RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

FOR THE FORT BEND ISD 2023 BOND ELECTION

BY THE

GREATER FORT BEND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council (GFBEDC) is a public-private partnership established in 1986 to promote economic vitality and to ensure quality development in Fort Bend County; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bend County is one of the fastest growing counties in the United States, adding an estimated 273,152 residents and growing by 47% from 2010 to 2021; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bend Independent School District (FBISD) currently serves approximately 80,000 students and is the 5th largest school district in Texas with more than 80 campuses; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bend schools have and do act as magnets for quality growth in our community and past performance by FBISD has led to high achievements by students enrolled in the district and created great interest in families and businesses moving to Fort Bend County; and

WHEREAS, FBISD faces a number of challenges including significant improvements needed to aging facilities, new capacity in growing parts of the district, consolidation and optimization in other parts of the district, transportation and technology upgrades that provide operational savings, a rebuild of Clements High School due to facility condition concerns and a third natatorium to provide services in the southeast part of the district, and

WHEREAS, FBISD has committed to using these bond proceeds to carry out the bond facility programs without increasing the overall tax rate, and

WHEREAS, FBEDC has had active members of its Board of Directors on the FBISD bond oversight committee since its inception and has been active in overseeing the districts bond programs since 2007, and

WHEREAS, FBISD's Board of Trustees called for a \$ 1.2 billion dollar bond election to be placed on the May 6, 2023 ballot, including Proposition A (\$1.16B) for existing school improvements, news schools, school consolidation and rebuilds, safety and transportation enhancement; Proposition B (\$52.5M) for technology needs, and Proposition C (\$22.9M) for a new natatorium; and

WHEREAS, the GFBEDC has received a presentation and, based on a response from its Board of Directors agreed to support the proposed capital programs and devote staff time to help it succeed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the GFBEDC Board of Directors supports the passage of the FBISD bond propositions.

PASSED and APPROVED on February 16, 2023

Jared Jameson, Chairman

Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council