



Austin City Council Budget Meeting

Thursday, July 30, 2026

The City Council will convene at 10:00 AM on
Thursday, July 30, 2026 at Austin City Hall
301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX and some
members may be participating via videoconference



Mayor Kirk Watson
Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela, District 4
Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1
Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, District 2
Council Member José Velásquez, District 3
Council Member Ryan Alter, District 5
Council Member Krista Laine, District 6
Council Member Mike Siegel, District 7
Council Member Paige Ellis, District 8
Council Member Zohaib "Zo" Qadri, District 9
Council Member Marc Duchon, District 10

This agenda includes items that are not related to budget.

Public comment will be allowed in-person or remotely by telephone. Speakers may only register to speak on an item once either in-person or remotely. For full instructions on participation in person or by telephone, please visit the Council Meeting Information Center: <https://www.austintexas.gov/council/meetings>

The City Council may go into a closed session as permitted by the Texas Open Meetings Act, (Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code) regarding any item on this agenda.

10:00 AM – City Council Convenes

Budget and Organizational Excellence

1. Presentation and discussion of the City Manager’s Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Budget.
2. Approve a resolution adopting a maximum proposed property (ad valorem) tax rate that will include an increase for the operations and maintenance of the City for Fiscal Year 2026-2027; and setting a public hearing to receive and consider public comment on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 property (ad valorem) tax rate (Suggested date, time, and location: August 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., Austin City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas). Funding: This item has no fiscal impact as it is not the final action to set the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 tax rate.

City Clerk

3. Approve the following items for inclusion in a November 3, 2026, special charter amendment election:
 - A) clarifying that the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is independent of Council control, allowing the ICRC to review City districts after changes to the City’s boundary lines, providing an effective date for the redistricting plan adopted by the ICRC, increasing the number of individuals in the pool of potential appointees to the ICRC, clarifying the method and timing of filling vacancies on the ICRC, and allowing City staff to communicate with the ICRC outside of a meeting;
 - B) deleting language providing that the Council shall meet at least once each week;
 - C) deleting language requiring the Council to determine its rules and order of business by ordinance;
 - D) clarifying the meaning of the term “election” and to provide that the campaign contribution and expenditure limits shall be modified each year by January 1st instead of with the adoption of the budget;
 - E) providing that initiative elections and petitioned charter amendment elections must be held on the next available November election date that occurs in an even-numbered year and that allows sufficient time to comply with other requirements of law;

- F) providing that a petition for an election to recall a Council Member other than the Mayor must contain valid signatures of at least 15% of the qualified voters of the respective Council district, instead of the current 10%, and clarifying that the affidavit on the recall petition must be signed by a petition circulator;
- G) providing that the Council appoints and removes the City Attorney;
- H) making the time frame for the automatic resignation provision for municipal court judges the same as that provided in the Texas Constitution for other officials;
- I) ensure that City financial practices are consistent with generally accepted accounting principles, reflect current practices for appropriations for department-level work programs;
- J) removing appointees and employees of the office of the City Auditor from the classified civil service;
- K) making non-substantive corrections of typographical errors, punctuation, and sentence structure, and to change or remove language that is moot or unenforceable because it has been superseded by state law or by a final court order;
- L) removing the restriction that officeholders must wait until after leaving office to solicit and accept political contributions to pay unpaid campaign expenses or to reimburse campaign expenditures made from personal funds and to impose contribution limits on such officeholders;
- M) requiring an independent affordability and efficiency initiative before any tax rate increase and requiring the independent contractor to identify annual and multi-year savings;
- N) any other charter amendments proposed by the City Council or the public.

Financial Services- Contracts

- 4. Authorize a contract for a comprehensive efficiency study of City departments for Austin City Auditor's Office with Public Works LLC, for an initial term of three years with up to two 1-year extension options in an amount not to exceed \$5,230,000. Funding: \$200,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Operating Budget of the Office of the City Auditor. Funding for the contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

3:00 PM - Public Hearings and Possible Actions

- 5. Conduct a public hearing and take possible action on the proposed City of Austin Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 beginning on October 1, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2027.

Adjourn

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