The City of
College Station, Texas
Embracing the Past, Exploring the Future.

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March 7, 2001

Steve Ogden
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910
512-463-1000
Fax: 512-463-5896

Honorable Steve Ogden:

The City of College Station desires to offer payment choices to the citizens and customers of College Station including acceptance of credit cards as a payment type. Accepting credit cards will be an essential element in implementing e-government initiatives to better serve the citizens of College Station. The state legislature has authorized municipalities, counties and other government entities this option in chapter 132 of the local Government code. In 132.002(d), authority is given to allow counties to accept credit card payment without requiring the collection of a fee. No similar authority exists for municipalities. As a convenience to its citizens, the City of College Station wishes to pay the fees associated with acceptance of credit card payments. The City of College Station urges the legislature to make changes in the local government code to specifically authorize municipalities to pay any fees associated with the acceptance of payments through the use of credit cards. Attached are two letters to College Station staff members discussing the credit card fee issue. From reviewing the letters you may see why this request for specific authority is being sent from my office. Please let me know if I can provide additional information for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lynn McIlhaney

Mayor Lynn McIlhaney
City of College Station