



# CITY OF HOUSTON

**Sylvester Turner**

Mayor

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April 7, 2020

The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas  
c/o State Coordinator  
Division of Emergency Management  
P. O. Box 4087  
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

Dear Governor Abbott:

The City of Houston, Texas (the "City") is currently undergoing a study to analyze and potentially update the current impact fee, land use assumptions, and associated capital improvement plan ("CIP") adopted under Chapter 395 of the Local Government Code. That statute sets a maximum duration of 10 years for the CIP. The statute also requires an update to the land use assumptions and CIP, or council action determining that no update is necessary, at least once every five years.

The City most recently adopted a 10-year CIP effective July 1, 2010. The deadline to update the current CIP is July 1, 2020. The CIP update process provides for public input through public hearing, and discussion at open meetings. The public's opportunity to provide meaningful input is quite limited during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The City's desire for robust input from members of the public is particularly pressing in light of the economic uncertainty the COVID-19 pandemic has caused locally.

Due to the rapidly shifting healthcare, social, and economic landscapes during the COVID-19 pandemic, the City respectfully requests permission to delay performing any update to land use assumptions or CIP until such time as the land use assumptions and CIP can be ascertained with reasonable certainty. Chapter 395's procedure for updating the City's impact fee, and the underlying land use assumptions, cannot be reliably evaluated during the current emergency.

Accordingly, I request that you suspend the current time limits in Chapter 395 and extend the current deadline for a new CIP to July 1, 2021; and allow the City to impose its current impact fee under the current CIP and land use assumptions until July 1, 2021. Your assistance in response to this emergency is appreciated.

Sylvester Turner  
Mayor