

DRONE POLICY

Launching, landing, or operating any unmanned aircraft from or on lands within the boundaries of the “Capitol Complex,” as defined in Texas Government Code Section 443.0071(b) and excluding the grounds located within the Capitol Complex which are managed by the State Preservation Board pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 443, is prohibited except for the limited uses listed below.

- (a) Emergency law enforcement and fire response operations.
- (b) Other operations designed to support responses to health and human safety emergencies or environmental incidents.
- (c) National defense activities.
- (d) Activities necessary for the care and custody of the Capitol Complex, or with significant historic or public interest, when those activities have prior written approval by the Executive Director of the Texas Facilities Commission (“TFC”).
 - (i) Use of unmanned aircraft must be approved in advance and in writing by the Executive Director.
 - (ii) When considering approval, the Executive Director shall consider the criteria for the exception and whether the activity will:
 - (A) present a clear and present danger to public health and safety;
 - (B) cause injury or damage to state resources;
 - (C) be contrary to the purposes for which the Capitol Complex was established, or unacceptably impact the atmosphere maintained within the Capitol Complex;
 - (D) unreasonably interfere with any state agency services or activities located within the Capitol Complex, or with the responsibilities of TFC;
 - (E) substantially impair the operations of TFC contractors; and/or
 - (F) result in significant conflict with other existing uses.
 - (iii) The Executive Director may condition any approval with appropriate time, place, and manner restrictions, which the requestor must follow.

Texas Facilities Commission—Drone Policy

(iv) An approval issued by the Executive Director does not exempt the operator from obtaining the appropriate authorization from the Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”).

(v) Requirements put in place by the FAA on the use or operation of unmanned aircraft in the national airspace system must be followed. Nothing in this policy is intended to modify any requirement put in place by the FAA on the use or operation of unmanned aircraft in the national airspace system.

(vi) TFC will coordinate with the FAA regarding the use of unmanned aircraft in the Capitol Complex, as may be required.

(vii) Applicable policies and rules put in place by TFC regarding the Capitol Complex must be followed.

(viii) Any and all applicable State requirements must be followed.

Any requests to launch, land, or operate any unmanned aircraft from or on lands within the boundaries of the “Capitol Complex,” as defined in Texas Government Code Section 443.0071(b) and excluding the grounds located within the Capitol Complex which are managed by the State Preservation Board pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 443, shall be made to the following:

Commercial Parking & Special Events
Texas Facilities Commission
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