

Acknowledgement and Appreciation for

UPFD Firefighters Relief and Retirement Fund Amendments

With Governor Greg Abbott's signature on a bill amending the Texas Local Firefighters Retirement Act, a long-term funding solution facing the UPFD's Firefighters Relief and Retirement Fund has been reached.

Accordingly, the City's Finance Advisory Committee would like to recognize the efforts of numerous individuals who have worked diligently to achieve this important objective.

Through the years, numerous Mayors and City Councilmembers have worked to fashion a plan that addresses concerns involving the escalation of retirement contributions and firefighter takehome pay, and just as importantly secures long-term funding in a manner that places the City on a path towards a sustainable retirement system.

Among elected leaders that should be recognized for their assistance are former Mayors James "Blackie" Holmes and Dick Davis, the members of their Councils, and recently the work of Mayor Olin Lane Jr. and his Councilmembers. The Committee also acknowledges the assistance provided in this process by State Representative Morgan Meyer and State Senator Don Huffines.

Among City staff that should be recognized for their assistance are former City Manager Bob Livingston, current City Manager Robbie Corder, and senior staff members including former Finance Director Kent Austin, current Finance Director Tom Tvardzik, Fire Chief Randy Howell and Organizational Development Director Lea Dunn.

Unquestionably, resolution of these concerns would not have been possible without the support, guidance and patience of current and former members of the University Park Fire Department. Without their leadership and commitment, action on the state level and revisions to the University Park Firefighters Relief and Retirement Fund would not have been possible.

The members of the Finance Advisory Committee believe the changes enacted as a result of this joint effort will have a positive long-term fiscal impact for all parties involved, including the residents of University Park.

Finance Advisory Committee Chairperson

Date

8-17-17