

Research Assessment #2: Frisco City Council 2018 Priorities

Date: September 14, 2018

Subject: Priorities for Frisco City Council in 2018

MLA Citation:

Juarez, Lindsey, and Nicole Luna. "Frisco City Council Selects New Items for 2018 Priorities." *Community Impact Newspaper*, 7 Mar. 2018, communityimpact.com/dallas-fort-worth/frisco/city-county/2018/03/09/frisco-city-council-selects-new-items-2018-priorities/.

Assessment:

For my Research Assessment this week, I wanted to specifically research something topical to the city of Frisco. I know that I'm studying local government as a whole, but I genuinely find Frisco to be one of the most interesting cities because of its rapid development and the stark separation between the older residents of Frisco that were here before there was more than one high school compared with all of the new families and recent growth. That's why I was really excited when I found this article about what city council is focusing on this year, and hopefully if I get the chance to meet with anyone in city council this year, I'll have a chance to ask them about these goals.

Most of the goals made a lot of sense to me, with an emphasis on bringing businesses to the area and remaining competitive with nearby cities in terms of development, however I still have a lot of questions about what I read. First of all, how is the list made at all? It said that there have been these top ten goals lists for many years, but it seems like it would be difficult for all of city council to come up with one consistent view of what they want the city to accomplish in the coming year. Similarly that brings into question how similar all of the city council members are in terms of what they put emphasis on for the city of Frisco. It makes sense that the council members voted in would have similar ideals, because they were voted for by the same group of people, but it still leaves me wondering how homogenous the different values and views are of the council members, and if things like party affiliation or larger federal issues even matter at all.

This brings me to the second major question I had after reading about the council's goals for 2018: how closely does the local government work or interact with larger governments, like county, state, or national? One of the goals was indeed legislative plans with the goal of keeping the Frisco government in the hands of the local Frisco officials and citizens, and it surprised me that that even had to be stated. Previously it was my understanding that with separation of state and federal powers (and within that, state and city powers) that there wasn't that much overlap, but the distinction made here against being overly-controlled by larger governments makes me think otherwise.

Overall, it was really interesting learning about the priorities of the city for the year. I think once I get a mentor it would even be interesting to look back at this list and discuss the goals, because some of them were actually pretty big. As expected, a lot were geared toward development, but that's one of the most interesting things about Frisco and one of the reasons I'm so excited to continue learning more about it throughout the year. With this knowledge, I'll be able to better guide the information I hope to get out of interviews and a future mentorship, and am very much looking forward to that.