



BRIEF

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Clayton W. Chandler, City Manager

Re: Resolution of Support – Designation of the State Highway 360 South
Extension as the Senator Chris Harris Memorial Highway

Date: February 8, 2017

As your manager, it gives me great satisfaction to recommend the attached Resolution to support the naming of State Highway 360 for Senator Chris Harris. He was a great friend to every citizen of this city, the region, and the State of Texas. Whether dealing with highway projects, education, or funding issues Senator Harris was a strong and dependable voice. He was a force in the Texas Legislature. He was highly respected by other legislators, governors, and committees.

The cities of Arlington, Grand Prairie, and Kennedale and the membership of SETT (Southeast Tarrant Transportation Partnership) unanimously endorsed the re-naming of the highway to the Chris Harris Memorial Highway.

Chris Harris was our voice in the legislature for close to three decades. The highway would not be under construction today without his relentless efforts. While known for his commitments to Highway 360, his dedication to education initiatives, and the right of cities to have a voice in their governance were equally significant to the success and economies of this state. Every city in Texas can also thank him for sustaining our ability to collect impact fees from developers to build roads, water lines, sewer systems and infrastructure without burdening the existing taxpayers or utility customers of the city. This resource has been worth hundreds of millions of dollars to cities across the state while saving taxpayers from bearing those costs.

As one who worked with Senator Harris on this highway and other issues important to our city and our state, it is very satisfying to see him remembered in this way for his dedication.