

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE ORDERING A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025, TO SUBMIT TO THE VOTERS A PROPOSED PROPERTY (AD VALOREM) TAX RATE THAT EXCEEDS THE VOTER APPROVAL RATE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING OR EXPANDING PROGRAMS INTENDED TO INCREASE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND REDUCE HOMELESSNESS; IMPROVE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES; ENHANCE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY; ENSURE FINANCIAL STABILITY; AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER GENERAL FUND MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION EXPENDITURES INCLUDED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET AS APPROVED OR AMENDED BY CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. A special municipal election shall be held in the City on November 4, 2025, to submit to the voters a proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate that exceeds the voter approval rate, for the purpose of funding or expanding programs intended to increase housing affordability and reduce homelessness; improve parks and recreation facilities and services; enhance public health services and public safety; ensure financial stability; and provide for other general fund maintenance and operation expenditures included in the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget as approved or amended by City Council. The ballot shall be prepared to permit voting "FOR" or "AGAINST" the proposition:

~~THIS IS A TAX INCREASE~~

CITY OF AUSTIN PROPOSITION Q

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE

Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.574017 per \$100 valuation in the City of Austin for the current year, a rate that is \$0.05 higher per \$100 valuation than the voter-approval tax rate of the City of Austin, for the purpose of funding or expanding programs intended to increase housing affordability and reduce homelessness; improve

38 parks and recreation facilities and services; enhance public health services and public
39 safety; ensure financial stability; and provide for other general fund maintenance and
40 operation expenditures included in the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget as approved or
41 amended by City Council. Last year, the ad valorem tax rate in the City of Austin was
42 \$0.4776 per \$100 valuation.
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44 **PART 2.** The election shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
45 The location of the main early voting polling place, the dates and hours for early voting,
46 and the early voting clerk's official mailing, email, and internet addresses are provided in
47 Exhibit A, attached and incorporated as a part of this ordinance. This ordinance will be
48 amended prior to the election to add exhibits containing executed English and Spanish
49 copies of this ordinance, providing the full lists of early voting sites and election day
50 polling places, containing executed contracts and joint election agreements, and
51 designating election judges and staff, as required by state law.
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53 **PART 3.** As specified in Resolution No. 20231019-006, the City adopts Travis County's
54 electronic voting system for use during early voting and for voting conducted on election
55 day in Travis County. The central counting station for Travis County is established at the
56 Travis County Clerk's Office, 5501 Airport Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78751.
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58 **PART 4.** As specified in Resolution No. 20231019-006, the City adopts Williamson
59 County's electronic voting system for use during early voting and for voting conducted on
60 election day in Williamson County. The central counting station for Williamson County is
61 established at Williamson County Elections Department, 301 SE Inner Loop, Suite 104,
62 Tabulation Room, Georgetown, Texas 78626.
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64 **PART 5.** As specified in Resolution No. 20231019-006, the City adopts Hays County's
65 electronic voting system for use during early voting and for voting conducted on election
66 day in Hays County. The central counting station for Hays County is established at Hays
67 County Elections, 120 Stagecoach Trail, San Marcos, Texas 78666.
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69 **PART 6.** Notice of the election shall be posted and published in accordance with state law.
70 The notice shall be posted, in English and Spanish, in the office of the City Clerk and at the
71 City Hall notice kiosk not later than the 21st day before election day. Notice of the election
72 shall be published one time, in English and Spanish, not earlier than the 30th day before the
73 date of the elections or later than the 10th day before the date of the elections, in a newspaper
74 of general circulation in the City of Austin.
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PART 7. In accordance with Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, the November 4, 2025, special election may be held jointly with the various political subdivisions that share territory with the City and that are holding elections on that day. The City Clerk may enter and sign joint election agreements with other political subdivisions for this purpose.

PART 8. Council finds that the need to immediately begin required preparations for the election constitutes an emergency. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED

_____, 2025

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Kirk Watson
Mayor

APPROVED: _____

Deborah Thomas
City Attorney

ATTEST: _____

Erika Brady
City Clerk