RESOLUTION NO. 7904

A RESOLUTION introduced by Deputy Mayor Jeff Preisner adopting the City of Topeka’s legislative agenda for the 2007 legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, that the following is hereby adopted as the City of Topeka’s legislative agenda for the 2007 legislative session:

• Support legislation that allows cities to continue to use reasonable eminent domain for public infrastructure projects.
• Urge the legislature to adopt tax and revenue policies with an eye toward preserving the local tax base, achieving tax equity for city/county residents and broadening city revenue sources (e.g. demand transfers and local motor fuel and other local taxes).
• Propose and support legislation that provides a consistent means, such as but not limited to, a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), for the State of Kansas and other tax-exempt governmental entities to financially assist in city infrastructure improvements, including enhancements to the capital plaza and the 8th Street area improvements.
• Enhance/preserve the state’s program of economic development tools.
• Support efforts to achieve a fully funded public employee retirement system within a reasonable period of time and monitor legislation related to KPERS that might impact cities.
• Oppose unfunded mandates by state government as well as any state imposed tax/spending lids.
• Oppose legislation that interferes, abrogates or otherwise preempts local control over franchise agreements and fees for utilities, cable television, telecommunications and other providers utilizing the public right-of-way.

• To the extent consistent with the goals of the City of Topeka, support the 2007 Legislative Priorities of the League of Kansas Municipalities.

• Institution of statewide building codes.

• Institution of statewide licensing for building trades (one license allows tradesmen to work anywhere in the state).

• Support legislation that amends suspended driver’s license statutes to allow for more cost effective and reasonable enforcement of and penalties for violations.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council January 9, 2007.

CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

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William W. Bunten, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Brenda Younger, Interim City Clerk