RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ENACTING LEGISLATION TO CREATE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County is among the fastest growing counties in the State of Texas, with its population increasing from 590,000 in 2010 to over 900,000 residents in 2023, and growth projections show that the County will likely exceed 1 million residents before 2030; and,

WHEREAS, the County is one of the most diverse in the U.S., attracting people of various cultures, religions and socioeconomic backgrounds due to the highly desirable residential developments and modern master-planned communities, as well as excellent school districts in its communities; and,

WHEREAS, the County is a leader in the development of master planned communities, a vast majority of working residents commute to job centers in Harris County and others parts of the Houston Region, underpinning its current status as a net exporter of workers and as a "bedroom community;" and,

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County's competitiveness is dependent on attracting more quality commercial and industrial investments and high paying jobs that will help lessen the property tax burden on residential taxpayers; and,

WHEREAS, the County's status as a bedroom community poses unique challenges, including limited resources to transform undeveloped land into competitive, shovel-ready sites; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, approved the establishment of the Industrial Development Opportunities Committee to identify pathways to attract significant investments for industrial, manufacturing, distribution and advanced research operations in the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Committee drafted legislation for the 2025 Texas Legislative Session that will enable Fort Bend County to establish Industrial Districts with financing mechanisms to fund essential infrastructure to transform undeveloped land into shovel-ready sites, including roads, power, drainage, water, sewer, and broadband; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, finds that this resolution serves a public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County supports legislation that creates County Industrial Development Districts to transform undeveloped land into shovel-ready sites that are better able to compete for significant capital investments and the creation of high paying jobs across the County.

SIGNED, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024.

County Judge KH George

Commissioner James "Grady" Prestage, Pct. 2

Commissioner W. A.

Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy, Pct. 4

ATTEST:

Laura Richard, County Clerk

December 13, 2024 Version