TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS
OVERVIEW
REGIONAL COUNCILS ARE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS WITH SEVERAL NAMES:

- COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS
- REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS
- DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS
- COGS
The History and Makeup of Texas' Planning Regions

Created by the Planning Act of 1965

Statutorily enabled in Chapter 391 of the Texas Local Government Code
Sec. 391.001. PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of this chapter is to encourage and permit local governmental units to:

(1) join and cooperate to improve the health, safety, and general welfare of their residents; and

(2) plan for the future development of communities, areas, and regions so that:

(A) the planning of transportation systems is improved;
(B) adequate street, utility, health, educational, recreational, and other essential facilities are provided as the communities, areas, and regions grow;
(C) the needs of agriculture, business, and industry are recognized;
(D) healthful surroundings for family life in residential areas are provided;
(E) historical and cultural values are preserved; and
(F) the efficient and economical use of public funds is commensurate with the growth of the communities, areas, and regions.

(b) The general purpose of a commission is to make studies and plans to guide the unified, far-reaching development of a region, eliminate duplication, and promote economy and efficiency in the coordinated development of a region.
PLAN
Region-wide approaches to local issues

ELIMINATE
Prevent unnecessary duplication of services

PROMOTE
Increase efficiency and economy through regional coordination
KEY FACTS
UNDERSTANDING THE BENEFITS OF REGIONALISM

SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS
Coordination of programs and services such as: purchasing, training, large-scale projects

CROSS JURISDICTIONS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Application, allocation and administration of grant funds for member local governments
Understanding the benefits of regionalism

**LOCAL INPUT & COLLABORATION**
Policy decisions made by Board of local elected officials

**NON-TAXING & ACCOUNTABLE**
Subject to audits, monitoring & statutory reporting requirements
TARC FORMATION

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS
Interlocal Agreement

Preamble
1. The Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) was created in 1971 by interlocal agreement among the state’s regional planning commissions. TARC was created and has operated since its creation as an instrumentality of the regional planning commissions to carry out certain governmental tasks on their behalf.

2. The purpose of this agreement is to ratify TARC’s creation and past operations and to confirm TARC’s organizational structure, purposes, method of governance, and bylaws.

3. This agreement is made pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1971, as amended, article 4411(32c) of the Texas civil statutes.

Organizational Structure

4. TARC is an administrative agency created by the state’s regional planning commissions pursuant to section 4(d) of the Interlocal Cooperation Act to serve as their instrumentality to carry out the essential governmental purposes described in paragraph 5.

Purposes

5. TARC has the following purposes: (1) to assist the state’s regional planning commissions in strengthening their capabilities to serve their local government members; (2) to provide a forum for the regular exchange of information and ideas among the commissions to enhance the concept of regional planning and development; (3) to educate other governmental entities, public and private organizations, and the general public about the services rendered by the commissions; and (4) to represent the commissions before agencies of the legislative and executive branches of both the state and national governments.

Membership

6. The 24 regional planning commissions created pursuant to article 1011a of the Texas civil statutes and recognized as such by the governor are members of TARC.

Governance

7. TARC is governed by a board of directors constituted as provided in the bylaws.

Bylaws

8. The bylaws of TARC, as last amended on September 30, 1983, are ratified.
TARC BYLAWS

ARTICLE III - PURPOSES
ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP
ARTICLE V - GOVERNING BODY
ARTICLE IX - VOTING
ARTICLE X - MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION
ARTICLE XI - MEETINGS
ARTICLE XII - COMMITTEES
ARTICLE XV - FINANCIAL MATTERS
ARTICLE XVI - EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' COUNCIL
ARTICLE XVII - STAFF MEMBERS' ASSOCIATIONS
Overview of TARC

Financial Information

- TARC 2024 Budget + Program of Work
- Grant & Foundation Resources + Programs
- TARC Fund Balance Policy
- TARC Audit
TARC Team

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Save the Dates!

Bi-Annual Staff Training & Board of Directors Meeting

DATE: February 7 - 9, 2024
LOCATION: Hilton Austin Airport | Austin, TX

Executive Directors’ Council & Board of Directors Meeting

DATE: June 13 - 14, 2024
LOCATION: Houston, TX

Bi-Annual Staff Training & Annual Board of Directors Meeting

DATE: September 18 - 20, 2024
LOCATION: Hilton Austin Airport | Austin, TX

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT www.txregionalcouncil.org
2023 Initiatives

Strategic Plan
Golden Anniversary
88th Legislature
Leadership Development
2023 Aging in Texas Conference
Questions?