

CONTACT:
Nadia Hakim
Communications Director
Fort Bend County, Precinct 4
281-725-3246 | Nadia.Hakim@fortbendcountytx.gov

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Paid parental leave approved for Fort Bend County employees

FORT BEND COUNTY, TX – In a historic move, Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approved paid parental leave for all full-time county employees during the Tuesday, January 23 court session.

A new father himself when he took office in January 2023, Precinct 4 Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy sprang into action with his team to draft the policy that, in his view, would reflect a value for family. "We are about families in Fort Bend County and this policy change now fully reflects that value," Commissioner McCoy said. "Every day our county employees work tirelessly to support families in Fort Bend County. It is our duty to make sure they also have the time to care for their own families. At such a pivotal moment, a paycheck should be the least of anyone's worries."

The policy was presented on the latest court agenda for a vote and passed with a 5-0 vote in the final form presented by Commissioner McCoy. Click here for the full policy.

Fort Bend County follows Houston, Harris County, and the City of Sugar Land in passing a paid parental leave policy. Full-time county employees will receive six weeks of paid leave for the birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child. In the unfortunate event of a miscarriage, stillbirth, or the need of urgent medical care regarding a pregnancy, the employee will receive three weeks of paid leave.

Fort Bend County currently has 3,098 full-time employees.

Click here for b-roll, photos and soundbites from today's court.

Fort Bend County is home to nearly 900,000 people and is one of the fastest growing counties and most ethnically diverse counties in the United States. Commissioner McCoy took office in 2023 to serve Fort Bend Precinct 4's nearly 250,000 residents. For more information on what's happening in Commissioner Precinct 4 visit our website (FBCTX.gov/Precinct4) or follow our socials @FBCprecinct4.

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