

## **Invocation Policy**

The City of Fredericksburg extends an invitation for individuals to deliver a brief one-minute invocation at one of our City Council meetings, to lend gravity to the public meeting, and to reflect upon shared ideals and common ends before the City Council embarks on the business of governing. The meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Law Enforcement Center located at 1601 East Main Street, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624.

No guidelines or limitations shall be issued by the City regarding invocation content, except that the invocation may not proselytize or advance any faith, or disparage the religious faith or non-religious views of others.

Each respondent who accepts the invitation to deliver an invocation at an upcoming meeting shall be scheduled to deliver an invocation on a first come, first-served basis. To ensure objectivity in the selection of the speaker of the invocation, the City will on an annual basis compile a list of all known local individuals who are willing to provide an invocation. The invocation speakers will be selected without preference to any specific religion, belief, faith, or ideology.

No person attending the meeting is required to participate in the invocation. Any person attending the meeting is free to leave the meeting prior the invocation, and to join the meeting after the invocation. Members of the public will not be treated differently based on whether they participate in the invocation.

The City Secretary's Office will make contact with the scheduled Invocation Speaker to confirm one week before each City Council meeting, and the speaker's name will be on the agenda.