State of Texas	<b>§</b>	Court Order
Collin County	\$	2025-469-05-12
Commissioners Court	<b>§</b>	

An order of the Commissioners Court approving the filing of the March 31, 2025 minutes.

On Monday, March 31, 2025, the Commissioners Court of Collin County, Texas, met in Regular Session in the Commissioners Courtroom, Jack Hatchell Collin County Administration Building, 4th Floor, 2300 Bloomdale Road, City of McKinney, Texas, with the following members present, and participating, to wit:

Judge Chris Hill Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2 Commissioner Darrell Hale, Precinct 3

#### Absent:

Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Precinct 1 Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Commissioner Hale led the Invocation.

Commissioner Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

Judge Hill called to order the meeting of the <u>Collin County Commissioners Court</u> at 1:30 p.m. He recessed the meeting at 3:30 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 3:46 p.m. The meeting recessed at 6:07 p.m. and promptly reconvened at 6:07 p.m. Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

President Hill called to order the meeting of the <u>Collin County Health Care Foundation</u> at 6:07 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

President Hill called to order the meeting of the <u>Collin County Toll Road Authority</u> at 6:07 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

# DECISIONS MANDATED BY LEGAL ENTITIES OUTSIDE OF COMMISSIONERS COURT AUTHORITY:

- 1. <u>AI-57657</u> Grant award for the DSA Supplemental: Detention Expansion Projects Grant in the amount of \$181,500 through the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, Juvenile Probation.
- 2. <u>AI-57753</u> Affidavits and other documents for supplemental salary utilizing the Tax Assessor-Collector SIT Penalty and Interest Fund for FY2025, and budget amendment for same, Tax Assessor-Collector.

3. AI-57757 Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

**FYI NOTIFICATION:** 

1. AI-57695 Addendum No. 1 to Detergents and Dispensers for Laundry (IFB No. 2025-017) to make

various changes to the Invitation for Bid, Purchasing.

2. AI-57731 Addendum No. 1 to Grounds Maintenance Equipment (IFB No. 2025-024) to make various

changes to the Invitation for Bid, Purchasing.

3. AI-57741 Addendum No. 1 to Plumbing Supplies (IFB No. 2025-101) to make various changes to the

Invitation for Bid, Purchasing.

4. AI-57641 Change Order No. 6 to Healthcare, Medical Examiner and Parking Garage Facilities (CSP

No. 2024-018) with The Christman Company to make various changes to the contract, Construction &

Projects.

**COMMISSIONERS COURT BUSINESS:** 

Public comments related to an item on the Agenda.

1. Consent Agenda Items: Judge Hill asked for comments on the consent agenda. Commissioner Hale

pulled item 1f2 and 1k9. With no further comments, a motion was made to approve the remainder.

(Time 1:32 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Vote: 3-0 Passed

a. AI-57705 Disbursements for the period ending March 25, 2025, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-307-03-31

b. AI-57706 Indigent Defense Disbursements, Auditor.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-308-03-31

c. AI-57732 Tax refunds totaling \$284,819.57, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-309-03-31

## d. Advertisement(s):

1. AI-57727 Surface Preservation Treatment Services (IFB 2025-092), Public Works.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-310-03-31

2. AI-57611 GPS Offender Monitoring (RFP No. 2025-100), Purchasing.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-311-03-31

3. AI-57702 Vehicle Rental for Various Collin County Departments (IFB No. 2025-140), Purchasing.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-312-03-31

## e. Award(s):

1. <u>AI-57730</u> District Clerk: Civil/Criminal File Preservation - 1900-1902 (Coop Quote No. 2025-187) to Revolution Data Systems, LLC through Choice Partners Cooperative Contract No. 21/031KN-53, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute proposal for same, District Clerk.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-313-03-31

## f. Agreement(s):

1. <u>AI-57689</u> Personal Services Agreement with Henry Hernandez (Contract No. 2025-185) for Case Manager for the VALOR Program, grant exemption from the competitive bid process per Texas Local Government Code 262.024(a)(4), and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, 296th District Court.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-314-03-31

2. <u>AI-57625</u> Interlocal Agreement with the City of McKinney (Contract No. 2025-174) concerning costs reimbursement for the utility relocations relating to construction of the US 380 bypass and Spur 399 extension, Engineering.

Commissioner Hale asked Yoon Kim, County Administrator, who is responsible for receiving in the quarterly reports for the McKinney Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Kim stated he would provide the information. Commissioner Hale asked Mr. Kim to disseminate the quarterly report information to the Commissioners as it is received. With no further comments, a motion was made to approve the item. (Time 1:33 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Vote: 3-0 Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-315-03-31

3. <u>AI-57751</u> Tax Collection Services Agreement between the Collin County Tax Assessor-Collector and Celina Municipal Management District No. 2, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-316-03-31

4. <u>AI-57752</u> Tax Collection Services Agreement between the Collin County Tax Assessor-Collector and Rainwater Crossing Municipal Management District of Collin County, Tax Assessor-Collector.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-317-03-31

g. Amendment(s):

1. <u>AI-57729</u> No. 1 to Preservation - Criminal Case Files 1893-1950 (Contract No. 2025-090) with Revolution Data Systems, LLC to add pages and images to the scope of work, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, County Clerk.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-318-03-31

h. Change Order(s):

1. <u>AI-57748</u> No. 1 to Elections Specialized Printing (Contract No. 2023-073) with Jayden Graphics, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including April 16, 2026, make various changes to the contract, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Elections.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-319-03-31

2. AI-57749 No. 1 to Elections Specialized Printing (Contract No. 2023-073) with Runbeck Election Services, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including April 16, 2026, make various changes to the contract, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Elections.

#### COURT ORDER NO. 2025-320-03-31

3. <u>AI-57750</u> No. 1 to Elections Specialized Printing (Contract No. 2023-073) with USIO Output Solutions, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including April 16, 2026, make various changes to the contract, and further authorize the Purchasing Agent to finalize and execute same, Elections.

## COURT ORDER NO. 2025-321-03-31

# i. Contract Renewal(s):

1. <u>AI-57720</u> Veterinary Pharmaceuticals (Contract No. 2024-276B) with Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including April 20, 2026, Development Services.

### COURT ORDER NO. 2025-322-03-31

2. <u>AI-57747</u> Transportation of Election Equipment (RFP No. 2023-204) with Lords Relocation Services, Inc. d/b/a All Points of Texas to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including September 30, 2026, Elections.

## COURT ORDER NO. 2025-323-03-31

3. <u>AI-57738</u> Herbicide Treatment of Roadside ROW & Encroachments (IFB No. 2024-183) with Opterra Solutions, Inc. to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including May 12, 2026, Public Works.

## COURT ORDER NO. 2025-324-03-31

4. <u>AI-57739</u> Herbicide Treatment of Roadside ROW & Encroachments (IFB No. 2024-183) with Edko, LLC to extend the contract for one (1) year through and including May 12, 2026, Public Works.

## COURT ORDER NO. 2025-325-03-31

- j. Budget adjustment(s)/amendment(s):
- 1. AI-57719 \$9,759.03 to reallocate funds for the Spay/Neuter Program, Development Services.

# COURT ORDER NO. 2025-326-03-31

#### k. Miscellaneous:

1. <u>AI-57721</u> Rescind Court Order 2025-072-01-27, and authorize the re-sale of property located at Oxford Farms Addition (CCL), Lot 10 to TNTAS LLC, upon payment of \$49,000, Commissioners Court.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-327-03-31

2. AI-57733 Grant application for the FY2026 ASPCA/Subaru Grant program, Development Services.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-328-03-31

3. <u>AI-57737</u> Acquisition of ROW through condemnation for the FM 546/Myrick Ln. Phase 1 from CR 393 to US 380 project, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-329-03-31

4. <u>AI-57743</u> Collin County Parks and Open Space Project Funding Assistance Program 2023 Bond-2nd Series (2025) timeline, Engineering.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-330-03-31

5. <u>AI-57708</u> Amended list of equipment manufacturers for IT procurement standards, Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-331-03-31

6. <u>AI-57735</u> Amended list of cyber-security manufacturers for IT procurement standards, Information Technology.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-332-03-31

7. AI-57728 Grant application for the FY2026 Firehouse Subs Safety Foundation Grant, Sheriff.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-333-03-31

8. AI-57758 Personnel Appointments, Human Resources.

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-334-03-31

9. AI-57759 Personnel Changes, Human Resources.

Commissioner Hale congratulated Kimberly Riddlebaugh for receiving a promotion. With no further

comments, a motion was made to approve the item. (Time 1:33 p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Second by: Commissioner Cheryl Williams

Vote: 3-0 Passed

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-335-03-31

2. General Discussion Items:

Presentation, discussion and any action regarding:

a. AI-57802 FY 2026 Budget Update, Budget.

Monica Arris, Budget Director, stated the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget packets are due to the Budget office by Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 4:00pm. She shared that out of the 60 Elected Officials and Department Heads 26 have turned in their packets and 34 have not yet done so. Ms. Arris stated she would provide an update on the numbers during the April 7, 2025 Commissioners Court. (Time: 1:34 p.m.)

NO ACTION

b. AI-57790 Public Hearing - EPIC II Development, Administrative Services.

Judge Hill called to order the Public Hearing at 1:34 p.m. The meeting recessed at 3:30 p.m. and reconvened at 3:46 p.m.

Judge Hill explained the structure of the Public Hearing. Due to the large turnout an overflow room was provided for attendees. The meeting was live-streamed and recorded for accessibility.

Yoon Kim, County Administrator, provided an overview of the proposed EPIC City (East Plano Islamic Center) development which is a 402-acre project outside of Josephine that spans Collin and Hunt counties. He stated the community project being developed by Community Capital Partners includes 1,000 homes, a K-12 school, mosque, senior living center, and retail space. Mr. Kim said since the land is in an unincorporated area development regulations fall under County jurisdiction rather than municipal zoning laws. He then pointed out that County jurisdiction includes regulating plats, infrastructure, fire codes, and septic systems. It does not include regulating land use. Mr. Kim stated that this proposed development is currently under investigation for legal issues concerning potential incorporation of Sharia Law, consumer protection violations, failures to comply with state and federal securities laws, housing discrimination

violations, and criminal activity. He confirmed that Community Capital Partners has not provided any indication of when they plan to submit an application. Mr. Kim said that before doing so developers must resolve water and sewage infrastructure issues. (Time: 1:57 p.m.)

David Caliper, Westwood Professional Services, addressed the Court regarding the EPIC City development project. Mr. Caliper confirmed Community Capital Partners owns the land and stated that development remains in the due diligence phase while water, flood, traffic impact, and environmental assessment studies are being conducted. He said that depending on the results of each study aspects of the project will be redesigned. Mr. Caliper explained that the next steps include exploring sewer and water infrastructure options though no official timeline has been set for submitting an application to the TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality). Mr. Caliper concluded that Community Capital Partners is still evaluating feasibility and regulatory compliance before moving forward with formal applications. (Time: 1:59 p.m.)

Brandon Burden, Anna, expressed concern that EPIC City could potentially violate fair housing laws and real estate ethical standards if its development practices favor or exclude individuals based on religion. Mr. Burden asked the Court to consider the legal risk as the project progresses. (Time: 2:06 p.m.)

Jasmine Bayliss, Collin County, said she opposes EPIC City as she believes it contradicts American principles of unity and inclusion and could violate fair housing protections by limiting homeownership based on subjective criteria. She urged the Commissioners to consider the long-term social and legal consequences of approving the project. (Time: 2:09 p.m.)

Tasha Escoto, McKinney, voiced opposition to EPIC City citing it as a threat to American cultural and legal traditions, specifically Christian values and women's rights. Ms. Escoto called on the Commissioners to block the development arguing that it could undermine United States laws and create an isolated self-governing community. (Time: 2:12 p.m.)

Krista Schild, Royse City, expressed concern that the development of EPIC City is a risk to national security. Ms. Schild alleged EPIC City would become a terrorist sanctuary operating under Sharia law and be isolated from United States legal oversight. Ms. Schild called on the Commissioners to prevent the project from moving forward. (Time: 2:16 p.m.)

David Jackson, Frisco, expressed concerns about EPIC City regarding employment and the perceived influence of Sharia law which he claims is incompatible with the United States Constitution. He argued that Muslim communities initially integrate peacefully but later impose negative changes and become problematic. Mr. Jackson concluded that he does not wish to dislike anyone based on their background but believes Muslim culture is incompatible with American values. (Time: 2:19 p.m.)

Deborah Morozzo, Prosper, urged the Commissioners to block EPIC City stating that it violates fair housing and consumer protection laws. Ms. Morozzo cited concerns about religious exclusivity, selective homeownership, and further land acquisitions. (Time: 2:23 p.m.)

Teri Wilson, Plano, expressed concerns about water shortages and infrastructure tied to all new developments in Collin County. Ms. Wilson asked the Commissioners to pause approvals, assess water availability, and regulate the speed of new housing developments to prevent long-term supply issues. (Time: 2:27 p.m.)

Susan Cox, Flower Mound, expressed opposition to the EPIC City development with fear of cultural change and religious influence. Ms. Cox urged the Commissioners to reject the project on the basis that Texas is a Christian state and should not accommodate communities with different religious beliefs. (Time: 2:29 p.m.)

Pamela Sardo, Josephine, raised concerns about law enforcement, legislative oversight, financial transparency, and environmental impact related to new developments in Collin County. Ms. Sardo called for investigations into EPIC City's financial dealings, increased scrutiny of law enforcement capabilities, a review of endangered species, and flood risks before approving the development. (Time: 2:32 p.m.)

Jane Ridgeway, Josephine, presented concerns about moving forward with EPIC City due to flood risks, worsening road conditions, traffic congestion, inadequate law enforcement, and environmental destruction. She supports stopping MUD (Municipal Utility District) approvals and slowing down development to properly assess long-term impacts. (Time: 2:36 p.m.)

Melinda Preston, Frisco, expressed concerns about EPIC City emphasizing its potential incompatibility with American values and principles. Ms. Preston said she is not opposed to development but argues that any new community must fully align with American values, transparency, and integration rather than forming separate governance or cultural structures. (Time: 2:38 p.m.)

Shannon Edwards, Josephine, voiced opposition to the EPIC City development. Ms. Edwards urged the Commissioners to reject the proposal on the grounds that it promotes predetermined segregation which she said is against the values of justice and inclusivity in the County. (Time: 2:39 p.m.)

James Ridgway, Josephine, posed questions to the Court about the EPIC City development as well as environmental and traffic concerns related to a nearby sludge landfill project. He urged the Commissioners to investigate the discrepancies in EPIC City's business addresses and consider the environmental and traffic impact of the sludge landfill before approving the project. (Time: 2:41 p.m.)

Darrell Evans, McKinney, expressed his support for the EPIC City project and criticized state-level Republican actions as discriminatory and unconstitutional. Mr. Evans called for fair treatment of all communities in Texas particularly EPIC City as it is still in the idea phase. (Time: 2:45 p.m.)

Johanna Dyer, McKinney, expressed opposition to EPIC City stating that it promotes segregation rather than integration. She framed her concerns as cultural and ideological rather than racial or religious. She warns that EPIC City could create a separate non-assimilated Islamic enclave in Texas. (Time: 2:49 p.m.)

Paula Cheek, Allen, voiced her opposition to EPIC City and large-scale development in Collin County due to water shortages, fire safety risks, infrastructure damage, rising costs, and environmental concerns. Ms. Cheek urged the Commissioners to slow down development approvals to avoid long-term consequences. (Time: 2:52 p.m.)

Jeff Frye, Celina, voiced opposition to the development of EPIC City. He urged the Commissioners to pause development approvals for one year to review state and federal laws related to Israel-related business policies citing economic and legal concerns. (Time 2:54 p.m.)

Dorinda Powell, Princeton, expressed opposition to the proposed EPIC City project. Ms. Powell stated she believes the Islamic culture goes against the United States Constitution, America, and poses a threat to the country. (Time: 2:56 p.m.)

Deborah Avellano, Corinth, stated she opposes the EPIC City project emphasizing that it does not align with American values and ethics. She maintained the proposed development bypasses city and county zoning laws, evades government oversight, and operates as a self-contained religiously governed entity. Ms. Avellano contended that such loopholes should not exist as they allow developments to circumvent constitutional and regulatory compliance related to infrastructure, law enforcement, and public services. (Time: 2:58 p.m.)

Jody Held, Allen, stated her opposition to EPIC City by highlighting the project's potential for creating division within communities based on ethnicity. She also expressed concerns about her family's future and their hopes for a community that remains interconnected and inclusive. Ms. Held urged the Commissioners to carefully consider the long-term impact of the project. (Time: 3:01 p.m.)

Robert Earl, Josephine, expressed his opposition to EPIC City. Mr. Earl stated he supports individual freedoms but is skeptical about the integration of Islamic communities due to the potential of their presence not aligning with existing community dynamics. (Time: 3:04 p.m.)

Karen Roettele, Allen, spoke in opposition to EPIC City. She highlighted her time living abroad and her experience with various cultures. She expressed concern over the proposed community potentially implementing an oppressive and exclusive environment under Sharia law. Ms. Roettele questioned public safety particularly for women. (Time: 3:08 p.m.)

Dean Wright, McKinney, expressed opposition to the proposed community emphasizing the need for integration into society. He acknowledged the legal complexities of the project moving forward and stressed the importance of regulating any group that could violate societal norms, cultures, and the United States Constitution. (Time: 3:09 p.m.)

Kyle Sims, McKinney, raised concerns about EPIC City's impact on the community's children. He questioned whether the proposed school would be monitored by the TEA (Texas Education Agency) and adhere to the same regulations as other public schools. Mr. Sims highlighted the potential risks of having an isolated community school emphasizing the need for accountability and transparency in education for children in the area. (Time: 3:11 p.m.)

Deborah Jenkins, Allen, voiced opposition to the proposed community citing concerns about the residents' failure to assimilate thus causing societal division. She further argued that operating under Sharia Law without public oversight ultimately undermines American principles. (Time: 3:14 p.m.)

Mario Villegas, Josephine, expressed concern about EPIC City's close proximity to but isolation from the City to Josephine. Mr. Villegas opposed the project and emphasized his concern for the preservation of American values such as the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer. (Time: 3:16 p.m.)

Sonya Martinez, Josephine, voiced concern regarding the potential noise level, water issues, and tax exemptions of EPIC City. Ms. Martinez expressed opposition to the development moving forward referring to the development as a compound consisting of isolation, secrecy, and a threat to public safety. (Time: 3:19 p.m.)

Barbara Isaacs, Fairview, highlighted concerns about the proposed EPIC City community being part of a larger pattern of similar developments across North Texas connected to Community Capital Partners. She expressed concern that these communities are not assimilating but instead are forming self-segregated areas with specific religious obligations. Ms. Isaacs referenced investigations by Texas authorities into EPIC City and provided documents to the Commissioners for review. (Time: 3:22 p.m.)

Carla Makosy, Farmersville, expressed opposition to the proposed EPIC City project due to the density of the development potentially straining local infrastructure, impacting utility service, and compromising public safety. Additionally, Ms. Makosy stated her concerns with the development including negative ecological impact on wildlife and livestock as well as noise levels. (Time: 3:26 p.m.)

Paul Ernest, McKinney, expressed opposition to the proposed EPIC City development emphasizing the values and sacrifices of past generations. He urged the Commissioners to listen to the majority of the community who he believes oppose the development and to protect future generations from what they see as a threat. (Time: 3:29 p.m.)

Jeremy Sutka, McKinney, spoke in favor of the proposed EPIC City. He emphasized the importance of the constitutional right to freely practice religion without bias, prejudice, suspicion, discrimination, and hypocrisy against the Muslim community. Mr. Sudka advocated for a stronger more inclusive America that accepts diversity without forcing assimilation. (Time: 3:32 p.m.)

Avis Novak, Collin County, voiced opposition to the EPIC City development focusing specifically on public safety concerns and infrastructure capabilities. She questioned how additional resources such as deputies, patrol vehicles, dispatch capabilities, and emergency medical services would be impacted. Ms. Novak further pointed out issues with road maintenance, utility capacity, and school district resources, and questioned whether the development will adequately address these infrastructure needs. Ms. Novak emphasized that the development should be planned responsibly with proper funding and sustainable solutions in place before moving forward. (Time: 3:50 p.m.)

Robert Canright, Plano, expressed opposition to the EPIC City development emphasizing that it is not just an idea but a contract-driven business combined with an ideology that could potentially violate civil rights, fair housing laws, and homeowners' covenants. Mr. Canright urged the Commissioners to fully investigate plans and to use caution when considering external risk such as the possibility of foreign money being involved thus introducing legal complex issues. (Time 3:52 p.m.)

Dennis Botkin, Richardson, expressed his opposition to the EPIC City development calling for careful consideration of the potential consequences of the project. He stressed the importance of reviewing all EPIC City contracts highlighting concerns that the development could promote a legal system at odds with United States law and American values. (Time: 3:56 p.m.)

Glen Kipper, Farmers Branch, voiced concerns about EPIC City potentially introducing Sharia law into the area and violating fair housing laws. Mr. Kipper emphasized his desire for an open and inclusive community rather than one of isolation. (Time: 3:59 p.m.)

Kevin Caldwell, Farmers Branch, urged the Commissioners to view EPIC City as part of a broad movement to brand this development as the epicenter of Islam in the West. He called for thorough due diligence to ensure that decisions made about moving forward with the project align with the long-term interests of the United States. (Time: 4:01 p.m.)

Robert Burns, Dallas, expressed opposition to the development of EPIC City. Mr. Burns claimed Islamic principles are fundamentally incompatible with the United States Constitution. He asked the Commissioners to pause on approvals until further investigation is conducted. (Time: 4:03 p.m.)

Deborah Goodman, Irving, opposed the development of EPIC City. Ms. Goodman expressed concerns that the development creates a separate facility for Muslims which could lead to discrimination against non-Muslims as well as a political and demographic take-over of local governance. (Time: 4:06 p.m.)

Leslie Vanover-Baker, Princeton, stated her opposition to the proposed EPIC City development. She questioned why Muslim residents feel the need to establish a separate community rather than integrating into existing neighborhoods. Ms. Vanover-Baker expressed concern over the creation of "no-go zones," Sharia courts, and imposed cultural practices that contradict American values. (Time: 4:09 p.m.)

Terry Gooch, Little Elm, conveyed opposition to the EPIC City development arguing that Sharia law is oppressive, incompatible with American principles, and poses a threat to both American values and national security. He further asserted that groups chanting in opposition of America should not be welcome in this area. (Time: 4:13 p.m.)

Ronald Dubner, Plano, expressed opposition to the EPIC City development highlighting both logistical and cultural issues. He raised concerns such as zoning, law enforcement, fire safety, traffic congestion, water shortages, and school impact. Mr. Dubner advocated for delaying any decisions until full impact studies are conducted and reported on given the ongoing civil and criminal investigations related to the project. (Time: 4:16 p.m.)

Jaclynn Cauthorn, McKinney, shared her personal experience of being a business owner who hired Muslim employees. She claimed that these employees were dishonest about their career qualifications as well as religious practices and suggested they misused it for personal gain. Ms. Cauthorn stated that this experience opened her eyes to what she perceived as a fundamental difference in cultural values particularly regarding honesty. (Time: 4:20 p.m.)

Michael Villegas, Josephine, spoke against the development of EPIC City. He shared his apprehension for the safety of his family specifically his sister due to his understanding of the Islamic culture and their treatment of women. Mr. Villegas expressed that while he is supportive of inclusivity the community by its nature is exclusive. (Time: 4:23 p.m.)

Gabriela Axworth, Blue Ridge, expressed opposition to the EPIC City development stating concerns about religious exclusivity and its impact on the broader community. She hailed Texas' growing diversity as a positive aspect and stressed the importance of preserving the foundational values that allow the state to thrive over any housing community that would marginalize individual groups. (Time: 4:25 p.m.)

Dan Boehm, Collin County, shared his perspective about EPIC City by recounting his experiences with both terrorism and assimilation while working abroad. He urged the Commissioners to prepare for negotiations rather than focusing on ideological opposition. Mr. Boehm asked for vigilance, fairness, and strategic thinking as this development moves forward. (Time: 4:28 p.m.)

Mary Anne Morris, McKinney, expressed opposition to the proposed EPIC City development. She drew comparisons to past American struggles with segregation and warned that allowing such an environment would invite chaos and undermine fair housing laws. Ms. Morris emphasized the perceived danger, devastation, and confusion in allowing any group that does not adhere or assimilate to the nation's law and values. (Time: 4:32 p.m.)

Lee Moore, Collin County, shared concerns about the proposed EPIC City project stressing that the principles of Sharia law, particularly the lack of freedom of religion, speech, and equal rights for women is in direct conflict with American values and legal frameworks. Ms. Moore urged the Commissioners to thoroughly evaluate all aspects of the development's infrastructure needs and called on the Commissioners to reject any development that would be in conflict with the United States Constitution. (Time: 4:35 p.m.)

Risa Litsen, Plano, spoke in opposition of the development of EPIC City and the implementation of Sharia law which she believes is in direct conflict with American principles. She advocated for a society where people of all faiths including Muslims, Jews, Christians, and non-believers can live together peacefully and inclusively with understanding and mutual respect to overcome ignorance and hate. (Time: 4:38 p.m.)

Jackie Wakin, Frisco, read a statement from Commissioner Fletcher opposing circumvention of American laws. She said the statement emphasized the importance of upholding American laws and the United States Constitution and warned against any attempts to bypass legal frameworks under the guise of religious freedom. Ms. Wakin said Commissioner Fletcher's statement called for accountability and transparency in any proposed developments that may conflict with established laws. (Time: 4:40 p.m.)

Sonja Oonk shared her experience on living in Saudi Arabia under religious restrictions. Ms. Oonk described Saudi Arabia's strict adherence to Islamic laws and lack of religious freedom. She emphasized that churches are not allowed in Saudi Arabia illustrating the limitations on non-Muslim worship. Ms. Oonk recounted her experience of having to conform to local customs and laws which restricted her rights as a non-Muslim resident. (Time: 4:44 p.m.)

Grant Barney, Cavalry Chapel North Texas, voiced his opposition to EPIC City and any development that seek to establish Sharia laws in the United States. Mr. Barney expressed concerns that EPIC City promotes a system of governance that conflicts with the United States Constitution and Texas values. He highlighted the potential for Sharia law to undermine civil liberties and equality under the law. Mr. Barney emphasized the importance of maintaining a unified legal framework that protects all citizens regardless of their faith or background. (Time: 4:47 p.m.)

Deborah Bain raised concerns about whether equal opportunities would be afforded to other proposed religious communities like the EPIC City development. She questioned whether children in Texas should be taught extremist Islamic views. Ms. Bain urged the Court to uphold their oath to the Texas and United States Constitutions. (Time: 4:50 p.m.)

Elias Bonillas, Collin County, stated there is a difference between the local culture and belief systems with those of the proposed community. Mr. Bonillas highlighted that these conflicting ideologies would likely have in impact on current and future generations. (Time: 4:51 p.m.)

Nicole Hunt, Anna, expressed concerns about women's rights under Sharia law. Ms. Hunt emphasized she supported women being allowed to hold elected positions in the United States and urged the Court to uphold Texas law. (Time: 4:53 p.m.)

Maggie Witt read from the publication 'An Explanatory Memorandum on the General Strategic Goal for the Brotherhood in North America' by Mohamed Akram. She stated the document outlines a strategy for the Muslim Brotherhood to establish Islamic law in the United States. Ms. Witt stated the document emphasizes the importance of co-opting American leadership to further the Muslim Brotherhood's goals. (Time: 4:56 p.m.)

Chris Hoar, Rockwall, requested the Court's permission to play an audio clip from American conservative political activist Charlie Kirk about cultural Islam. The Charlie Kirk clip discussed the perceived threat of cultural Islam to Western civilization. He emphasized the importance of understanding the macro implications of Islamic ideology rather than focusing solely on individual Muslims. The clip also warned against the slow integration of Islamic principles into Western societies suggesting it could lead to significant cultural and societal changes. Ms. Hoar expressed her support of the statements made on the clip. (Time: 4:59 p.m.)

Brent Thomas expressed concerns that the development could create a segregated community that undermines American values of inclusivity and equality. He emphasized that allowing such a community would enable a return to outdated ideologies that do not align with modern democratic principles. Mr. Thomas warned that the establishment of a dark place could lead to a deterioration of community cohesion and shared values among residents. (Time: 5:02 p.m.)

Linnea Hartunian emphasized the importance of assimilation by immigrants and read the United States Citizenship Oath highlighting the importance of renouncing allegiance to foreign powers and committing to the Constitution. She pointed to the oath's expectation for immigrants to assimilate into American society and uphold its laws. Ms. Hartunian stressed that the oath reflects the values of unity and shared identity among citizens which reinforce the principle of a cohesive nation. (Time: 5:05 p.m.)

Christina Watson, Collin County, raised concerns about potential discrimination in housing pricing based on religion and gender. She questioned whether Christian women would receive equal opportunities and fair pricing compared to Muslim residents within the proposed community. Ms. Watson emphasized the importance of ensuring that all residents, regardless of their background, have equal access and representation to housing and services in the community. (Time: 5:08 p.m.)

Nancy Manson shared her concerns about the issue of honor killings emphasizing its serious implications for women's rights and safety. She referenced the case of Rifqa Bary, a young girl from Ohio, who faced severe consequences for attempting to convert to Christianity. Ms. Manson also mentioned a father in North Texas who murdered his two daughters due to their dating choices which illustrate the extreme measures taken in honor-related violence. (Time: 5:11 p.m.)

Retired Lieutenant Douglas Deaton, Plano Police Department, highlighted that the EPIC neighborhood has been established in Plano for 12 years. Mr. Deaton stated that the community has been operational and has interacted with local law enforcement during its existence. He expressed concern with a residence being built next to police training facilities and noted that the house overlooks a restricted access parking lot with specialized bomb and SWAT armored vehicles. Mr. Deaton pointed to the first owner of the house being a leader in the EPIC neighborhood and co-founder of an Islamic research institute, indicating potential ties to the community's development plans. (Time: 5:14 p.m.)

Allison Checkaway, Collin County, expressed concerns that EPIC City violates both state and federal laws. She highlighted the potential for establishing a foreign system of governance including aspects of Sharia law that conflict with the United States Constitution. Ms. Checkaway emphasized the importance of maintaining a separation between religion and government to protect civil liberties for all citizens. (Time: 5:17 p.m.)

Erin Ragsdale, Executive Vice President Allyn Media representing the EPIC City developer Community Capital Partners, clarified that anyone interested in purchasing land in the proposed EPIC City development can do so regardless of their background or religion. She stated that the development aims to create an inclusive community that accommodates various types of residences and businesses. Ms. Ragsdale emphasized that Community Capital Partners is committed to engaging with local stakeholders to address concerns and ensure transparency throughout the development process. (Time: 5:21 p.m.)

Judge Hill expressed appreciation for the attendees' patience, restraint, and thoughtful contributions throughout the day. He shared that he had been taking notes and reflecting on the various concerns raised. Judge Hill acknowledged the diverse viewpoints on discrimination and emphasized the importance of clarifying terms like "discrimination" and "inclusivity." He pointed out that the issue at hand was not about religious freedom but about a housing development that could potentially limit access and control who could live in the community.

Judge Hill then discussed the legal framework stating that all Texas and federal laws will be adhered to in the development process. He referenced ongoing investigations into EPIC City and its affiliates citing potential violations of various Texas laws. Judge Hill stated that he would not support or vote for any project that violates these laws emphasizing that until now no official application had been filed for approval and no action was needed at the time.

Judge Hill also addressed concerns related to the development's funding and legal structure. He said there were issues with how the development corporation is trying to attract investors and the potential discrimination in property purchases. He provided reassurance that the County would not allow violations of Texas laws especially with respect to public funding and services like roads and utilities. Judge Hill concluded by saying that, as long as laws were being followed, there would be no issue and any violation would be met with legal action.

Commissioner Hale addressed concerns surrounding the EPIC City development. He noted that while promotional videos have attracted accredited investors a disconnect between the development corporation's promises and legal limitations have triggered investigations and legislative actions. Commissioner Hale provided assurance that as long as all local, state, and federal laws are followed there should be no issue and violations would be dealt with firmly.

Commissioner Williams expressed hope that the hearing helped to provide clarification of the current status of the EPIC City development. She emphasized that the Court will only approve a development that is in compliance with United States, Texas, and local subdivision laws and regulations. Commissioner Williams underscored the role of the TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) in overseeing establishing MUDs (Municipal Utility District) and encouraged the public to stay informed and involved.

With no further comment, Judge Hill adjourned the Public Hearing at 5:39 p.m.

NO ACTION

c. AI-57699 Construction and Projects FY2025 2nd Quarter Update, Administrative Services.

Sandeep Kathuria, Director of Building Projects, provided a detailed update on the County's construction projects for the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025. He discussed the ongoing construction at the McKinney campus outlining the progress of the Adult Detention Facility Phase One, Medical and Mental Health Phase Two, and Healthcare Building. Mr. Kathuria informed the Commissioners of the completion of the Adult Detention Facility Phase I which was transferred to the Sheriff's Office on February 14, 2025. He also informed the Commissioners of construction delays due to inclement weather affecting the Medical and Mental Health addition, Healthcare, Medical Examiner, and Parking Garage projects.

Mr. Kathuria presented an overview of the timelines and costs for each project. He discussed the Courthouse expansion and the Animal Shelter adoption facility both of which are planned for phased construction to minimize disruption. Other ongoing projects included the kitchen relocation at the Adult Detention Facility and the Juvenile Probation renovation. Mr. Kathuria concluded by noting that the kitchen floor refresh project at the Adult Detention Facility had been completed successfully with no noted violations during health compliance inspections.

Judge Hill thanked Mr. Kathuria for the detailed report and recognized the large number of projects being handled. He expressed appreciation for the efforts by Mr. Kim and his team in managing these projects and keeping them on schedule. No further questions were raised. (Time: 5:55 p.m.)

**NO ACTION** 

d. <u>AI-57786</u> Annual relief factor staffing calculation policy for the Sheriff's Office Detention Facility, Administrative Services.

Yoon Kim, County Administrator, presented the annual relief factor staffing calculation for the Sheriff's Office Detention Facility. Mr. Kim proposed the adoption of a new policy effective April 2, 2025 calculating a relief factor for Detention Officers working 12-hour shifts estimating it at 4.97 for Fiscal Year 2026. The methodology includes assumptions about PTO (Paid Time Off) usage and training hours.

Commissioner Williams raised concerns about how compensatory time would be addressed, citing the difference that overtime assumes future time off rather than immediate pay. Mr. Kim acknowledged the challenge of high compensatory time balances due to current staffing shortages and he highlighted the need to fill certain temporary duty positions permanently to prevent excessive compensatory time and overtime use.

Commissioner Williams asked if there is a plan to address those individuals with high and unused compensatory time balances without adding additional staff. Judge Hill asked Sheriff Skinner to address Commissioner Williams' question. Commissioner Hale emphasized that compensatory time eventually converts into overtime and must be accounted for in the budget. He stated that addressing high compensatory time balances would require either the addition of more staff or adjusting the relief factor to allow extra time off. Commissioner Hale concluded that ultimately the goal is to request and allocate the right number of positions to balance workloads effectively. Sheriff Skinner noted the County currently has minimal staff vacancies which is a significant improvement from past years. He raised concerns about the proposed policy excluding compensatory time from the staffing analysis citing that national best practices such as those recommended by the National Institute of Corrections include compensatory time in these calculations. Sheriff Skinner did not object to the overall proposal acknowledging progress compared to previous years. With no further comments a motion was made to approve the item as presented. (Time 1:46p.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Second by: Judge Chris Hill

Vote: 2-1 Passed

Nay: Commissioner Williams

COURT ORDER NO. 2025-336-03-31

e. AI-57386 89th Legislative Session Update, Administrative Services.

Russell Schaffner, Deputy County Administrator, presented a legislative update regarding four house bills under consideration during the current 89th Legislative Session. He highlighted the April 15, 2025 deadline and stated that if a house bill does not pass by that date its chances of passing significantly decrease.

Mr. Schaffner confirmed that a resolution for the Court related to House Bill 1080 will be presented for next week's Commissioners Court meeting.

Next, Mr. Schaffner spoke about House Bill 4211 which addresses concerns about the development of EPIC City, specifically around the agreement for purchasing and transferring interests as well as potential deceptive trade practices.

Mr. Schaffner also discussed House Bill 19 which proposes changes to how debt functions within political subdivisions including restrictions on issuing debt if the local government's debt rate exceeds 20% of its overall tax rate. He said it also extends the time before certain debt can be issued after an election and is a concern for fast-growth counties due to their higher debt rates.

Mr. Schaffner concluded with House Bill 23 highlighting it would allow developers to use third-party reviewers to approve projects instead of going through the County's approval process. Judge Hill expressed concerns about House Bill 23 noting that it would undermine the County's authority to review and approve projects and potentially put the County in a position to sign off on projects based on third-party reviews without the proper oversight. Mr. Schaffner acknowledged Judge Hill's concerns and noted there might be amendments to the Bill including potential liability for third-party reviewers. Judge Hill requested a proposed resolution on House Bill 23 for discussion in the next Commissioners Court meeting and emphasized the need for communication strategies with the legislative delegation. (Time 6:06 p.m.)

**NO ACTION** 

### 3. Executive Session Items:

The Board did not recess into Executive Session.

Public Comments not related to an item on the Agenda.

There being no further business of the Court, Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Chris Hill, County Judge

Not Present

Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct 1

Not Present

Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct 2

Darrell Hale, Commissioner, Pct 3

Buncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct 4

ATTEST: Stacey Kemp, County Clerk

Commissioners Court Meeting Minutes - March 31, 2025