

	CITY OF DECATUR PERSONNEL POLICY		
Chapter 05	Conduct		
Section 13	Prohibited Technology Policy		
Revised By:	Nate Mara, City Manager	Revised Date:	December 22, 2025
Approved By:	Nate Mara, City Manager	Effective Date:	January 1, 2026

05.13 Prohibited Technology Policy

A. Purpose. In 2023, the Texas Legislature enacted Senate Bill 1893 (88th Leg., R.S.) (“SB 1893”), prohibiting the use of TikTok and certain other social media applications on governmental devices. SB 1893 requires cities and other political subdivisions to adopt a policy that:

1. Prohibits the installation of TikTok or any other covered application on devices owned or leased by the governmental entity; and
2. Requires the removal of such applications from those devices.

This Prohibited Technology Policy (“Policy”) fulfills the requirements of SB 1893, Chapter 620 of the Texas Government Code (“Code”), and the Office of the Governor’s directive regarding prohibited technologies on devices used to conduct official business of the City of Decatur, Texas (“City” or “Decatur”).

B. Scope and Definitions. This Policy applies to all full- and part-time City employees, contractors, paid or unpaid interns, and any other users of the City’s networks (collectively, “Users”). All Users are responsible for strict compliance with this Policy.

For purposes of this Policy, a “**Covered Application**” means:

1. The social media service TikTok, or any successor application or service developed or provided by ByteDance Limited or any entity owned by ByteDance Limited; or
2. Any social media application or service designated by proclamation of the Governor of the State of Texas under Section 620.005 of the Code.

C. Covered Applications on City-Owned or City-Leased Devices

1. **Prohibition and Removal Requirements.** Except where an approved exception applies (see Section E), the installation or use of a Covered Application is strictly prohibited on all City-owned or City-leased devices, including cell phones, tablets, laptops, desktop computers, and any other internet-capable devices.

The City will identify, track, and manage all such devices to:

- Prohibit the installation or use of a Covered Application;
- Remove any Covered Application present on a device prior to the passage of SB 1893; and

- Remove any application newly designated as a Covered Application by gubernatorial proclamation.
2. **Device Security Measures.** To enforce this Policy, the City will implement the following security measures on all City-owned or City-leased mobile and computing devices:
- Restrict access to app stores or unauthorized software repositories to prevent installation of Covered Applications;
 - Maintain the ability to remotely wipe non-compliant or compromised devices;
 - Maintain the ability to remotely uninstall unauthorized software; and
 - Implement any additional security measures deemed necessary and appropriate to carry out the purpose and intent of this Policy.

D. Ongoing and Emerging Technology Threats. To protect the City's sensitive information and critical infrastructure, the City will classify as a Covered Application and remove from all City-owned or City-leased devices any social media application or service that poses a security risk to the City, including those identified by the Governor of the State of Texas as potential risks.

E. Covered Application Exceptions. The City may authorize installation or use of a Covered Application on a City-owned or City-leased device only to the extent necessary for:

- a. Providing law enforcement; or
- b. Developing or implementing information security measures.

F. Policy Compliance. Compliance with this Policy will be verified through IT and security system reporting, monitoring tools, and feedback to City management. Employees who violate this Policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

G. Policy Review. This Policy will be reviewed and updated as needed to:

- 1. Reflect changes in applicable laws, rules, or regulations; and
- 2. Meet the operational needs of the City.