



**BELL COUNTY
INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
AMENDMENT**

RS-25-062

April 15, 2025

Background

- Chapter 242 of the Texas Local Government Code requires cities and counties to enter into an Interlocal Agreement establishing the plat review process for properties located within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).
- The statute provides for four (4) types of interlocal agreements:

Background

1. **City Regulation** – City reviews all ETJ plats according to City standards;
2. **County Regulation** – County reviews all ETJ plats according to County standards;
3. **Divided Regulation** – The city and county divide the ETJ geographically, each keeping authority only in one portion; or
4. **Joint Regulation** – The city and county jointly review plats, but provide one uniform office to file plats, one filling fee, and provide one uniform and consistent set of plat regulations.

Background

- In 2002, the City of Killeen and Bell County entered into an interlocal agreement, which established the City of Killeen as the entity authorized to regulate subdivision plats in the ETJ.
- That agreement has remained in place and unchanged since 2002.

Background

- On February 24, 2025, City staff received a letter from Judge Blackburn requesting that the interlocal agreement be amended in one of two ways:

Option 1: Bell County would review and approve all plats in the ETJ and accept maintenance responsibilities associated with such; or

Option 2: The City of Killeen would review and approve all plats in the ETJ and accept maintenance responsibilities associated with such.

Staff Findings

- Given recent legislative changes – including S.B. 6, which limits the City’s ability to involuntarily annex property, and H.B. 4599, which allows property owners to petition for release from the ETJ – staff finds that the City’s ability to regulate property in the ETJ is already severely limited.
- Staff finds that relinquishing platting authority in the ETJ back to the County is the most appropriate course of action.

Staff Recommendation

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- Therefore, staff recommends that the City Council approve the memorandum/resolution approving an Interlocal Agreement establishing Bell County as the authority responsible for review and approval of plats in the ETJ.