July 22, 2019

Plano City Council
1520 K Avenue
Plano, TX 75074

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

The Plano Chamber of Commerce is comprised of 1,250 businesses and represents more than 165,000 employees in the area. Our mission is to maximize business development and economic growth through advocacy, education, innovation and collaboration. We strive to be a resource for our booming business community and an advocate for the elements of Plano that make our area desirable for businesses and residents.

In 2015, the City of Plano underwent a thorough process, which included extensive public comment and input, to create a new comprehensive plan to guide further development and redevelopment within the City. The Plano Tomorrow Plan takes into consideration current demographics, zoning and building trends, and the quality of life aspects that drive residents and businesses to locate in Plano. Repealing that plan and replacing it with an outdated 33-year-old comprehensive plan is not prudent. The 1986-based Comprehensive Plan provides guidance for an era of Plano that has long since passed, and application of that plan could result in excessive retail development, significantly increased multifamily housing, and the placement of residential housing in business centers. This community and the desires of its residents and businesses have evolved significantly in recent years and any plan that provides guidance for continued progress should be rooted in the future, not the past.

It is important that City leadership help Plano move beyond the conflict that has arisen from the adoption of the Plano Tomorrow Plan. The ongoing litigation and public debate on this issue prohibit Plano from continuing to thoughtfully and strategically plan and grow as a thriving community.

We urge you to maintain our current comprehensive plan so Plano can continue to move forward. The Chamber will include the votes on this item in its monthly Public Policy newsletter.

Sincerely,

LaMonte Thomas
2019 Board Chair

Kelle Marsalis
Plano Chamber Interim President/CEO