

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## ACTION ITEM

Item Number: BA2019-32  
Item Title: Trinity Metro 2019 State Legislative Program  
and Resolution

Meeting Date: January 28, 2019

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### **BACKGROUND**

In 1983, the State Legislature approved the formation of the Fort Worth Transportation Authority. Prior to this time, the City of Fort Worth through its Transportation Department provided public transit services: City Transit Service (CITRAN), Surface Transportation Service (SURTRAN), and Mobility Impaired Transit Services (MITS).

Currently, Trinity Metro is governed by Chapter 452 – Regional Transportation Authorities of the Texas Transportation Code and more specifically Subchapter N – SUBREGIONAL BOARD IN AUTHORITY HAVING NO MUNICIPALITY WITH POPULATION MORE THAN 1.1 MILLION.

The Dallas Area Rapid Transit Agency (DART) is governed by Subchapter O – SUBREGIONAL BOARD IN SUBREGION HAVING PRINCIPAL MUNICIPALITY WITH POPULATION OF MORE THAN 1.1 MILLION.

Texas Transportation Code §452.108 allows DART the opportunity to enter into public-private partnerships (P3s).

The proposed Trinity Metro 2019 State Legislative Program includes seeking legislation to allow Trinity Metro the same opportunity as DART to enter into public-private legislation and would require approval of a simple text amendment to Texas Transportation Code § 452.108.(See attached Exhibit 1).

Approval of the proposed Trinity Metro 2019 State Legislative Program is consistent with the objectives described in the Transit Master Plan and to implement the vision outlined in the plan provide compelling transit services to make Tarrant County more livable and support continued economic growth.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend that Trinity Metro’s Board of Directors approve the Trinity Metro 2019 State Legislative Program including seeking legislation to allow Trinity Metro the opportunity to enter into public-private partnerships (P3s).

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### Disposition by Board of Directors

Secretary Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhibit 1**  
**2019 State Legislative Program**  
**86<sup>th</sup> Legislature**

**GENERAL POLICY**

Trinity Metro **Supports** any legislation viewed as advancing Trinity Metro's Transit Master Plan or that improves transit.

Trinity Metro will **Oppose** any legislation viewed as detrimental to its Transit Master Plan or that negatively impacts Trinity Metro's funding sources, governance, or transit.

**SEEK LEGISLATION**

Trinity Metro will seek legislation to amend Chapter 452 of the Texas Transportation Code to provide Trinity Metro with the opportunity to enter into public-private partnerships (P3 Legislation).

**SUPPORT AND WORK WITH OTHER TRANSIT AUTHORITIES AND THE TEXAS TRANSIT ASSOCIATION**

Amend Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code 552 (Texas Open Records Act) to broaden protection of customer electronic data including customer location data, photos, and other confidential customer data collected electronically by transit agencies.

Amend Chapter 452 of the Texas Transportation Code to authorize transit agencies like Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and Trinity Metro to contract outside the service area with any private person, firm, or corporation, or entity to provide or manage public transportation services.

**ACTIVELY MONITOR**

Legislation filed relating to online sales tax collection, taxation of electric vehicles and any legislation impacting Trinity Metro's primary funding source, the dedicated voter-approved half cent transit sales tax.

Any legislation filed impacting Trinity Metro's ability to access federal funds for passenger rail projects or legislation negatively impacting Trinity Metro's business operations or possible expansion.