



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coppell Earns Gold Designation for Financial Transparency

The City of Coppell recently earned a Gold Leadership Circle designation from the Texas Comptrollers Office by upping the bar in financial transparency efforts. Led by the state comptroller, this annual process challenges local governing entities to open their books to the public, providing clear, consistent pictures of spending and sharing information in a user-friendly format that lets taxpayers easily drill down for more information.

Coppell rose in the ranks from Silver, in 2012, to Gold, in 2013, by continuing to post budgets, financial reports, and adding check registers online, via the City's Web site at <http://coppelltx.gov>. Texas Comptroller Susan Combs launched the program in December 2009 to recognize cities, counties, school districts and other local governments that have taken their first steps toward openness, shown continued progress or even exceeded transparency standards.

Through the Leadership Circle program, the Comptroller's office awards certificates based on a self-scoring checklist that evaluates how local governments provide online access to their expenses and revenue. Local governments receiving a gold, silver or bronze Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle award have met or exceeded the Comptroller's expectations for transparency.

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For tips and a step-by-step guide to achieve local government transparency, as well as a complete list of local governments in the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle sorted by city, county and school district, visit <http://www.texas Transparency.org/local/index.php>. New entities are typically added on a weekly basis.

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