



## A Resolution by Ellis County Commissioners' Court Opposing the Formation of Municipal Utility Districts

**WHEREAS**, Ellis County is one of the fastest-growing communities in the State of Texas, with nearly half a million residents projected within the next 30 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the rapid growth of Ellis County is driven by families withdrawing from the urban density of the Metroplex in search of a more rural setting in which to reside; and

**WHEREAS**, Ellis County commissioners desire to promote quality development and sustainable property values for these new residents while maintaining the community's historic values and culture – a place where these future citizens can establish family homesteads that complement the Jeffersonian vision of our nation as an "empire of liberty;" and

**WHEREAS**, the Ellis County Commissioners' Court must uphold a productive workforce, sound economic development, a low crime rate, and a flourishing education system for the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the proliferation of Municipal Utility Districts, which incentivize high-density housing without local input, threatens sustainable development in Ellis County; and

**WHEREAS**, Municipal Utility Districts are created by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), which is governed by unelected administrators in Austin who do not consult with local development and city planning prior to approval of proposed districts; and

**WHEREAS**, all experience has proven that the TCEQ approves virtually every Municipal Utility District, often appointing the original applicants as unelected board members – a clear conflict of interest; and

**WHEREAS**, local residents are forced to pay a permanent utilities assessment to districts that strain local resources, yet they lack the means to govern the districts through local elections; and

**WHEREAS**, the exploding prevalence of special districts has left the Ellis County Commissioners' Court to sort out the impact of high-density development on county roads & bridges, flood control, public safety, and the justice system to the degree that forbearance ceases to be a virtue;

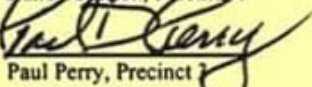
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the commissioners of Ellis County:

- Affirm that Ellis County citizens should be able to guide the development of housing and business in their own community and must be directly represented by their elected commissioners in the creation of special districts that use or influence their local resources and tax levy; and
- Oppose the creation of any new Municipal Utility Districts in Ellis County without Commissioners' Court approval; and
- Request that the Texas Senate Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs reform the way that Municipal Utility Districts are created, whether administratively or legislatively, and provide for greater transparency and local input.

In witness thereof, signed on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, 2023:

  
Randy Stinson, Precinct 1

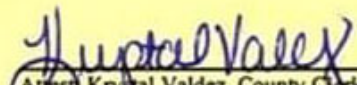
Randy Stinson, Precinct 1

  
Paul Perry, Precinct 2

Paul Perry, Precinct 2

  
Todd Little, County Judge

Todd Little, County Judge

  
Attest: Kristal Valdez, County Clerk

Attest: Kristal Valdez, County Clerk

  
Lane Grayson, Precinct 2

Lane Grayson, Precinct 2

  
Kyle Butler, Precinct 4

Kyle Butler, Precinct 4

