



2024 END-OF-YEAR REPORT

OUR PURPOSE

To lead and serve in the moments that matter the most for the people of Dallas.

Dear Dallas Citizens Council Member,

Thank you for helping Dallas Citizens Council achieve another successful and impactful year. 2024 presented its challenges, but through it all, you remained committed to our shared vision for a brighter future for Dallas.

DFW remains one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the country, and our collective voices as leaders and guardians of the city will continue to be heard. This past year, DCC played a key role in securing a historic \$1.25 billion bond package, which was divided into 10 propositions covering a wide range of critical infrastructure and community improvements for Dallas. We've been focused on improving our city and protecting its future, which is why we also took a stand against Propositions S, T and U. Despite the passage of some propositions that we believe are unfavorable to our city, our leadership's positive impact on the community remains undeniable.

Throughout the year, DCC engaged with key decision-makers to explore strategies for driving Dallas forward. Our conversations revealed exciting developments, particularly the revitalization of the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, the growth of Dallas's financial services sector with Y'all Street and the development of the Texas Stock Exchange. These transformative changes are positioning Dallas to attract more businesses seeking enhanced connectivity and access to talent. As we begin 2025, we are encouraged by the increased job opportunities and earnings for Dallas residents.

While Dallas' growth brings tremendous opportunities, we remain mindful of the challenges that lie ahead. Even with 88 years of significant contributions to our community, DCC recognizes that the work is far from done. This year, we will continue collaborating with leaders to address key regional issues with a focus on our workforce, long-term access to water and the future of downtown. We extend our gratitude to all DCC leadership, both current and past, for their commitment to our vision and the people of Dallas.

We kickstarted the year with our first event of the year reviewing the stories that drove 2024, and we have many more member-only events and important conversations planned this year. Don't miss the opportunity to share your perspective and have your questions answered by industry experts and key decision-makers.

Your dedication to this organization and willingness to step up during pivotal moments is key to creating lasting change in our community. Thank you for your work and unwavering commitment to Dallas Citizens Council and the North Texas region. I look forward to another successful year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "W. Kelvin Walker".

W. Kelvin Walker
Dallas Citizens Council CEO

CEO Conversation with Bipartisan Policy Center CEO Margaret Spellings

Last January, President and CEO of the Bipartisan Policy Center, Margaret Spellings, led a dynamic discussion on the intersection of leadership, U.S. policy and North Texas economic growth. Attendees had the opportunity to share their thoughts and have their questions answered during the engaging Q&A session that followed the conversation.



CEO Conversation with Caterpillar, Inc. CEO Jim Umpleby

DCC members gathered to hear from Chairman and CEO of Caterpillar, Inc., Jim Umpleby, last May. Moderated by DCC Board Member Jean Savage, CEO and President of Trinity Industries, the discussion covered the city's pivotal role as a hub for supply chain and manufacturing in the construction sector.



Luncheon with Dallas Mavericks Co-owner Patrick Dumont

During our last member event of the year, Patrick Dumont shared valuable insights on the future of the Dallas Mavericks. During a discussion moderated by the Honorable Ron Kirk, DCC Board Member and Senior of Counsel at Gibson Dunn, Patrick also discussed plans for the franchise, the team's future in Dallas and their interest in other business endeavors across the state.





2024 Annual Meeting Recap

Dallas Citizens Council's 2024 Annual Meeting, *Powering the Future of Texas*, presented by Ryan LLC, brought together key business leaders, policymakers and community stakeholders to explore the future of the state's evolving energy sector. In a conversation moderated by DCC Immediate Past Chair Rob Walters, Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Kelcy Warren, Executive Chairman of Energy Transfer, highlighted Texas' dynamic and diverse energy strategy. The discussion emphasized the importance of an all-encompassing, proactive approach that balances oil, gas renewable energy resources. Thank you to our sponsors who helped make this event possible.

2024 Year in Review Member Luncheon

To kick off the new year, DCC Board Member Grant Moise, CEO and Publisher of *The Dallas Morning News*, guided DCC members through the top news stories that impacted business leaders in North Texas in 2024 and provided a sneak peak of 2025. A variety of topics were discussed, including housing, transportation, economic development and North Texas' evolving business landscape.



2024 Charter Amendments

DCC urged Dallas voters to oppose three legislative propositions: Proposition S, allowing residents to sue the city for non-compliance, Proposition T, linking the city manager's job to a satisfaction survey, and Proposition U, allocating half of new revenue to police and fire pensions, while mandating the hiring of 900 new officers. Although Propositions S and U passed [despite our efforts](#), we remain committed to ensuring these measures do not undermine the city's fiscal and operational stability. Thanks to our members who dedicated time and effort opposing these measures.



2024 Dallas Bond Package Approved

In May 2024, Dallas voters approved all 10 propositions in the \$1.25 billion bond package, allocating funds across ten propositions aimed at enhancing the city's infrastructure and public services. The package includes significant investments in infrastructure like the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center and Fair Park, street repairs, park improvements, library renovations, and public safety enhancements, reflecting our strong commitment to building a more vibrant, accessible and secure city for residents and future generations.

DCC's 2025 Legislative Agenda

Investment in the Dallas area workforce will drive economic growth and enhance the quality of life for residents by creating career opportunities, retaining talent and upskilling our current workforce. For the 2025 Texas Legislative Session, Dallas Citizens Council's top priorities focus on preparing our workforce by advocating for public policies that promote inclusive growth and long-term prosperity in the Dallas area. View our priorities [here](#).



Welcoming New Members

In 2024, we welcomed 12 new members to DCC and 10 new member companies, including, Deric Eubanks, Ashford, Inc., Julie Creamer, Baylor Scott & White, Betsy Martin, Boeing, Lindsay Wilson, Corgan Associates, Holly Kuzmich and Rob Kaplan, Draper Richards Foundation, Rob Little, Gibson Dunn, Sarah Jackson and Ashley Booth, HNTB Corp., Kelly Ungerman, McKinsey & Company, Eric Clark, NTT Data Americas, Inc., Todd Burns, UMB Bank and Chad Kolar, Wells Fargo. Thank you for your time and engagement with our organization.

New DCC Staff: Theda Khrestin

DCC welcomed former Coca-Cola Company Federal and Diplomatic Relations Director, Theda Khrestin, as Vice President of Policy & Public Affairs. In her new role, Theda will lead efforts to advance the organization's policy agenda, promote key community development initiatives and foster alignment with civic leadership throughout Dallas.



Remembering Pete Schenkel

Dallas Citizens Council mourns the loss of member Pete Schenkel, whose leadership in business and civic engagement profoundly shaped the city's growth. Starting at Schepps Dairy in 1959, Pete rose to CEO and guided its success before its acquisition by Dean Foods, where he continued to serve until retirement. For more than 40 years, Pete advised Dallas mayors and city managers, fostering public-private collaboration. His work on several boards and numerous honors reflected his commitment to both business and community. Pete's legacy of dedication and humility will continue to inspire Dallas' future.

Gratitude and Celebration for DCC Members' Years of Service

DCC is deeply grateful to our inspirational Dallas leaders— Dr. Richard Benson, President of the University of Texas at Dallas, Gary Kelly, Executive Chairman of Southwest Airlines, Sean Donohue, CEO of DFW Airport; Cynt Marshall, CEO of the Dallas Mavericks; Dr. Gerald Turner, President of SMU; Ken Hersh, President and CEO of the Bush Presidential Center; and Dan Noble, President and CEO of HKS, Inc. As you embark on your next chapter, we thank you for your dedicated leadership and lasting contributions to our community.

Engage with Us on Social Media

DCC members are influential leaders and trusted voices with dedicated networks ready to amplify their messages. What our members share on social media has a powerful impact on the community, and we encourage everyone to highlight the contributions of DCC and our members. When you see a DCC post on LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter) or Facebook, please take a moment to like, comment and share to help spread the word.



DCC Updates Anytime, Anywhere!

Have you downloaded the DCC member app? This app is your on-the-go connection to everything DCC. You can:

- Stay up-to-date on all things DCC
- Register for events
- Network with members
- And more

Simply search Dallas Citizens Council in the [Apple](#) or [Google Play Store](#), download, and enter your DCC Member Portal username and password to access the app today. Having trouble? [Email our help desk](#).

