Weems	1155 Union Circle	#307794	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Javier, and I am a student at UNT. The health and safety of this city are of vital importance to me, as the welfare of my community directly affects my ability to participate in the local economy of a city that I call my home nine months out of the year. I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs. No one should ever have to decide between keeping their power on or buying groceries, but they especially shouldn't have to make that decision now, in the midst of a global pandemic. The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent. Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st. A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. This greatly affects my ability to participate in my community in the future if my friends and neighbors are evicted for something they could not control.</p>
Felix	Cortez	316 Audra Lane	Apt. A	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Felix Cortez and work as a mill technician for Morrison's Corn Kits. I have been working here for 4 years and have seen our business grow as well as others. I'm currently working but have seen more than 20 people get laid off, at my job alone, due to COVID-19. Many of them have families to take care of and rent to pay. As grateful as I am, I can't help but feel bad for the people who are in need. I don't believe \$50,000 is enough to help the people of Denton with this situation. If the average rent/mortgage was \$1,400, then that'd only be enough to help roughly 35 people. Even if they paid half or more and only required a small amount of help, then it still would not be enough to assist everyone else. I don't know the name exact numbers as too who still works and how much financial assistance they will need, but I do know for certain that it's more than 35. And these are people with kids, parents and grandparents who live with them. I, myself, will also look into this aid because my wife no longer works and we are also expecting. I am now the sole provider of our house which consist of my wife and I, 3 kids and one on the way. I fear my job won't stay so busy for long. And knowing I won't have any income and possibly lose my home frightens me. I'm still paying my utilities and rent on time, and with the grace period, I feel a little comfortable knowing they won't cut my power or water off. But that does not mean it is paid for and fear that I won't be able to pay it if I lose my job. We need more than 30-60 days grace period, we need more financial assistance so that our landlords are happy and utilities are paid. I don't know exactly how much more, but around \$1,000,000 will be enough to at least help a few hundred people who have been laid off and require financial assistance. This will help people not only pay rent/mortgage but also keep more money in the pockets to buy essential items such as food and household items.</p>
Isabel	Deniz	703 Oakland St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Rent is usually between \$600 to \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people. I have lived in Denton since 2012 and am being directly affected by this crisis. I am fortunate enough to be guaranteed a paycheck on April 17th, but have no clarity past that. I worry for my friends who are currently making no income. I demand this city take care of its residents. Please amend this order to actually help the people in this community.</p>
Katherine	Dubberly	2313 Caddo Cir.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Katherine from Wind River neighborhood. My sister works in the entertainment industry, and my mom is a small business owner, and they are already struggling economically. We need to provide aid to residents in this time of need.</p>

Name	Last	Address	Address Line 2	City	Agenda Item	Position	Comments
Samuel	Escalante	2565 Quail Ridge Dr.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is Samuel Escalante. I am a homeowner in Denton with the privilege to afford my home and my utilities. Previously I have rented in Denton for several years and know the burden that financial insecurity and lack of access to healthcare and other vital resources has on individuals. I am writing to voice my strong support for the following provisions. These provisions are a direct response to not only the recent health guidelines for stopping the spread of coronavirus but also for economic losses by residents either through being laid off, losing access to human resources, or losing income in other ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suspend utility charges</li> <li>- Provide at least \$1,000,000 in rent assistance</li> <li>- Pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent</li> <li>- Provide for safe construction conditions by only deeming emergency construction as essential business</li> <li>- Protect residents by classifying restaurants and cafes be takeout only</li> <li>- and explore reducing or eliminating delivery costs so that we may more effectively stop the spread of disease.</li> </ul> <p>These are unprecedented times and as such require unprecedented measures. Going forward, these provisions can set the ground for future policy that can more equitably address inequality and safety throughout Denton.</p>
George	Ferrie	2932 Stockton St		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is George Ferrie, and I am a resident of District One here in the wonderful city of Denton. I am the small business owner of Wine Squared, located on the downtown square, which has been in operation since 2005. I am a board member of the Denton Main Street Association as well as three other local nonprofit boards. I also serve on the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification for the city, and was appointed by you, City Council. I am writing to you today in the hopes that you will have a better understanding of what your constituents are going through during the COVID 19 pandemic. I honestly believe you all to be good people at heart, but I also believe you are misguided in your efforts because this situation is affecting you in a different way than it is the majority of Dentonites. Renters like myself understand all too well the anxiety-fueled panic we all feel as April 1st (and the firsts for the next three months to be honest) approaches. As you know from city staff reports, 60% of Denton consists of renters, and the average rent in our city is \$1,146. Based on 2018 economic development numbers, that is roughly 83,132 people. These numbers do not include the growth we have seen over the past year. As homeowners with jobs that have not been furloughed or laid you off, I understand you are personally exempted from these circumstances of which you should be appraised and that I will be discussing. While I understand the state of Texas has postponed eviction proceedings until April 19th, many renters haven't earned an income for most of March, and will continue to lose income through all of April. With regular reports of the increasing numbers of those who have tested positive with COVID 19, we must realistically assess the likely scenario we can expect in our near future - we will not be returning to work anytime soon. I receive messages daily, hourly really, from people wondering what resources exist for them. It is heartbreaking to not be able to help each and every individual who reaches out to me. The truth is, we don't have enough help. As homeowners, I am sure you are aware major lending sources are allowing homeowners to postpone their mortgage for up to a year, without interest, if they are affected financially by the current pandemic. We continue to see homeowners receiving more and more options to mitigate this unfortunate time, but this leaves renters to fend for themselves with little-to-no resources. Denton needs to join Austin in extending a 60-day "grace period" for owed rent, both residential and commercial. The order would require landlords to notify tenants of a "proposed eviction" first, giving tenants 60 days to respond or pay rent in full before the landlord can post a notice to vacate. Nonprofits are the cornerstone of Denton's community. They work tirelessly, and without much praise, to insure as many people as possible do not go without. They should not be the only people expected to step up during this crisis. We need to enact a relief fund during this emergency to help people. Local businesses are the primary contributors to nonprofits through events we collaborate to throw, our sponsorships, etc. However, this has had to cease during this time of shelter at home, as it should, for the safety of everyone. \$50,000 is not enough money for United Way to do their job. Denton needs a disaster relief fund of up to \$1,000,000 approved, and the City needs to aid in this effort in any capacity it is legally allowed. I truly hope you understand that the tasks I have put before you are voiced by hundreds of small business owners, out of work service industry workers, laid off workers, renters, professionals, voters, and, most importantly, Dentonites. We are all aware that this is something unprecedented. We are living in unprecedented times. We are all aware you are in a very tough position as an elected official. However, you asked to be in it when you sought to be a leader, asked for this town to donate their hard-earned money, and asked that your constituents cast their vote to put you in that seat. If we cannot count on the local government to take care of us, who can we count on? When all this is over, Dentonites will all remember who did all they could to help those who most needed it. We will remember the next time you sit in our restaurant, attend a show of ours, order a beverage at our bar top, or ask us to serve you in this town. And we will certainly remember it when you ask for our vote so that you can serve in this town.</p>
Rina	Gallegos	1408 Teasley Ln.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I like many others have been laid off due to restaurant restrictions. While I am grateful that I can do my part in limiting unnecessary contact, I am afraid of my financial situation for the months to come. The city put in place measures that benefit its residents such as suspending utility charges. With the city owning their own electric company, it can easily serve the needs of its residents rather than focus on a profit. While there is a shut-off suspension on utilities, many people are not aware. This may lead to people in a similar financial situation like me to sacrifice the purchase of basic needs to cover utility costs. The city's objective should be for its residents to be secure in a time of so much uncertainty. Having more money allocated to them can allow for local spending and secure economic activity once people are able to leave their houses for non essential activities. That being said the city should increase their spending on rental assistance as well.</p>
Angela	Harris	616 E. Hickory St.	Apt 338	DENTON	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Angela Harris from District 1. I am a Lecturer in Japanese at the University of North Texas, and my job, working with the largest employer in Denton, is made possible by the students we serve, many of whom are renters. I strongly believe that the city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. Currently, if a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent. Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. However, it is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st. A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. I have worked to support unhoused people in Denton throughout the time I have lived here, and I can say, with certainty, that the city cannot hope to contain a pandemic when a large number of its citizens have been forced onto the streets. I also believe that while \$50,000 to support individuals who have experienced income or job loss due to the crisis is a start, it will not be enough. Rent in the city is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people. Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy, and the more people are able to stay housed during this crisis, the easier it will be to prevent hospitals from being overwhelmed. Thank you very much for your time.</p>
Linda	Holshouser	2400 Stockbridge Rd	Apt 2112	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>A one time check of \$1200 will not prevent evictions or help renters, it only helps the landlords. We need something like is being done in Austin, a 60 day freeze on rent. People with mortgages are getting help, renters are not. This is discrimination.</p>
Braedyn	Immon	2109 Denison St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Braedyn Immon (they/he) from zip 76201. I'm the intake coordinator at Denton county's local mental health and intellectual and developmental disability authority. I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy. Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to. The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st, so a high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent. Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. For the safety of construction workers, I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential business because it is vital to allow construction employees to file for unemployment benefits and OSHA regulations allow workers to refuse unsafe work. For the safety of hospital staff, patients, and visitors, I ask that hospital restaurants and cafes be limited to takeout only. Hospital lobbies are highly likely to host people that are close to patients that test positive for COVID-19.</p>
Sarah	Jay	2514 N Elm St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Sarah Jay from District 1. I work at UNT, and participate, attend, and organize events in Denton. I also associate with many small business owners and self-employed artists and musicians in Denton. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people. If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund. Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy. Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to. The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. Please make a single, 24/7 hotline for all Denton residents who have public health questions or concerns about the behavior of others during this crisis. As a nonpartisan entity, the city is more likely to be trusted with unpopular, but necessary policies that save lives.</p>

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Rajita	Kolla	2417 Charlotte St #117	Oasis Apartments	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Rajita Kolla from 2417 Charlotte St #117, International Student studying Masters at UNT. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in the assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</li> <li>- If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund</li> <li>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy</li> <li>- Assistance to stay at home keeps fewer people working when they don't need to</li> </ul>
Joseph	Kukura	2519 Denison St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Joseph and I live on Denison St. close to the Kroger on university. I studied jazz guitar at UNT and organized with the student organization Mean Greens For Animals. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. As residents, we have some demands: suspend utility charges completely, provide at least \$1,000,000 in rental assistance, pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent, create a single 24/7 hotline residents with public health questions and concerns during the crisis, only deem emergency construction as an essential business for the safety of the workers, limit hospital restaurants and cafes to takeout only, give individuals who test positive for COVID-19 the option of isolating in hotels free of cost to reduce the risk to everyone else, reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection.</p>
Kelsey	Kunkle	2208 N. Carroll Blvd.	APT 3	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is Kelsey and I am a former UNT employee and current graduate student. The city of Denton has been my home for the majority of my adult life and I care deeply about this community, as well as the many local businesses I frequent and their employees who are currently unable to earn their income in the service industry. Because of this, I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis. However, we need utility charges completely suspended. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit and charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. Additionally, the residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 provided to United Way of Denton County to make it through this crisis. Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000 (so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people) and rental assistance will allow more people to stay home without hurting landlords. Additionally, the city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent, leaving a number of tenants in Denton at risk of eviction without this protection. For the safety of construction workers, I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential business because enforcing social distancing on a construction site is impractical. For the safety of hospital staff, patients, and visitors, I ask that hospital restaurants and cafes be limited to takeout only. Keeping our hospital staff safe is imperative for the future safety of the Denton community. Finally, can the city contract to reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection? Elderly people and people with conditions in particular need to be able to stay at home and less delivery fees means more money for tips for delivery workers who are at the front lines of this crisis. Additionally, subsidized delivery means more workers can be hired.</p>
Lacey	Lynch	3915 Diamond Dr.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>While I am lucky to still work and pay rent many friends and family are not and I want us to come together and expand the funding to help these people. Until it payments should also be frozen as DME is people owned and should serve the people during this extreme time. Small businesses and residential customers specifically should be suspended and not be required to be repaid as it only adds further debt and burden all our citizens that impacts their ability to survive during these times and recover and in turn begin to spend in our community to those businesses. It comes from our leadership to care of our people. Families including mine are all struggling. Small businesses are struggling. Please don't add to their debt load and further struggle. A small rate increase for big Corp here can offset the cost to the city to freeze utilities. This is emergent and needed.</p>
Dewey	Marshall	1700 Willowwood St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is Dewey Marshall and I work for the North Texas Fair Housing Center. We know that tenants in Denton live paycheck to paycheck, and most hourly positions have been severely cut or eliminated within only a few days. While closing nonessential businesses was a necessary measure, it is new territory for us all. This unprecedented crisis calls for unprecedented action, which is why I am asking the City Council for \$1,000,000 in emergency relief and a 60 day mandatory grace period. Rent and utility assistance should be made available to people who work as independent contractors, such as Uber and Lyft drivers. This relief would prevent a sizable amount of people from experiencing housing crises. As someone who has worked with clients experiencing homelessness in Denton, I can tell you that the community has rallied behind helping the homeless but is disconnected from the reality of people at risk of homelessness. For example, many would think that eviction would be a landlord's last resort. However, the reality for tenants in Texas is that eviction is usually a quick process compared to other states, and landlords can clear units faster than tenants can financially recover from income loss. Properties that are members of the Texas Apartment Association have already posted intimidating notices on tenants' doors. I found one of these notices on a client's door this morning, March 30th, in Denton. The bottom of the notice reads, "This notice is an indication that the rental property owner intends to pursue an eviction if rent is not paid" and it explains that tenants cannot ignore notices from their landlord. Without help from the City, I fear that several of these landlords will refuse to accept rent after a tenant's grace period and evict their units as soon as courts open. Some landlords in Denton will likely work with tenants for a payment plan if a tenant has lost their income. However, we don't know when life as usual will resume. If a tenant were already stretched thin financially, a payment plan for back rent puts them at even higher risk of housing crises. Without this rent assistance, a massive amount of Denton residents will be on the cusp of financial crises for several months. This week Mr. Todd Hillman explained that the city relies on sales tax for funding. When hundreds of Dentonites are budgeting to pay off back rent, the currency flow in Denton will be heavily stifled. Thus, spending more money on emergency rental assistance now can substantially mitigate the City's loss of revenue from sales tax in 2020. I have seen City Council pass enormous subsidies for private companies to develop within the city, and I understand the economic benefit of investing in the community. I hope that we remember that we are in this together and investing in tenant is an investment for the city.</p>
Bvelyn	Mayo	1420 W Mockingbird Lane Ste 450		Dallas	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is Evelyn Mayo, and I am an advocate with Disability Rights Texas (DRTx), the nonprofit, federally designated, legal protection and advocacy organization for individuals with disabilities in Texas. Protection and advocacy agencies (P&amp;As) were created in the early 1970s, following a media investigation of Willowbrook, a New York State institution for children with mental disabilities. The press exposed deplorable conditions and inhumane treatment of residents at the government-run institution. In response, Congress passed legislation in 1975 designating an organization within each state to protect and advocate for the rights of people with disabilities. In 1977, Disability Rights Texas opened its doors as the Texas state protection and advocacy organization, designated by then-Governor Dolph Briscoe. Over time, our mandate grew with the passage of laws that expanded the rights and services for people with disabilities. People with disabilities, which includes elderly people and people who are immunocompromised, are at the front lines of impacted the greatest by the pandemic. Stopping the spread of the virus is critical to their safety. We applaud the City of Denton's steps taken to provide for the health and safety of the public. The scale and scope of this crisis changes daily, which requires all of us to employ different measures to ensure people with disabilities have the same opportunities as the rest of the population. The City of Denton proactively mandated that people stay at home to prevent unnecessary contact amongst the public, ultimately to stop the spread of COVID-19. This closed non-essential businesses and resulted in a loss of income to thousands within Denton. With today's unprecedented levels of unemployment, loss of income and consequent inability to pay rent and mortgages will be a barrier to keeping people in their homes. If people are unable to pay for their housing, they are likely to end up homeless. As the CDC notes, people that are homeless are more likely to contract COVID-19. As noted by several medical professionals, people that are able to recover from COVID-19 end up with lasting health impacts, such as post-intensive care syndrome, that can affect their ability to breath and process information. With the concern growing and the need to flatten the curve growing by the day, any assistance to Denton residents would lessen the burden on the healthcare system and city and county resources. With the passage of the CARES Act last week and directives by federal agencies, DRTx encourages the City of Denton to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Educate landlords and tenants on the tenant protections enacted by the CARES Act,</li> <li>- Inform the public on both single family and multifamily mortgages assistance available as a result of the CARES Act and other government directives,</li> <li>- Advise landlords and tenants regarding directives from The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Housing Administration relating to evictions in federally backed multifamily housing, and</li> <li>- Make available funding for housing assistance to the extent possible to prevent homelessness.</li> </ul> <p>We know that Denton residents are under extreme pressure and uncertainty caused by COVID19. We appreciate the leadership and advocacy on the Denton City Council to date, and hope for continued support to ensure persons with disabilities are included when responding to this unprecedented crisis. DRTx is committed to advocating for Texans with disabilities and is here to serve as a resource should the City of Denton have any questions. Thank you for your consideration and please reach out to <a href="mailto:housing@drtx.org">housing@drtx.org</a> if you have any additional questions or concerns.</p>

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Brandi	McDuff	3400 Fallmeadow St. 3111a	NA	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Brandi McDuff and I am a vet assistant who is working through this global crisis. I am lucky enough to continue to have a paycheck but many people I know are not that lucky at this time. Layoffs and reduced hours are severely impacting many of the citizens of our city.</p> <p>I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people. If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund. Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy. Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to. The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent. Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st. A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. Protecting people's homes and utilities is one way to help stop the spread of this virus and to help protect the citizens of our community. Eviction or even late rent payments can adversely effect a persons rental history for years in the future. What we do now will have lasting effects on the community.</p>
Sierra	Merenda	2524 West Oak Street	Apt 149	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Sierra Merenda from Vintage Pads owned by Denton Student Apartments here in Denton. I am a daycare worker and have seen firsthand the panic and fear that has infected our community but I have also seen our community come together to help each other now in this dark hour. We all need to work together to ensure we are all taken care of and make it through to the proverbial dawn. I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit.</p>
Leslie	Miranda	807 W Mulberry Street		Denton	ID 20-788	For	I am FOR increasing emergency assistance aid here in Denton
Amy	Morgan	1928 Parkside Dr.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is Amy Morgan. I live in the North Lakes area of Denton. I am a full-time student of social work at TWU. I currently own my home, but I was a previous renter in the city of Denton. When I first moved to Denton, I was a single mother of two small children. I moved to Denton because I could no longer afford rent in Roanoke (just down the hwy). I had a steady job that paid just enough to pay my bills and rent. If I were in the same position today, our future wouldn't have been so bright. This pandemic is putting so many in a precarious situation, one for which they could not have possibly prepared. The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. I have seen evidence of very understanding landlords. Still, I have also seen instances where properties are notifying tenants of their upcoming rent due and letting them know under no uncertain terms that there will be no grace period or rent forgiveness despite disruptions caused by the pandemic. A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. I know you all are working tirelessly to make the best decisions in an unprecedented time. It would be hard enough to do if everyone was on the same page. I realize there are vast differences in how grave a threat the citizens feel this virus is despite its global scale. I appreciate you all taking the time to hear comments and take public opinion to heart.</p>
Mallory	Murphy	1408 Teasley Lane	APT 2914	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Mallory Murphy from Woodhill Apartments in District 1. I am a bartender at 940's Kitchen &amp; Cocktails as well as Il Charlies Bar and Grill. When I'm not bartending, I'm creating art and participating in art fairs and vendor markets around town. I am heavily effected by COVID-19, as are many of my fellow Dentonites. While I take pride in living alone, paying for all of my bills in a timely manner, and working hard to consistently make ends meet, I have experienced a dramatic decrease in hours worked and therefore money coming in. While I hope to maintain my timely bill pay in the coming month of April, it appears I will not be able to do so after that. I have gone from working full time to one shift a week. This simply will not be enough to pay my rent, car payment, car insurance, renters insurance, utility bill, internet bill, and/or any medical bills that may arise from this pandemic, as I am not insured. I've never allowed a bill payment to lapse and I would like to continue to do so with your help.</p> <p>- I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis.</p> <p>- We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses.</p> <p>- People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs</p> <p>The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <p>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</p> <p>- If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund</p> <p>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy</p> <p>- Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to</p> <p>The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent</p> <p>- If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent</p> <p>- Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction</p> <p>- It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st</p> <p>- A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection.</p> <p>- Please make a single, 24/7 hotline for all Denton residents who have public health questions or concerns about the behavior of others during this crisis</p> <p>- A single hotline serves valuable time</p> <p>- A single hotline is more easy to quality control</p> <p>- As a nonpartisan entity, the city is more likely to be trusted with unpopular, but necessary policies that save lives</p> <p>- For the safety of construction workers. I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential businesses</p> <p>-because enforcing social distancing on a construction site is impractical</p> <p>-because working people are less likely to have a safety net when they get sick</p> <p>-because it is vital to allow construction employees to file for unemployment benefits</p> <p>- OSHA regulations allow workers to refuse unsafe work</p> <p>- Demand for new buildings is lower anyway due to the economy slowing down</p> <p>- For the safety of hospital staff, patients, and visitors, I ask that hospital restaurants and cafes be limited to takeout only.</p> <p>- Hospital lobbies are highly likely to host people that are close to patients that test positive for covid-19.</p> <p>- Hospital lobbies are sometimes very packed and crowded.</p> <p>- Keeping hospital staff safe is a relevant concern from the Denton community.</p> <p>- Please give individuals who test positive for COVID-19 the option of isolating in hotels free of cost to reduce the risk to everyone else.</p> <p>- State governments like California are already doing it</p> <p>- Countries that succeed in tackling the virus isolate people who have it until they show signs of recovery</p> <p>- Families spread the virus to each other</p> <p>- I would personally feel safer knowing that people who test positive aren't visiting grocery stores and pharmacies when I do</p> <p>- Can the city contract to reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection?</p> <p>- The Postal Service and bus systems are already publicly provide</p> <p>- Lowering delivery fees makes people more able to eat out</p> <p>- Elderly people and people with conditions in particular need to be able to stay at home</p> <p>- Less delivery fees means more money for tips for delivery workers who are at the front lines of this crisis</p> <p>- Subsidized delivery means more workers can be hired</p>



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Bradi	Pirtle	2126 Stella St.	apt 3	Denton	ID 20-788	For	My name is Bradi Pirtle and I live West of UNT Campus on Stella Street. I've been living in Denton for a total of six and a half years and I attended the University of North Texas. I'm now working as a dog groomer, photographer, and musician. I'm writing to you as a concerned member of your community in the hopes that you will do the right thing in these unprecedented times. The residents of Denton are going to need more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. Monthly rent is typically between \$600 and \$2000, which means that \$50,000 will help fewer than 100 people. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Rental assistance is mutually beneficial for both landlords and tenants and it enables at-risk populations to reduce their risk of exposure as well as encouraging everyone to do their part to flatten the curve of COVID-19 in Denton. Furthermore, the City of Denton should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. As things stand currently, if a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent and although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st and a high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. I am glad you are not shutting off utilities during this crisis and that is a step in the right direction, but we need utility charges to be completely suspended. We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of the city's residents; because of that, the city has a moral obligation to deliver these basic necessities to its residents during this crisis. Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend and will hurt local businesses that are already suffering as well as put undue stress and hardship on individuals and families that live on a strict budget. Thank you for taking the time to hear your constituents. I expect that you will make the right decision.
Maria E	Puga	316 Audra Ln. #A		Denton	ID 20-788	For	
Maria A	Puga	706 Cook St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	
Morgan	Quinnelly	916 Westway St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	My name is Morgan and I live on Westway St. I work for a local nonprofit, and I am concerned about the ability of my neighbors to stay in their homes during this uncertain time. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Furthermore, the city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent.
Ana	Reyes	1901 Redwood Place		Denton	ID 20-788	For	I'm Ana G. Reyes and reside here in Denton City. I'm a doctoral student at the University of North Texas and work as a Bilingual Therapist at CCD Counseling. As a student, teacher, and counselor I've become aware of the dire need of support such as utility assistance, rental support, and housing equity in Denton. Over COVID-19 crisis is having a devastating impact in our community. Thus, I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended. Additionally, the city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis. Please note that charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses. Furthermore, people who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Please note that rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people. With Appreciation.
Monica	Rodriguez	1011 West Chestnut St.	7	Denton	ID 20-788	Against	My name is Monica Rodriguez and I am a doctoral counseling student at UNT. I live and work in Denton as a counselor at a clinic. Counselors have been working hard to provide our community mental health support during this difficult time. Many of our community members are scared, overwhelmed, and unsure how they will be managing given the loss of jobs and financial insecurity. While, I know that it's been a huge help for people to not have their utilities shut off in this time of crisis, I would like to advocate for utility charges to be completely suspended. I would also like for the city to pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent. Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st. A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection.
Morgan	Smith	415 Jagoe St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	My name is Morgan and I'm a young woman in her 20s who's been living in Denton for 5 years now. I am currently unemployed due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. On top of already fearing for the health and safety of myself and the people in my life, I am also deeply afraid of being unable to afford the cost of living and losing my home. I am fortunate in having some assistance during this time that many others I know don't have and even then I am still struggling to make ends meet. Here is a list of issues that directly affect myself and people I know:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended.</li> <li>- The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis.</li> <li>- We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit.</li> <li>- Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses.</li> <li>- People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs.</li> </ul> <p>The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people.</li> <li>- If the fund isn't utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund.</li> <li>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy. Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to.</li> </ul> <p>The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent.</li> <li>- Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction.</li> <li>- It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st.</li> <li>- A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection.</li> </ul> <p>Please help protect the struggling citizens of this community. So many people are on the verge of losing everything they've worked for within a month's time. We can't wait to take action.</p>
Keara	Soller	211 1/2 Bryan St.		DENTON	ID 20-788	For	I'm Keara and I have lived in Denton for over 9 years. I am 26 years old, am an alumni from UNT, have worked with the Denton Community Market for years, and have served two years of AmeriCorps service locally. I am very invested in the people, businesses, and heart of this town, and am proud to call it home. I was recently put on a leave of absence with no benefits from my job due to the COVID-19 virus and have no income for the rest of this month and probably longer. I have been food insecure and at risk of homelessness prior to this crisis, and this has made my situation even more dire. I know I am not alone in this as many in our city are in crisis and scrambling to figure out a way to keep their families housed and safe during this time. I ask the city to increase their assistance at this crucial time. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.

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Peter	Su	201 Human St.	BLDG 5 308	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I am Peter Su from The Forums at Denton Station. I am a full time third year student studying at The University of North Texas and because of this pandemic I have not been deemed essential to work at UNT thus stopping my income to pay for next months rent. I have been a Denton resident for many years and hopefully many more, I urge and plead you to read this with consideration of helping your average daily worker and the bettering of the community.</p> <p>- I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended.</p> <p>The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis.</p> <p>We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit.</p> <p>Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses</p> <p>People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs</p> <p>The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <p>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</p> <p>- If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund</p> <p>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy</p> <p>- Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to</p> <p>The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent</p> <p>- If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent</p> <p>- Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction</p> <p>- It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st</p> <p>- A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection.</p> <p>- For the safety of construction workers. I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential businesses.</p> <p>-because enforcing social distancing on a construction site is impractical</p> <p>-because working people are less likely to have a safety net when they get sick</p> <p>-because it is vital to allow construction employees to file for unemployment benefits</p> <p>- OSHA regulations allow workers to refuse unsafe work</p> <p>- Demand for new buildings is lower anyway due to the economy slowing down</p> <p>- For the safety of hospital staff, patients, and visitors. I ask that hospital restaurants and cafes be limited to takeout only.</p> <p>- Hospital lobbies are highly likely to host people that are close to patients that test positive for covid-19.</p> <p>- Hospital lobbies are sometimes very packed and crowded.</p> <p>- Hospital lobbies are highly likely to host people that are close to patients that test positive for covid-19.</p> <p>- Hospital lobbies are sometimes very packed and crowded.</p> <p>- Keeping hospital staff safe is a relevant concern from the Denton community.</p> <p>- Can the city contract to reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection?</p> <p>- The Postal Service and bus systems are already publicly provide</p> <p>- Lowering delivery fees makes people more able to eat out</p> <p>- Elderly people and people with conditions in particular need to be able to stay at home</p> <p>- Less delivery fees means more money for tips for delivery workers who are at the front lines of this crisis</p> <p>- Subsidized delivery means more workers can be hired</p>
Aakansha	Tallapally	2417 Charlotte St.	Apt #102	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I am Aakansha Tallapally from 2417 Charlotte street, apt #102, Denton, Texas. I am an international student in university of north Texas. We used to have an on campus employment before this lockdown. Now I lost my on campus job because the university has got shutdown and it's getting very tough to pay the rent at this crisis period. So I would like to request the council to help with some financial aid at this hard time.</p>
Elia	Tamplin	200 Hann Street	Apt 13	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I am Elia Tamplin from Denton. I rent, living in an apartment right off of Hann and Austin and work at TWU. While I appreciate the steps being taken to provide \$50,000 dollars to the resident of Denton, the total amount is but a drop in the bucket for helping us weather this collective storm. While I am lucky that I was grandfathered in with rent closer to \$600 (due to how long I've lived in my unit), many who now live in the same complex pay well above \$600. And, when we consider the total amount of housing costs including essential bills such as utilities...it's simple math. \$1,000 is simply not enough to cover the costs of many people's basic needs. In fact, the allotted \$50,000 in total assistance would help less than 100 people. So, I ask that you reconsider and provide more to your constituents. See it as a way to make yourselves look good in the eyes of those who voted for you. Increasing the total amount of assistance, you'll make tenants and landlords happy and decrease stress and need. You'll also help the attempts to ensure our community's well-being by helping people stay home and not need to feel pressured to go back to work when they don't need to. And, if you don't utilize all of the funding? You can reallocate the money back into the general fund. Help your residents, us, me, feel more supported and as safe as you can in these trying times. I urge you.</p>
Denny	Taylor	3307 Gardenvue Circle		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>This is a crisis. People can't work. We all need help.</p>
Emily	Thygesen	411 Panhandle Street	B	Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>My name is Ren Thygesen from District 2. I use they/them pronouns. I am a renter, a small business employee, and strong believer in community. For myself and a lot of people I know, community means helping those who are first affected and most vulnerable. I've seen this happen personally, as the only piece of financial hope I've received in a couple of days has been donations from some generous clients who were concerned and able. I've also seen numerous local bars who have organized community funding for their employees who lost jobs at the very beginning of this crisis and have been successful in actually taking care of them the best that they can. I've also seen the very worst of responses--including this council's lack of action. There are specific members of this council who are directly responsible for the following when they shot down Councilperson Deb Armintor's suggestions that we act fast on March 20th at an Emergency Meeting. She pointed out that the council should individually volunteer to the public the information of whether or not they are a landlord, so that a decision can be made on the conflict of interest as related to your ability to act in this absolutely catastrophic situation. We shouldn't have to tell you that this is affecting everyone. I was offended at the reaction several of you had to Councilmember Armintor's suggestions for mitigating the inevitable disaster at that meeting because "we were not to that point yet." The reality is that most of you are privileged in some way, and can likely go a long time in a crisis without having to worry about paying for any necessities. When you were having that discussion, I had already been 8 days without work, sick, and in an uncertain world with very few resources from our government because denial was/is rampant. Even among you, who should be those who are not swayed by soundbite politics--regardless of your party I have no savings, am in massive student loan debt, and was quickly drained financially from this crisis. Furthermore, it is also likely that none of you are worried about being evicted at this time. I'm seeing numerous threats coming from landlords at this time. The threat is real, and that is because there are people--those who thrive on greed and profit, whose first reaction in a crisis is to take advantage of rightfully scared citizens. This council should be one of the first to shut down these attempts in an actual disaster. It is easier to take advantage of tenants in the state of Texas, even in a crisis such as this, as our laws allow the process of evicting someone to be far more expedient than many tenants' abilities to recover substantial financial loss. If none of that moves you, I'll move to the fact that the economy is coming closer to depression-like times, and I can guarantee that our local economy will take irreversible hits if you do not enact a 60 day grace period for April rent and utility charges to be suspended in some fashion. I am, like many others, having to make choices between necessities RIGHT NOW. We are aware that there have already been some relief extended to landlords in the form of mortgage freezes and suspensions of foreclosures. You don't NEED our rent right now, you just WANT our rent. We've reassessed our needs during this time. Do so yourselves.</p> <p>A few things in closing:</p> <p>- I'm glad you're not shutting off utilities during this crisis, but we need utility charges completely suspended.</p> <p>- The city has a moral obligation to deliver basic needs to residents during this crisis.</p> <p>- We own our own electric company so that it may serve the needs of residents instead of profit.</p> <p>- Charging people back pay will lower the income people have to spend at local businesses</p> <p>- People who still get bills may not know about the shut-off suspension and decide to pay utilities instead of purchasing basic needs</p>

Name	Last	Address	Address Line 2	City	Agenda Item	Position	Comments
							<p>* The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people</li> <li>- If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund</li> <li>- Rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy</li> <li>- Assistance to stay at home keeps less people working when they don't need to</li> <li>- Can the city contract to reduce or eliminate delivery cost in order to reduce the risk of infection?</li> <li>- The Postal Service and bus systems are already publicly provide</li> <li>- Lowering delivery fees makes people more able to eat out</li> <li>- Elderly people and people with conditions in particular need to be able to stay at home</li> <li>- Less delivery fees means more money for tips for delivery workers who are at the front lines of this crisis</li> <li>- Subsidized delivery means more workers can be hired</li> <li>- For the safety of hospital staff, patients, and visitors, I ask that hospital restaurants and cafes be limited to takeout only.</li> <li>- Hospital lobbies are highly likely to host people that are close to patients that test positive for covid-19.</li> <li>- Hospital lobbies are sometimes very packed and crowded.</li> <li>- Keeping hospital staff safe is a relevant concern from the Denton community.</li> <li>- For the safety of construction workers, I ask that city council only deem emergency construction as essential businesses.</li> <li>- because enforcing social distancing on a construction site is impractical</li> <li>- because working people are less likely to have a safety net when they get sick</li> <li>- because it is vital to allow construction employees to file for unemployment benefits</li> <li>- OSHA regulations allow workers to refuse unsafe work</li> <li>- Demand for new buildings is lower anyway due to the economy slowing down</li> </ul> <p>The city should pass a 60-day grace period for late payments on rent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent</li> <li>- Although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction</li> <li>- It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st</li> <li>- A high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection.</li> </ul> <p>The size of our population experiencing homelessness WILL increase suddenly and dramatically if something is not done. That's the reality you're facing--there's no hope of keeping everyone well when they have no homes to "stay-at-home" in as ordered. There's no water to wash their hands with, no way to prevent illness, or maintain any semblance of a healthy body or environment. Please do something.</p>
Braden	Weinmann	443 Strata Dr.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I want to express my viewpoint regarding the adoption of a revised emergency ordinance. I do think the city needs to increase its assistance to Denton residents during this time, including people who are working in the service industry who are currently living with little to no income, people who are uninsured, and people who have no way to meet basic needs AND pay their rent. I have seen that the City of Austin has passed a 60-day grace period on evictions to process through their courts; I want something similar to happen in Denton, but I am also worried that we might have an 'eviction crisis' on our hands where landlords simply wait longer to evict tenants who were not able to pay rent in this crisis. I also do not think the government stimulus of \$1,200 can be relied on as a cure-all because 1) not everyone qualifies for this stimulus and 2) if people do receive the stimulus, they might have to pay most if not all of it directly to their landlords (thereby turning into an inadvertent landlord stimulus leaving the tenants no better than they were before). I truly believe a rent and utility freeze, rather than a grace, should be explored to the fullest extent possible. I also want to continue voicing my support for increasing the \$50,000 already available in emergency funding. I have heard that at least \$1 million is necessary, but I truly do not know the cost of the support our community needs. In the future, perhaps after this crisis is over, I genuinely want to see the landlord-tenant relationship abolished completely. I don't want the world to return to a broken economic system and pretend it's working for everyone. I think that rent is theft of one's priceless time and resources, and I further think that having to pay such an exorbitant amount each month just to access basic security is ridiculous and cruel. This crisis has shown that our current economic system is unreliable and unjust, and I believe that we as a city should be exploring every possible alternative to help ensure that each person living in Denton has access to adequate housing security as a right and not as an economic privilege.</p>
Richard	Wheldon	520 Robert St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	Short of absolute quarantine, I am in favor of extending the current "stay at home" order.
Sara	Wheldon	520 Robert St.		Denton	ID 20-788	For	Short of absolute quarantine, I am highly in favor of the current "stay home" order.
Christopher	Wilkins	200 Hann Street #3		Denton	ID 20-788	For	<p>I'm Christopher Wilkins from TWU - Austin St. neighborhood. I am a teacher, and current renter based in Denton. I have been involved with local political initiatives over the last several years and have a heart for the City of Denton at-large as well as for our most vulnerable populations residing within our borders. The residents of Denton are going to need a lot more than \$50,000 to weather this crisis. We need at least \$1,000,000 in assistance provided directly by the city. Rent is usually between \$600 and \$2000, so \$50,000 will help less than 100 people. If the fund isn't all utilized the city can simply reallocate the money back into the general fund AND rental assistance keeps both landlords and tenants happy. On top of the 1,000,000 allocation in assistance I wanted to propose an additional 60-day grace period for late payments on rent. If a tenant misses a rent payment, their landlord does not have to accept late rent and although courts are not proceeding with eviction hearings until April 19th, landlords can refuse late payments and wait until they open to file for eviction. It is unlikely that new applicants for rental assistance will be able to pay their rent by April 1st and lastly, and most importantly, a high amount of tenants in Denton will risk eviction without this protection. Thank you for reading and I appreciate your time</p>