

Rockwall County Tax Abatement Policy

Reference: Texas Property Tax Code (Tax Code).

Taxing jurisdictions in Texas are authorized under Section 11.24 to provide tax abatements for historic preservation and under Chapters 311 [Tax Increment Financing] and 312 [Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement] to provide tax abatements for housing and economic development.

Purpose: The Commissioners Court establishes the following policy regarding tax abatement.

1. It is the policy of the County's governing body to carefully consider the pros and cons of each application for tax abatement that is submitted in accordance with the "Tax Abatement Procedure and Application Form" established for this purpose;
2. The maximum term for any tax abatement agreement granted by the County by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners Court in a regularly scheduled meeting shall be ten years;
3. An upfront analysis shall be made of benefits accruing to each participating Rockwall County local governmental entity to identify the County's share of forecast contributions attributed to infrastructure expected to directly benefit any of those entities;
4. Any tax abatement agreement granted by the County shall be subject to review and evaluation over its duration to ensure that the proposed benefits are achieved;
5. Any tax abatement agreement not achieving its stated goals pursuant to the review and evaluation process shall, at the sole discretion of the County, be subject to recapture of all or a portion of the abated taxes;
6. The "Tax Abatement Procedure and Application Form" shall be reviewed periodically to update and revise as necessary based upon economic conditions, findings of deficiencies in the procedure, or any other factors warranting consideration for revision.
7. A copy of this and other policies established to guide the governing body of the County shall be provided to each newly elected member of the Commissioners Court prior to the first regular meeting of the court.

Revised and adopted this 9th day of April, 2019, thereby replacing the policy statement of April 27, 2010.