

**SUBJECT:** Providing comparable levels of service for annexed right-of-way

**COMMITTEE:** Land and Resource Management — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 6 ayes — Bonnen, Alvarado, Hamilton, Homer, Paxton, Thibaut  
0 nays  
3 absent — Farrar, Bolton, Orr

**WITNESSES:** For — Cobby Caputo, Jose Madrigal, Charles Rowland, City of Cedar Park; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Brenda Eivens, City of Cedar Park; Shanna Igo, Texas Municipal League)  
  
Against — None

**BACKGROUND:** Local Government Code, sec. 43.056 requires a municipality proposing an annexation to complete a service plan that provides for the extension of municipal service to the area to be annexed. The municipality has to provide the services by methods used in any other area of the municipality. The code provides that if the annexed area had a superior level of services prior to annexation, a service plan must provide for the level of services similar to other parts of the municipality with similar site characteristics.  
  
The code does not specifically address the extension of equivalent landscaping and maintenance services for a public right-of-way.

**DIGEST:** HB 2705 would require a service plan for annexation to provide an annexed public right-of-way with a level of maintenance and landscaping comparable to other rights-of-way in the municipality. This would apply to annexed areas that previously had superior levels of services for maintaining and landscaping right-of-way to those provided by the municipality.  
  
The bill would take effect September 1, 2009.