



Shaping Neighborhoods, Shifting Authority: A Brief on EPIC City, Sharia Influence, and the Erosion of Constitutional Unity

As Christians concerned about the moral and cultural foundations of our communities, it is critical to understand large-scale religious and ideological developments taking shape in our own backyards. Texas's EPIC City—initiated by East Plano Islamic Center (EPIC)—raises important questions about transparency, land use, and the role of Islamic influence in shaping civic life.

At stake is the growing trend of parallel communities—self-contained developments guided by religious or ideological worldviews that function apart from the broader civic and legal framework.¹ When alternative systems of authority take root within our borders, this undermines the freedoms we hold most dear within our constitutional republic.

This resource is designed to equip citizens with a clearer picture of who is involved, how the project is structured, and why it matters from a values-based perspective.

I. What Is EPIC City?

EPIC City is a large-scale development project led by the East Plano Islamic Center (EPIC) that plans to transform over 400 acres of land in Josephine, Texas, into a self-contained Islamic community. Touted as “EPIC 2.0,” this initiative is being marketed to investors and supporters as a model for future Islamic expansion in America.

The development's public-facing materials outline an ambitious vision—complete with residential housing, education facilities, religious institutions, and commercial space—all presented through a range of media and investor documents.

The following section highlights these resources.

Key Features and Promotional Materials

- **Land and Development Scope**

EPIC has purchased 402 acres in Josephine, TX, with plans to build:

- 1,000 residential homes
- A full K–12 Islamic school

¹**DISCLAIMER:** This resource is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. The information contained herein should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal counsel.

- A mosque as the religious center
- A retail center integrated into the community
- Videos and Media by EPIC
 - [“Welcome to EPIC City” Overview Video](#)
 - [EPIC CCP YouTube Channel](#)
 - [Official EPIC City Announcement Video](#)
- Investor-Facing Documentation
 - [Investor Summary Document](#)
 - [Investor FAQs Document](#)
- Official Website for EPIC City 2.0
 - [EPIC City Website](#): Provides full details about the project vision, timeline, and investment opportunities.

II. Who Is Involved in EPIC City?

This section identifies key individuals, organizations, and entities driving the EPIC City project, those who oppose the project, and those who are actively investigating its constitutionality. Gaining familiarity with the leadership and structure associated with the EPIC City project is vital to grasp the broader strategy, funding sources, and legal implications surrounding its development.

- [EPIC](#)
 - A tax-exempt Islamic nonprofit serving as the religious body behind the Epic City development.
- [IRS Tax-Exempt Status](#)
 - EPIC benefits from 501(c)(3) status, meaning American taxpayers indirectly subsidize its activities.
- [EPIC Board of Directors](#)
 - Individuals legally responsible for EPIC’s operations and strategic decisions.
- [EPIC Leadership Team](#)
 - Includes [Dr. Yasir Qadhi](#), resident scholar and public face of the EPIC City vision. He also serves as dean of The Islamic Seminary of America. He has also been a key promoter of EPIC City and [EPIC Ranches](#).

- [Dr. Yasir Qadhi's X post](#) about EPIC City illustrates public endorsement and promotion of EPIC City by Qadhi on social media.
- [Epic Real Properties, Inc. Company Profile](#)
 - Business entity involved in the development; Imran Chaudhary serves as its president.
- [Community Capital Partners \(CCP\)](#)
 - The management firm overseeing the Epic City 2.0 expansion.
- [CCP Business Filing](#)
 - CCP is registered in Texas as a Limited Partnership and plays a central logistical role.
- [Dan Cogdell](#)
 - Criminal defense attorney representing EPIC and related stakeholders in ongoing legal matters.
- [Department of Justice \(DOJ\)](#)
 - Federal agency investigating the legal dimensions of the EPIC initiative; [Harmeet K. Dhillon](#) leads the Civil Rights Division involved.
- [Governor Greg Abbott](#)
 - Texas Governor who has publicly acknowledged EPIC City, including [reposting](#) relevant content.
- [Attorney General Ken Paxton](#)
 - Texas Attorney General, a key figure with jurisdictional authority in matters involving nonprofit compliance and land use.
- [Amy Mekelburg](#)
 - Investigative journalist and activist with RAIR Foundation USA. Her reporting on EPIC City gained traction after Governor Abbott [reshared](#) her post (original post no longer available on X, but [here](#)).

III. When Was EPIC City Introduced?

Understanding the timeline of EPIC City's development is paramount to evaluating its rapid growth, state-level review, and the evolving legal and political response. While EPIC and its partners have heavily marketed their vision, their plans have triggered significant concerns across Texas government agencies, including investigations into potential fraud, discrimination, and unlawful development activity.

Despite [legal warnings](#) and regulatory red flags, EPIC and their managing investors at Community Capital Partners continue to [press forward](#) with acquiring construction permits.

The timeline below outlines the key moments leading to the present.

- **February 27, 2025:** Texas State Representative Jeff Leach (R-Plano) sends a formal request to Attorney General Ken Paxton to investigate EPIC City. [Source](#)
- **March 25, 2025:** Attorney General Ken *Paxton* issues a Civil Investigative Demand (CID) to Community Capital Partners, LP. [Press Release](#)
- **March 26, 2025:** Governor Greg Abbott announces formal state action against the East Plano Islamic Center. [Governor's Statement](#)
- **March 27, 2025:** Governor Abbott reveals an active investigation by the Texas State Securities Board into EPIC's development practices. [Press Release](#)
- **March 28, 2025:** Governor Abbott announces a third investigation into potential unlawful discrimination by EPIC. [Press Release](#)
- **March 31, 2025:** Governor Abbott directs the Texas Rangers to launch a criminal investigation into EPIC. [Press Release](#)
- **April 1, 2025**
 - 1) Governor Abbott issues a directive that EPIC City may not begin construction. [Governor's Directive](#)
 - 2) Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sends formal notice to EPIC and CCP:
 - No legal authority currently exists to build the development.
 - No required permit applications have been submitted.
 - Construction without approval violates state law.
 - EPIC/CCP must halt all work and confirm cessation within 7 days. [TCEQ Letter PDF](#)
- **June 13, 2025:** U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K. Dhillon sends a [closure letter](#) to CCP:
 - Confirms EPIC/CCP still own the 402-acre undeveloped land.
 - Permits have not yet been filed but are expected in July or August 2025.
 - DOJ investigation concludes based on CCP's stated commitment to comply with the Fair Housing Act. [DOJ Closure Letter](#)

IV. Why Is EPIC City Being Built?

EPIC City has been promoted by its developers as a “[multigenerational and inclusive master-planned community](#)” intended to offer safety, stability, and economic opportunity to its future residents. Official language emphasizes growth, connection, and prosperity, using inclusive terms aimed at downplaying religious or ideological exclusivity. However, earlier versions of the project’s materials reportedly described the community more explicitly as a purpose-built development to serve the growing needs of a Muslim population—raising alarm about whether the project is intended as a faith-based enclave under the guise of diversity of religious expression.

While the current public messaging is polished and broad, the involvement of religious leaders and institutions in funding, designing, and overseeing the project (notably the East Plano Islamic Center and its affiliates) suggests a deeper cultural and religious motivation that merits scrutiny.

V. How Can Christians Get Involved?

EPIC City presents not only a policy and cultural dilemma, but a direct challenge to the role of faith and citizenship in shaping our communities. Christians have a responsibility to remain informed, engaged, and grounded in truth as these developments unfold.

Here are practical ways the Church can get involved:

- Monitor local planning activity
 - Stay informed by reviewing [City of Josephine Planning & Zoning Commission agendas](#) to track permit requests related to EPIC City.
- Connect with elected officials
 - Contact Rep. Jeff Leach (R–Plano), who has raised awareness about this project, and respectfully share your position.
- Educate your pastor and church leadership
 - Share this resource to help your church understand what’s happening and how it may affect the broader community.
- Pray for discernment and courage
 - Ask the Lord for wisdom as you navigate this issue, and pray for those in leadership to uphold truth, justice, and constitutional order.

VI. Additional Information on EPIC City

This section provides further reporting for those who wish to explore the broader context of EPIC City in more depth. These materials touch on the intersection of religious freedom,

housing law, Sharia influence, and responses throughout the state of Texas to the EPIC City project.

Relevant Laws and Legislative References

- Fair Housing Act of 1968
 - [Federal law](#) that prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, religion, national origin, and other protected categories. Often cited in defense of religious developments, but also relevant to enforcement boundaries.
- Texas House Bill 45 (85th Legislature)
 - A bill aimed at preventing foreign or religious legal systems—such as Sharia law—from undermining constitutional protections in Texas courtrooms.
 - [Bill History: HB 45](#)
 - [Full Bill Text: HB45ENG.PDF](#)
- Texas Government Code, Chapter 22: Appellate Courts
 - [Legal structure](#) outlining jurisdiction and authority of Texas appellate courts, relevant in any future litigation around the constitutionality of such developments.

Featured Video

- “Everyone Is Muslim Here: Sharia Living in Texas Isn’t Coming—It’s Already Here”
 - A documentary-style video about the impact of EPIC City in Texas. [Watch on Rumble.](#)

Articles related to EPIC City & Sharia Law

- Austin County News Online. (2025). [EPIC City Investigation Texas: Paxton Probes Real Estate Development Linked to Islamic Center.](#)
- CBN News. (2017). [Texas Gov Signs Off on Bill to Keep Sharia Law Out of Courts.](#)
- Dallas Express. (2025). [Texas AG Probes Controversial Muslim-Centric Development Near Dallas.](#)
- Encounter Today. (2025). [Islamic City in Texas Under Investigation.](#)

- RAIR Foundation USA. (2025). [Alert Texas: EPIC City's Sharia Compound Can Be Stopped—Here's the Blueprint to Shut It Down.](#)
- RAIR Foundation USA. (2025). ["Everyone Is Muslim Here": Sharia-Style Living in Texas.](#)
- Snopes. (2025). [What to Know About the 'Sharia City' Development Planned in Texas.](#)
- The Christian Post. (2025). [Islamic scholar who called US 'stolen land' promotes 400-acre Muslim community open to 'non-Americans.'](#)
- The Dallas Morning News. (2025). [Archived Report: "Epic City: A Timeline of Muslim-Centric Neighborhood Plans."](#)