



Legislative UPDATE

April 10, 2020
Number 15

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates

The Texas Municipal League is open for business. The building is closed to all but essential personnel and most staff is working remotely, but the League remains open for business and is fully ready to serve. Cities are encouraged to call or email for legal assistance, help with ordinances, or for general advice or assistance. Let us know how we can assist you and your city.

Call TML staff at 512-231-7400, or email Scott Houston for legal assistance at SHouston@tml.org; Rachael Pitts for membership support at RPitts@tml.org; and the training team for questions about conferences and workshops at training@tml.org.

The League has prepared a coronavirus clearinghouse [web page](#) to keep cities updated. In addition, everyone who receives the *Legislative Update* should receive a daily email update each afternoon with information on new developments. The daily email updates will be our primary means of communication during the pandemic. Those emails are being archived [chronologically](#) as well as by [subject matter](#).

Working from Home? **Knock out Your Mandated Cybersecurity Training**

As promised, the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool (TML IRP) has released a [free cybersecurity training program](#), including an online video. TML IRP did so in response to a new [state law](#) mandating that most city officials and employees complete cybersecurity training by June 14, 2020, and annually thereafter.

The Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) has also certified other programs, with more information available on the agency's cybersecurity awareness training certification [web page](#).

DIR recently launched a self-reporting application called Texas by Texas (TxT), but cities had to complete the following [DIR survey](#) by March 13 to use it in the future. By using TxT, city employees can self-report their training compliance, and DIR will later send a detailed report from the TxT application to each city verifying their compliance. Whether your city uses TxT or not, the city will be responsible for tracking training compliance and submitting an [acknowledgement form](#) to DIR by June 15 through a web platform that will be available in April.

Cities will not submit individual employee certificates of completion to DIR. However, cities should retain certificates, or other proof of completion, with their training records. City officials with questions should contact DIR at TxTrainingCert@dir.texas.gov.

TWDB Designates 15 Flood Planning Regions

As required by [S.B. 8](#) (2019), the Texas Water Development Board released [a map](#) of its flood plain regions on April 9, 2020.

S.B. 8 established a new regional and state flood planning process for the state. In addition to establishing flood planning regions based on river basins, S.B. 8 requires the TWDB to designate representatives from various entities, including cities, to serve on each region's flood planning group. Once the TWDB adopts rules for designating representatives, the Executive Administrator will initiate a process to solicit potential representatives for each region.

For more information about TWDB flood programs, visit the [TWDB website](#) and/or sign up for the ["TWDB Flood Information" email list](#) to receive all flood-related updates and information.

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