

James R. Earp, CPM
Assistant City Manager
City of Kyle

Vice President Candidate

James R. Earp, CPM has served as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Kyle for fourteen years. Prior to joining one of the state's fastest growing cities, he worked for the City of Ennis. He has spent over ten years serving in leadership roles within TCMA and is now seeking to run for statewide office as Vice President.

Earp began his professional life in banking and finance working first for American Express and then for Citizens National Bank. Learning about the City Management profession, he went to graduate school for his MPA while he worked at Lockheed Martin writing Technical Orders for the F-16 program.

Earp has a BBA in Finance, a BS in Economics, his Master's in Public Administration, a graduate certificate in Environmental Management and Sustainability of Cities and is a Certified Public Manager. He is the Manager in Residence for Texas State University, and the Director of the Certified Public Manager program for Dallas/Fort Worth.

Since joining TCMA, Earp has worked diligently to serve his fellow members through tirelessly assisting in the planning and execution of numerous annual conferences, embracing teaching and mentoring the next generation, and bringing his best in serving the organization. Earp has served in all officer positions within Region VII and on the state board of directors as the Region VII Director. Earp has spent most of his time in TCMA serving each year on committees, predominantly on the Professional Development Committee, but also on the Advocacy Committee, and the City Manager of Tomorrow Committee. Earp was asked by the TCMA President to serve on a special 2020 legislative task force. Earp was the primary volunteer that created, developed and implemented the Intercollegiate College Bowl (ICB) that brought 8 university teams to the inaugural competition in 2019 at the TCMA annual conference. The ICB stands to become a fixture of all future TCMA annual conferences.

Earp was recognized as the 2019 Distinguished Public Administrator of the Year by the Centex chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.

"I would be honored to represent our profession by serving as Vice President of TCMA. I believe I can bring the right blend of skills to the executive team needed to continue the work of those that have started such strong programs before me while bringing the ability to leverage all our TCMA assets to make our combined future brighter with new initiatives. I will focus on continuing, expanding or developing the programs that feed our professional pipelines, not just specifically for city managers, but for professional city servants from a diverse pool of candidates. On the opposite end of that spectrum, I also will work to tie in seasoned and retired professionals so that the organization doesn't falter from loss of experience and knowledge. The third leg of my stool would be continuing to develop rich professional development programs for those in the middle, regardless of city size. If you elect me, I will give TCMA my all, and I will be honored and humbled for the opportunity."

James R. Earp, CPM
VP Candidate

**James J. Stokes
City Manager
City of Deer Park**

Vice President Candidate

Jay Stokes began service as City Manager of Deer Park in 2010. Since 1994, he has worked in four (4) other Texas municipalities: City Manager of Gladewater, City Administrator of Jefferson, Economic Development Director of White Oak, and Administrative Intern in Friendswood.

He is the current President of TCMA Region 6, a past President of TCMA Region 5, and a past TCMA Board Member. He has served on numerous TCMA Committees over 20 years, including Ethics, Professional Development, Membership, and Nominating. Stokes has sat on the Board of Trustees of the TML-Health Benefits Pool since 2006, and is a past president of that organization. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Texas Municipal League from 2014 to 2016. He is a former president and current member of the Deer Park Rotary Club.

Stokes received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Abilene Christian University and his Master of Public Policy & Administration degree from Baylor University. Outside of work, he enjoys time with his family, running, volunteering for Special Olympics, cruise ship vacations, fine bourbon, and cheering for his beloved Dallas Cowboys.

Jay and his wife Erin have been married for 25 years. They have four children, ages 14 to 19.

“Reflecting on my career, I am deeply appreciative of TCMA and how much it has meant to me. While the trainings, annual conferences, and committee service are great, the primary value of TCMA rests in the relationships. TCMA provided mentors who gave invaluable guidance in my early years. Many of these men and women are now retired from the profession, but our friendships continue to this day. Likewise, TCMA provided a peer group of those who entered the profession about the same time I did. We have seen not just our careers advance, but watched one another’s children grow up. As I enter these latter stages of my career, I want to give back to TCMA by serving as Vice President. Without ceasing, we must remind everyone of the nobility of our profession, especially in this challenging environment where cities and their leaders remain under attack. Further, I want to continue the Association’s strong efforts to develop and cultivate our next generation of leaders. Thank you for considering me as you cast your vote for Vice President.”

James J. Stokes
Vice President Candidate

E.A. Hoppe
Deputy City Manager
City of Kerrville

TML Board Representative Candidate

E.A. Hoppe joined the City of Kerrville, TX as their Deputy City Manager in August of 2016. E.A. came to the City of Kerrville from the City of Bulverde, where he served as their Chief Executive and Administrative Officer from December 2012 to July 2016. Prior to his time in Bulverde he served the City of Richardson for almost 10 years on their City's management team, with a key role in legislative affairs.

E.A. currently serves as the Region 8 (San Antonio area) representative on the 2018-2020 Board of Directors for the Texas City Management Association (TCMA). He has previously served as the TCMA Region 8 President and the President of the Urban Management Assistants of North Texas (UMANT). E.A. also served on various TCMA Committees over the years including Membership, Professional Development, and the City Managers of Tomorrow Task Force.

E.A. received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Finance from Austin College in Sherman, Texas, and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of North Texas in Denton, TX. During time away from public service, he enjoys spending time exploring various outdoor pursuits with his wife, Ashley, and their two sons, Patrick (11) and Kolby (8).

“It would be an honor for me to continue to serve the membership of TCMA on the 2020-2022 Board of Directors, and as a voice for TCMA on the Texas Municipal League Board. TML will continue to face significant challenges as the 2021 State Legislative Session approaches. How TCMA engages with TML and the larger Texas legislative body during this pivotal time will be critical for the future of our municipalities and the Council-Manager form of government moving forward. In addition, the TML Board Representative serves on the Executive Committee for TCMA, and also as the Committee Chair of the Advocacy Committee. I intend to be a strong voice on the Executive Committee, continuing to advocate for the professional development and training needs of our membership and especially our city managers of tomorrow. In addition, I am deeply passionate about advocating for the city management profession. I feel that our TCMA organization can greatly enhance our efforts to better educate the people of Texas in regards to the critical work our members provide day in and day out, as well as the benefits the Council-Manager form of government has provided to Texas over the last 100 years.”

E.A. Hoppe
TML Board Representative Candidate

Hugh R. Walker
Deputy City Manager
City of Bryan

TML Board Representative Candidate

Hugh Walker's local government career of nearly twenty-five years is with the City of Bryan, with most of those years being as a deputy city manager. During his tenure, he has been the acting city manager on multiple occasions, and has had all but one department report to him at various times.

Throughout Walker's local government experience, he has been involved in TCMA, including having actively served on the Nominations and Professional Development Committees, and being a past regional president. Presently, Walker is the Vice-Chair of the Ethics Committee, serves on the City Managers of Tomorrow Committee, and is a co-Managers in Residence (MIR) to Texas A&M University. As a MIR, the TAMU Bush School of Government and Public Service asked him to serve as their advisor to their ICMA Student Chapter, which has the greatest membership base in the Bush School's history.

Locally, Walker has been an active member of the community serving in numerous civic and service organizations, including multiple chair positions. His involvement includes such entities as Rotary, United Way, Bryan ISD Education Foundation, Family Solutions, Junior League Community Advisory Board, and Leadership Brazos. Along with other notes of community recognition, Walker received Certificates of Appreciation from the Junior League and the African American National Heritage Society.

To complement Walker's municipal government service, he has eight years of private sector experience and worked in the non-profit arena for three years. His formal education includes a bachelor's degree from Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, and a MPA from the University of North Texas. As a dedicated lifelong learner, Walker is an ICMA Credentialed Manager.

Walker and his spouse, Shelley, are the proud parents of two Aggie daughters: MaKayla and Madisen. For many years, MaKayla and Madisen attended the annual TCMA conferences, and to this day, consider it an annual highlight!

"I strongly support TCMA and believe membership truly enables us to better serve our communities, while nurturing tomorrow's leaders. My passion and energy for the profession allow me to engage in activities with enthusiasm and a commitment to continue TCMA's strong history and legacy while raising our standard of excellence. Our unique professional organization provides each of us an opportunity to directly impact many services and activities, especially at the local level. As an organization, I have witnessed TCMA members embrace change and benefit from its rewards. Today, TCMA is a diverse group with a rich history of leaders who challenge the status quo. The friendships gained through membership inspire me to serve TCMA in a new and exciting way. As a TCMA Board member, I want to continue to build on TCMA's commitment to service and represent our great organization as both a TCMA Board Member and as a representative to the TML Board. I would be honored to represent and serve all TCMA members."

Hugh R. Walker
TML Board Representative Candidate