

The Comptroller of Public Accounts Leadership Circle recognizes local governments in Texas that meet its high standard for on-line financial transparency. The standards for on-line financial transparency require that the City provide clear and consistent financial information in a format that is easy to use.

One of the required financial criteria is information about the City's Debt. To meet the requirements for this criteria, the City of San Benito must post information about its outstanding debt such as a description of each bond series, dates issued, total amounts owed, maturity dates and schedules for annual principal and interest payments to maturity.

The City's <u>Comprehensive Annual Financial Report</u> (CAFR) includes this information beginning on page 71 through 78 and fully meets this requirement.

Link to Comptroller's website

Additionally, the Comptroller's website (<u>TexasTransparency.org</u>) provides information about local government finances in Texas including existing and proposed debt for cities, counties, schools, hospital and special-purpose districts.

Debt Transparency Pledge

In an effort to introduce more transparency into local spending and debt obligations, The City of San Benito, Texas pledges to post details about the City's bond and debt information on the City's website no later than one business day after the public notice of the bond election. This information will include details about the bond package(s) up for vote and current outstanding debt obligations including bonds, certificates of obligation and other debt, and the date of the election.

The City further pledges to notify the Comptroller's office via email (Transparency@cpa.state.tx.us) when the bond election information has been posted to the City's website. The email will include a link to the bond election information.

Manuel Lara

City Manager