



VOTERS ★ GUIDE

by the League of Women Voters Austin Area & Williamson County

VOTING IN THE 2025 GENERAL ELECTION

WHEN

Travis County:

Early Voting:

Monday (10/20)–Saturday (10/25): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Sunday (10/26): 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Monday (10/27)–Wednesday (10/29): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Thursday (10/30)–Friday (10/31): 7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

Election Day: Tuesday (11/4): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Williamson County:

Early Voting:

Monday (10/20)–Saturday (10/25): 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Sunday (10/26): 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Monday (10/27)–Friday (10/31): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Election Day: Tuesday (11/4): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

WHERE

Travis County:

See a list of polling locations here: <https://elections.traviscountytx.gov/current-election-information/current-election/>

Williamson County:

See a list of polling locations here:

<https://www.wilcotx.gov/elections>

STEPS FOR VOTING

1. Verify you are registered to vote:

<https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

Questions? See our voter registration guide:

<https://lwvaustin.org/voter-registration>

2. Find your sample ballot to see what races and ballot measures will be on it:

Travis County: <https://votetravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/>

Williamson County: <https://apps.wilco.org/elections/default.aspx>

3. Research the candidates and ballot measure topics by using this *Voters Guide*, online at **VOTE411.org**, or using any other method you want.

Learn what each elected position does at:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL06wPJXuRHPuu3fYs1V4YDRDz1qwFTLAm&si=UCXycggCMOeDw2YR>

4. Print your sample ballot, this *Voters Guide*, or your **VOTE411.org** printout, and mark your selections. If you don't have a printer, you can write down your selections on a piece of paper.

5. Take your photo ID and your printout with your selections to a polling location during Early Voting or on Election Day.

What IDs are allowed:

<https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/need-id.html>

6. Walk up to the reception desk at the polling location and show your ID. They will ask you to confirm you still live at your registered address, then you'll sign your name to get an empty ballot.

7. Take your empty ballot, walk over to an open voting machine, slide your ballot into the machine, and use the touchscreen to make your selections (you can use your printout with your selections as a reference).

NOTE: Using electronic devices (e.g., mobile phones) at polling locations is prohibited (this is why you should bring a paper with your selections).

8. When you're done, print your completed ballot, review your printed selections, walk over to the ballot box, and slide your completed ballot into the ballot box.

Congratulations! You voted! Take an "I Voted" sticker and wear it proudly!

More detailed instructions are available online at:

<https://lwvaustin.org/vote-in-person>

Williamson County is in the process of implementing a new voting system. The county will post updates about this new system on their website:

<https://www.wilcotx.gov/192/Voting-System>

Want to vote by mail? See instructions at:

<https://lwvaustin.org/vote-by-mail>

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THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 1

“The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the permanent technical institution infrastructure fund and the available workforce education fund to support the capital needs of educational programs offered by the Texas State Technical College System.”

Explanation

The Texas State Technical College (TSTC) System was established in 1965 to provide technical vocational education. It currently has 11 colleges across the state and offers two-year degrees and certificates in technical and vocational areas. 11,436 students attended Texas State Technical Colleges in 2023-2024.

If this proposed amendment were passed, it would use \$52 million to create a permanent fund to support the TSTC. Earnings from this fund will be used for capital projects such as buying land, buildings and equipment to support the educational programs offered by these colleges.

Arguments For

- Provides a reliable source of funding for Texas State Technical Colleges.
- This fund would support a skilled workforce which is needed by Texas businesses and industry.
- A healthy technical college system helps Texans who desire a career in these fields.

Arguments Against

- This money could be used to fund community colleges across Texas which already provide two-year degrees and certificates and serve as many as 700,000 students per year.
- Businesses should pay for their own job training and certifications.
- Money for the permanent fund should be returned to the taxpayers.

PROPOSITION 2

“The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of a tax on the realized or unrealized capital gains of an individual, family, estate, or trust.”

Explanation

When a capital asset (an investment such as stocks, bonds, and real estate) increases in value, the increase is considered a capital gain. Realized capital gains are the profits made when the investment is sold. Unrealized capital gains are the potential profit that could be made if that investment was sold at its then current market value, even though it is not sold.

Texas does not currently tax either realized capital gains or unrealized capital gains, and the recent Legislature did not propose any such tax.

Arguments For

- The proposed amendment would help maintain Texas' reputation as a business friendly and tax friendly state.

- Taxing capital gains reduces incentives for savings and investments, and lowers economic growth.
- Putting this ban on capital gains taxes in the constitution would provide certainty for financial institutions interested in expanding in Texas.

Arguments Against

- In the future, the Legislature would not be able to tax capital gains even if there were a budget deficit and these revenues were needed.
- This proposition is unnecessary because a capital gains tax is not being considered by the legislature.
- Not taxing capital gains shifts the tax burden from people with wealth or assets to those without wealth who are more impacted by sales taxes.

SAVE TIME—USE OUR INTERACTIVE VOTERS GUIDE

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting **VOTE411.org**, a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online *Voters Guide*, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.



THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 3

“The constitutional amendment requiring the denial of bail under certain circumstances to persons accused of certain offenses punishable as a felony.”

Explanation

Currently, denying bail typically requires a full trial, which makes it very rare. Therefore, if a defendant has the money to post bond, they must be released even if there is evidence the person may commit future violent crimes.

This proposed amendment would expand the options available to officials setting bail, including the option to deny bail to ensure the safety of the community. This would apply to individuals accused of murder and similar violent offenses.

Arguments For

- Prevents high risk individuals from committing additional crimes while out on bail.

- By limiting the denial of bail to only the most serious offenses, it is assured that only those who pose the greatest risk are denied bail.
- There would be safeguards to protect defendants' rights, such as the right to be represented by counsel at bail denial hearings, the right to appeal, and provisions to protect a right to a speedy trial.

Arguments Against

- Judges currently have the discretion to set high bail amounts for individuals considered high risk, which can prevent their release.
- Denying bail to certain defendants could result in overcrowding of jails, requiring more taxpayer funding for additional jail staff.
- Being denied bail increases the costs for defendants and undermines the presumption of innocence.

PROPOSITION 4

“The constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxes to the Texas water fund and to provide for the allocation and use of that revenue.”

Explanation

The Texas Water Fund is a special fund created in 2023 and administered by the Texas Water Development Board to assist in financing water projects in Texas. This proposition would provide that in each fiscal year, the first \$1 billion of sales tax revenue in excess of \$46.5 billion would be allocated to the Texas Water Fund. This funding would continue through 2047, and would be used to address future water needs in Texas. The amount could be adjusted by the legislature with a two-thirds vote.

Arguments For

- The funds would be used to upgrade aging water infrastructure as well as for new water supply projects. This would ad-

dress the shortfall between water demand and available water supply, and improve the safety of the water supply.

- Increasing Texas' water supply is critical to continued economic growth and to meet the needs of farmers in Texas.
- Provides reliable funding for long-term water supply and infrastructure projects.

Arguments Against

- New water supply projects, such as seawater desalination and the reuse of produced water, could pose environmental risks if adequate safeguards are not put in place.
- This proposed amendment transfers oversight of the monies from the legislature to the governor-appointed Texas Water Development Board.
- Water conservation is a critical component of the strategy to meet future water needs in Texas, and is not addressed by this plan.

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THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 5

“The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation tangible personal property consisting of animal feed held by the owner of the property for sale at retail.”

Explanation

Under current law, animal feed is typically exempt from taxation at each location or transaction during its life cycle, from the field where it's harvested to the purchase of the feed by a farmer or rancher, *except* for when the feed is sitting in a store as inventory.

This proposed amendment seeks to address this inconsistency by amending the Texas Constitution to authorize the Texas State Legislature to exempt animal feed held by an owner for retail sale from personal property taxes.

Arguments For

- Removing this tax would help lower prices for farmers and ranchers, who are already dealing with rising operational expenses.

- Animal feed is part of our food chain, of which other parts are exempt from property taxes.
- Due to the seasonal needs of the agricultural business, warehouses are fully stocked when property taxes are calculated. This results in higher taxes on sellers that are passed onto the consumers.

Arguments Against

- Inventory of other businesses is taxed as personal property since they are used to produce income. This proposition would treat those businesses unfairly.
- Exemptions for one group of taxpayers can unfairly shift the tax burden to other taxpayers.
- Inventory is constantly changing so the tax break cannot be easily measured.

PROPOSITION 6

“The constitutional amendment prohibiting the legislature from enacting a law imposing an occupation tax on certain entities that enter into transactions conveying securities or imposing a tax on certain securities transactions.”

Explanation

Proposition 6 would amend the Texas Constitution by not allowing the state to tax securities transactions. Securities transactions are the buying and selling of financial assets such as stocks and bonds. Currently, no state levies taxes on securities transactions.

Arguments For

- Many people rely on investments like 401(k)s and IRAs to save for retirement. A tax on securities transactions could reduce their profits and make it harder to save money.

- Adding a tax on buying and selling investments could increase costs, discourage trading, and reduce the value of people's investments, which might hurt the Texas economy.
- Making this ban part of the Constitution would give financial companies more certainty, help Texas attract more investment businesses, and create jobs.

Arguments Against

- If this ban is added to the Constitution, the state would lose a tool it might need to deal with budget problems in the future.
- Not being able to tax financial transactions might mean the state has to rely more on sales taxes to raise money later on, which puts more of a tax burden on lower-income people.
- This amendment is not needed, since no one in the state government is actually trying to create this kind of tax right now.

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THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 7

“The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a condition or disease that is presumed under federal law to have been service-connected.”

Explanation

This proposition would allow the Legislature to provide a property tax exemption for spouses of veterans who died from a condition or disease related to their service. This proposed amendment fixes a gap with respect to veterans who, while they do not qualify as fully disabled, died due to a condition or disease related to their service. These exemptions could be transferred to a subsequent property for an equal amount, but would apply only to a surviving spouse who had not remarried since the veteran's death.

Arguments For

- Expanding the current property tax exemption for this group ensures fair treatment for these veterans and their families.
- While this would apply to a small population of qualifying surviving spouses and have minimal financial impact to the state, the exemption would benefit military communities.

Arguments Against

- Expanding property tax exemptions could reduce tax revenues for school districts and local taxing authorities, especially near communities with large populations of veteran families who could potentially qualify for the exemption.
- Exemptions for some property owners can shift the tax burden to other homeowners, making it harder for new buyers to afford homes.

PROPOSITION 8

“The constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing death taxes applicable to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift.”

Explanation

If passed, this amendment would prohibit the state of Texas from imposing a tax on the estate of a deceased person, commonly referred to as a “death tax”. The state would still be able to impose or change real estate title and motor vehicle transfer taxes, or normal property taxes.

Arguments For

- Avoids double taxation since inherited assets have often been taxed previously during the deceased person's lifetime.

- Would limit the impact on family-owned businesses, where heirs may struggle to pay the tax burden without liquidating the business.
- Inheritance taxes are complex. They cost time and money for the government to administer and for individuals to comply.

Arguments Against

- Inheritance taxes can generate revenue for the government to fund public services and reduce budget deficits.
- May reduce excessive wealth accumulation, potentially contributing to a more balanced distribution of wealth.
- Encourages individuals to save and invest more during their lifetime by not relying on expected inheritance.

INFORMATION ON WHERE TO VOTE

Voters can look up information on where to vote at their county's election website:

<https://votetravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/>

www.wilcotx.gov/elections

These websites list the most up-to-date information on the locations of polling places and their hours of operation.

For Travis County, there is also a live map with the current wait times for each polling location.

Remember, you can vote at ANY polling location in your county.

JOIN THE LEAGUE— BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Be part of a respected national, state, and local grassroots organization where individuals like you are actively engaged in creating positive change on all levels. Add your voice to more than 100,000 members and supporters across the country in Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. Membership is open to everyone at least 16 years of age.

The Austin Area needs you to be part of the solution, to help ensure our communities are strong, safe and vibrant places to live. Joining is easy online at LWVAustin.org/join-us.

THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 9

“The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a portion of the market value of tangible personal property a person owns that is held or used for the production of income.”

Explanation

Local taxing authorities, such as cities, counties, hospital districts, school districts and local college districts, tax personal property held or used for the production of income. This is a source of income used by these entities to pay for the services they provide to residents.

Business personal property that is held or used for the production of income includes inventory, computers, office furniture, manufacturing equipment, vehicles, machinery, and supplies. This does not include real estate. This tax is applied whether such personal property is owned or leased.

Currently \$2,500 of business personal property is exempt from ad valorem taxation by local taxing entities. This proposed amendment would increase that exemption to \$125,000 and would simplify the reporting requirements.

Arguments For

- Raising the exemption to \$125,000 would ease the tax burden on small businesses, helping them keep more of their money to invest and grow.
- This would simplify tax reporting for small businesses with less than \$125,000 of personal property.
- The Legislature could use part of the state’s general revenue to make up for any funding loss to school districts, ensuring they still receive adequate support.

Arguments Against

- The Legislature did not provide additional monies to cities, counties, hospital districts, and college districts. To make up for the loss of revenue, these other local taxing entities may have to raise taxes or cut services.
- The Legislature may not be able to make up for the loss of funds to school districts should the economy slow and cause a budget deficit.
- This proposed amendment favors businesses at the expense of local residential taxpayers and taxing authorities.

PROPOSITION 10

“The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of the appraised value of an improvement to a residence homestead that is completely destroyed by a fire.”

Explanation

If passed, this proposition would allow the legislature to pass a law that would exempt a home that has been destroyed by fire from property taxes for a period of time (to be determined by the legislature).

Arguments For

- There is currently no process for tax assessors to recalculate a homeowner’s tax bill if property is destroyed by a fire after the

date of appraisal. The legislation allowed under this proposition would set forth such a process.

- This proposition would provide relief to homeowners whose property was appraised before a fire destroyed their home and substantially reduced its value.

Arguments Against

- In order to obtain this exemption, the property must be completely destroyed. It does not grant relief to homeowners whose property was significantly damaged.
- The benefits of this tax break do not flow to owners of property destroyed by disasters other than fires, unless it is in a governor-declared disaster area.

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THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 11

“The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district of the market value of the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled.”

Explanation

This proposed amendment would authorize the state legislature to increase the property tax homestead exemption for persons who are age 65 or older or who have disabilities from the current \$10,000 to \$60,000. This amount is in addition to the regular homestead exemption.

In addition, the legislature plans to appropriate funds to reimburse impacted school districts. The additional tax exemption would take effect for the tax year that began January 1, 2025.

Arguments For

- This proposed increase in property tax exemption for the elderly and disabled helps to protect individuals on a fixed income to continue to own a home.

- The positive impact of this proposition will be widespread, expecting to reduce taxes for more than 2 million homeowners.
- The amendment allows the legislature to appropriate funds to reimburse public school districts so they do not experience a loss in funding.

Arguments Against

- Additional tax cuts reduce the money available for public services such as schools, healthcare, and infrastructure.
- An economic downturn could significantly change the state's financial position. The state should not count on its current budget surplus to make permanent spending commitments.
- Texas should consider limits to property tax payments based on a household's ability to pay. Not all senior adults or persons with disabilities are low income.

PROPOSITION 12

“The constitutional amendment regarding the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, the membership of the tribunal to review the commission's recommendations, and the authority of the commission, the tribunal, and the Texas Supreme Court to more effectively sanction judges and justices for judicial misconduct.”

Explanation

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC) is a Texas state agency that investigates judicial misconduct and disability.

This proposed amendment addresses who selects the members in the following ways:

- The number of appointees by the governor Increases from five to seven;
- The number of appointees by the Texas Bar decreases from two to zero; and
- The number of appointees by the Supreme Court will remain at six.
- All the above will be subject to the advice and consent of the Texas Senate.
- The minimum age of appointees will increase from 30 to 35.
- All seven judges who make up the Review Tribunal (responsible for reviewing the actions of the SCJC), will be appointed by the Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice. Currently the Review Tribunal judges are selected by various judges of the Texas Courts of Appeals.

This proposition would also make changes necessary to implement various reforms of Texas courts and to increase the base pay of district and other judges.

Arguments For

- By allowing the governor two more members rather than allowing the Texas Bar to appoint members, the public may have more influence in considering complaints against judges since the governor is elected.
- The judicial reforms passed related to this amendment could eliminate the backlog of complaints against judges by establishing timelines for investigation and decisions as well as increasing the transparency, accountability and efficiency of the judicial branch.
- Judges' base salaries could be adjusted under the new legislation without tying legislators' pensions to judicial salaries.

Arguments Against

- Giving the Governor power to appoint a majority of the members (7 of 13) of the SCJC concentrates too much power in the executive branch. While judges are independently elected by the people, this constitutional amendment could allow the Governor to influence how judges are disciplined if they disagree with him.
- The strengthened accountability measures that would be allowed may be an overreach by the legislative branch over the judicial branch.
- If passed, the costs to taxpayers of judicial salaries and new staff hired to support the work of the SCJC would increase.

THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 13

“The constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the exemption of residence homesteads from ad valorem taxation by a school district from \$100,000 to \$140,000.”

Explanation

A homestead exemption is the amount of the appraised value of a primary residence that is not subject to taxes by a local school district. Property taxes are typically calculated using the appraised value minus the exemption amount, thereby lowering a homeowner's overall taxes.

If passed, this amendment would increase the current homestead tax exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000. The law related to this proposed amendment requires that the state reimburse school districts for revenues lost due to this higher exemption amount.

Arguments For

- Reducing property taxes may help low-income families to stay in their homes.

- The 2025 legislature has enacted \$8.5 billion in funding for school districts to help reduce reliance on property taxes for school financing.
- Without an increase in the homestead exemption, higher property values could increase a homeowners' tax bill even if tax rates do not change.

Arguments Against

- Shifting away from property taxes to fund public schools could result in higher sales taxes, higher taxes on businesses, or underfunding of public schools.
- Property tax reductions give no relief to renters, many of whom are struggling with high rents.
- Even with the \$8.5 billion in funding allocated to public schools by the legislature, Texas' public schools are underfunded. This situation could get worse should the Texas economy slow.

PROPOSITION 14

“The constitutional amendment providing for the establishment of the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, establishing the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund to provide money for research on and prevention and treatment of dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related disorders in this state, and transferring to that fund \$3 billion from state general revenue.”

Explanation

This amendment proposes establishing a Dementia Prevention Research Institute (DPRIT). The goal of DPRIT is to accelerate research that leads to breakthroughs in the prevention and treatment of dementia and related disorders.

DPRIT would be created with an initial \$3 billion investment that is anticipated to last at least 10 years. Up to \$300 million could be spent each year on research grants, facilities and operations. The fund will consist of money from the Legislature, investment income, grants, and gifts. Safeguards would be in place to ensure the grant money is awarded based on merit and is used properly.

Arguments For

- The need for more proven dementia prevention strategies and treatments is urgent, due to the state's aging population. More than 400,000 Texans suffer from dementia, expected to climb to 500,000+ by 2030. Dementia costs Texas families about \$3.9 billion a year and is not as well researched as other chronic diseases.
- DPRIT will accelerate innovation, expedite research, and attract top talent to the state.
- Texas could become a national leader in dementia research, with commercial potential that would benefit society.

Arguments Against

- Agency leaders will be appointed by politicians which could lead to distribution of money based on favoritism rather than scientific expertise.
- Rather than creating a new government agency/bureaucracy, the money should be returned to the citizens of Texas.
- Medical research should be left to the private sector and the free market.



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THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

PROPOSITION 15

“The constitutional amendment affirming that parents are the primary decision makers for their children.”

Explanation

Parents have constitutional rights to make decisions for their children based on federal case laws. Because laws can change over time, including the rights of parents, the Texas Constitution would permanently establish the right of parents to raise and educate their children.

Arguments For

- This proposition would clearly affirm the primary authority of parents over their children and would limit the power of the government to make decisions for children.

- This proposition could establish that parents have the right to decide what values and ideas are taught to children in public schools.
- Children are best raised and educated by parents who know each child’s needs.

Arguments Against

- If approved, this amendment could disrupt public school education due to parents trying to control curriculum and rules for all children based on their own beliefs and ideas.
- The rights of parents are already established based on years of court decisions and numerous laws.
- Elevating the rights of parents to the constitutional level could prevent necessary intervention to protect children from abuse and neglect.

PROPOSITION 16

“The constitutional amendment clarifying that a voter must be a United States citizen.”

Explanation

The Texas Constitution does not explicitly state that non-citizens cannot vote in state or local elections. However, to vote in state and local elections you must be registered to vote and to register you must be a citizen.

Arguments For

- Those in favor of this proposition are concerned that some states allow non-citizens to vote in local elections. This

amendment would prevent Texas counties and cities from allowing non-citizens to vote in local elections.

- Adding this amendment to the constitution would make it difficult to change in the future.

Arguments Against

- This amendment is unnecessary because non-citizen voting is extremely rare and already illegal in Texas.
- Citizenship is already required for voter registration and is verified by state and local procedures.

PROPOSITION 17

“The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the amount of the market value of real property located in a county that borders the United Mexican States that arises from the installation or construction on the property of border security infrastructure and related improvements.”

Explanation

Currently, Texas makes a one-time payment to property owners that voluntarily sign an easement contract to host the border wall. There is no tax exemption available to property owners for the assessed value of the property for border security infrastructure. The resolution would authorize the Legislature to define “border security infrastructure” and define additional eligibility requirements for the exemption. The resolution will only apply in counties along the Texas-Mexico border.

Arguments For

- This proposition would encourage private property owners to support border security efforts.
- The tax exemption would cover any potential increase in property value from border infrastructure constructed for the property owner.
- The proposed amendment does not reduce the appraised value of the existing property.

Arguments Against

- Exempting property value from the tax rolls would narrow the tax base and could shift the tax burden onto other property owners or reduce revenues for local public services.
- Border security infrastructure and exemption qualifications are not defined and therefore are subject to legislation interpretation.
- Militarization of the border may be encouraged by granting property tax relief for border wall infrastructure.

CITY OF AUSTIN

TAX RATE ELECTION

PROPOSITION Q

Background

On August 13, 2025 Austin City Council adopted a \$6.3 billion budget for the 2026 fiscal year that relies on a property tax rate at 57.4 cents per \$100 of taxable value, which is 5 cents above what the state law allows without voter approval. A Tax Rate Election asks voters to decide whether the city can adopt a property tax rate higher than the state's voter-approval rate.

- If approved: The higher rate applies this year and becomes the base for future years.
- If rejected: The rate defaults to the lower voter-approval rate, requiring the city to reduce spending.

This vote affects only the City of Austin portion of your property tax bill (separate from county, school district, hospital, community college, or special districts).

For 2025–26, City Council has proposed a rate of \$0.574017 per \$100 of assessed value—a \$0.05 increase from last year's rate of \$0.4776.

- Average Austin homeowners would pay about \$300 more per year in city property taxes.
- The increase would generate about \$110 million in additional revenue.
- Under state law, any increase above 3.5% requires voter approval.

Ballot Language

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 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. Last year, the ad valorem tax rate in the City of Austin was \$0.4776 per \$100 valuation.

Explanation

If passed, Prop Q would provide \$110 million in new revenue. A local political action committee is supporting the passage through the “Love Austin” campaign. A lawsuit has been filed claiming that the ballot language as described in the ordinance doesn't make it clear that the property tax increase would be recurring, and that the ballot's description of what taxpayers would get out of the increase is not clear enough.

The City plans to use the additional revenue to:

- Fund housing and homelessness initiatives
- Strengthen parks, libraries, and social services

- Improve public health programs and emergency response
- Support climate and environmental projects
- Help close a projected \$33 million budget shortfall

City Council intends Prop Q Funds to be used as follows:
Housing & Homelessness (Estimate \$45M):

- Expand bridge shelters and shelter bed capacity
- Continue operating the Marshaling Yard emergency shelter
- Add rapid rehousing units and supportive housing services
- Increase case management capacity
- Restore funding to the Austin Housing Trust Fund

Public Health & Social Services (Estimate \$8.021 million):

- Restore immunization programs impacted by federal cuts
- Support violence intervention, the Sobering Center, and Trauma Recovery Center
- Fund Family Stabilization Grants, parent support specialists, and the Family Justice Center
- Expand library materials and animal adoption services
- Support food pantries at Title I schools

Emergency Response & Public Safety (Estimate \$13.579 million):

- Add new EMS life support units, commanders, and 911 call staff
- Expand mental health response units and the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team
- Fund wildfire mitigation through Austin Fire Department
- Support police oversight and the city's flood insurance program

Parks, Environment & Climate (Estimate \$8.376 million):

- Hire a Sustainability Program Manager and Energy Manager
- Restore and manage natural lands and high-risk park areas
- Add 60 parks and recreation staff
- Fund a climate revolving fund and support the Austin Civilian Conservation Corps

Workforce & City Employees (Estimate \$16.860 million):

- Wage adjustments for civilian employees earning under \$53,000
- Bad weather pay for frontline staff
- Overtime funding for sworn personnel during emergencies

DONATE!

Support the *Voters Guide* production with a contribution to the League of Women Voters Austin Area, a non-partisan nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Mail to: 3908 Avenue B, Austin, TX 78751, or make a secure donation online at [LWVAustin.org](https://www.LWVAustin.org).

CITY OF BEE CAVE

SPECIAL ELECTION

PROPOSITION A

Ballot Language

Shall the City be allowed to construct a new public library located generally on the 21.067 acres, identified by Travis Central Appraisal District as property ID number 873771, known locally as the Skaggs Property, for the purpose of providing library services to the public? See details at www.beecavetexas.gov

PROPOSITION B

Ballot Language

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE. The issuance of \$19,980,000 general obligation bonds for a new City library, related site development and related parking infrastructure, and the imposition of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds.

CITY OF JARRELL

ALDERMAN

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Growth: How do you plan to meet the challenges of development and demographic change?

Water and Energy: What specific steps would you take to guarantee access to clean water and reliable energy?

Mandates: How do you balance local control with state and federal mandates?

Other Issue: What other critical issue do you think is important to your community, and how do you plan to address it?

PLACE 3

Tanya Clawson

Unopposed

PLACE 4

Drew Sumner

Unopposed

PLACE 5



Tammy Fitzner

Qualifications: I have lived in Jarrell and worked for Jarrell ISD the past 15 years while raising a family. I care deeply about our town's future and will serve with integrity, transparency, and dedication.

Growth: My goal is to ensure development happens responsibly, so we protect our small-town character while preparing for the future. I will support smart infrastructure planning for our roads and utilities, advocate for affordable housing that fits our community and prioritize safety. By listening to residents and working with local businesses, together we can guide growth that strengthens our community.

Water and Energy: Access to clean water and reliable energy is essential. I support investing in infrastructure to ensure long-term supply and conservation. Planning ahead is key. We know the future growth projections for our community, so we have the ability to plan forward. We must balance current needs with future

demand so our community is never left vulnerable and can continue to thrive.

Mandates: Local control matters - the City must also comply with state/federal requirements. I will advocate strongly for community needs and ensure we meet legal obligations. We must communicate with state/federal partners, protect local priorities, and seek flexibility so mandates work for us, not against us, not against us. We have significant power to improve the lives of our citizens.

Other Issue: One critical issue is maintaining public safety as our population grows. Growth increases demand on emergency services, roads, and infrastructure. I will work to ensure our police, fire, and medical services have the resources they need to keep our community safe. A safe town is a strong town. Protecting the lives, well-being, and property of our citizens must remain a top priority.



Daniel Islas

Qualifications: I am a 5th degree Master in Taekwondo recognized by WTF, a resident of Jarrell since 2007, a local small business owner since 2015 and currently serving as Alderman Place 5 for the City of Jarrell.

Growth: I am currently seeking the expert advice from realtors, developers, city staff and citizens to make the best educated decision that benefits the city as a whole and just not individually.

Water and Energy: I am currently helping the city make tactical decisions in acquiring multiple water sources to supplement the future growth. Energy is currently still small and private, if any future electrical providers is looking to expand to Jarrell I am open to the opportunity.

Mandates: By adhering to moral values that the city follows and listening to the citizens voicing their concerns on which direction or action we should take.

Other Issue: Full transparency, whether it hurts or not and trying to keep citizens informed to the length of my power. I also have my personal cell phone made available for citizens to call with questions or concerns.

CITY OF LAGO VISTA

MAYOR

Shane R. Saum Unopposed

CITY COUNCIL

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Growth: How do you plan to meet the challenges of development and demographic change?

Water and Energy: What specific steps would you take to guarantee access to clean water and reliable energy?

Mandates: How do you balance local control with state and federal mandates?

Other Issue: What other critical issue do you think is important to your community, and how do you plan to address it?

PLACE 1

Jess Hall Jr.

Qualifications: I've spent over 35 years as a nonprofit CEO and senior manager leading large organizations, improving lives, and building stronger communities. Have a master's degree in city management and planning.

Growth: New development must be carefully and efficiently managed - protecting Lago Vista's natural beauty, small-town charm, and quality of life. Increase the fees for cutting down trees to discourage total clearing of our hills. Invest in parks and recreation - especially for the growing number of young families. Add dog parks, basketball and volleyball courts, shade for Sunset Park, and more.

Water and Energy: Water, wastewater, and other city infrastructure increases require years of planning and implementation. With the rapid growth in Lago Vista population, I will give priority now to water and wastewater plant expansion and managing good water pressure. Work with Pedernales Electric Cooperative to ensure their plans and capability match expected needs.

Mandates: Understand state and federal mandates and how best to meet those efficiently and effectively for residents' needs. Fully exercise local control. Advocate at the state level against new/revised mandates that negatively impact our city.

Other Issue: Lago Vista needs to improve public safety in several areas, including more equipment for police officers (ballistic helmets and shields, second police vehicle), and another school resource officer. Implement fire safety planning and measures. Add sidewalks and streetlights in areas with high amounts of biking and walking. Add and replace missing speed limit signs.

Campaign Website: Vote4JessHall.com



David vonOhlerking

Qualifications: I come from a family of entrepreneurs, spending the last year at every City Council meeting, having contributed majorly to the recent reform in Lago Vista's managing staff and practices.

Growth: Local business first. Tax revenue from retail sales, not

only lowers the burden on residents, but also promotes growth and amenities for all of us. More clear guidelines, workflows, and requirements will hold not only builders and businesses accountable, but city staff as well. Currently, there is not nearly enough clarity and transparency for anything other than chaotic growth. That must change.

Water and Energy: I have a background in sustainable energy and practical application. There are so many ways to improve the systems that we have without reinventing the wheel or falling prone to greenwashing or unnecessary spending.

Mandates: State laws are clear, and most of us live in Texas because it is Texas. The people should govern the government, not the other way around. Some people like to call me something close to a libertarian, but realistically, I just don't think unnecessary power should be given to a group that does not have proven qualifications, regardless of if that group is private or public.

Other Issue: Workflows, and accountability. It's easy for any of us to say, but I am the one candidate that has been at every meeting for the last year. We can't expect city staff to do the right thing if they don't even know what the right thing is. We must have qualified leaders and management, for residence and staff, and no more sweetheart deals, rubberstamps, or differential treatment.

Campaign Website: vonOhlerking.com

PLACE 3



Rob Durbin

Qualifications: I am seeking my third term as a councilman. Before becoming a councilman, I was on the Building Committee, Board of Adjustment, Airport Advisory Board and I was the Municipal Judge for 4 years.

Growth: Located on a compact peninsula, Lago requires thoughtful development. Growth should focus on commercial and clean high-tech industries, with new housing designed to complement infrastructure needs and existing neighborhoods. High-density housing is best placed along major roads.

Water and Energy: We have started upgrading our water system to meet future requirements. While the process involves challenges and expenses, it is being undertaken to address long-standing issues. Similar upgrades are underway for our wastewater system, including improvements related to effluent disposal. To address effluent concerns, we have approved enhancements at our largest disposal site, the golf course.

Mandates: Taxpayers are free so mandates should be limited as much as possible. If they are necessary, Local is closer to the taxpayers and more responsive to the taxpayers. I believe any control necessary should start local for many reasons. One is so that the control isn't overbroad and mandating those who don't need it.

Other Issue: Mandates should be minimized to preserve taxpayers' freedom. When needed, local control is preferable as it's more responsive and less likely to impose unnecessary rules on those who don't require them.

Amanda Wilson-Chavarria No response received

PLACE 5

Karen Van Ness Unopposed

CITY OF LEANDER

COUNCILMEMBER, SPECIAL ELECTION

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Growth: How do you plan to meet the challenges of development and demographic change?

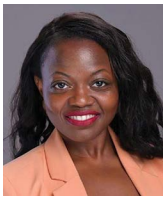
Water and Energy: What specific steps would you take to guarantee access to clean water and reliable energy?

Mandates: How do you balance local control with state and federal mandates?

Other Issue: What other critical issue do you think is important to your community, and how do you plan to address it?

.....

PLACE 3



Natomi Blair

Qualifications: As a native Texan, raised in a military family, wife and mother of three, I value integrity, service, and resilience. I bring 15+ years of business acumen, civic leadership and a heart to serve.

Growth: Leander's rapid growth demands proactive, collaborative leadership. I'm committed to strengthening our regional partnerships to ensure infrastructure keeps pace with our expanding population. We must continue working closely with transit providers and building stronger cross-regional relationships with CTRMA Williamson County to align Leander's priorities and advocating for a shared investment.

Water and Energy: Access to clean water and reliable energy is fundamental to our city's health, safety, and long-term growth. Looking ahead, I will advocate for smart infrastructure expansion, regional collaboration with PEC, LCRA, and neighboring cities to plan for future demand and emergency preparedness. Resiliency planning and investment in backup systems. And an active promotion of water conservation.

Mandates: Leander City Council must reflect the priorities of its people. Recent Texas legislation, including new property tax caps and expanded homestead exemptions, underscores the need for cities like ours to be both fiscally responsible and community driven. I'm committed to advocating for Leander's unique needs, ensuring that public safety, infrastructure, and essential services remain funded.

Other Issue: One of the most critical issues facing Leander is the need for intentional, transparent communication between city leadership and our citizens. As we grow, we must protect the spirit of why families chose Leander—the sense of belonging, safety, and shared values that define our community. That means listening actively, engaging consistently, and creating clear pathways for residents to be heard.

Campaign Website: www.BlairforLeander.com

Mohan Marchetty

Qualifications: With a Master's in Computer Applications, PMI dual credentials, and leadership awards, I pair executive disci-

pline with years of service on education boards, disaster relief, and youth mentorship.

Growth: Leander's growth is an opportunity—but it must be managed with balance. I'll champion planning that aligns roads, utilities, schools, and public safety with new development, while ensuring residents' voices guide decisions. Growth should enhance, not overwhelm, our quality of life—making Leander stronger, safer, and future-ready.

Water and Energy: Clean water and reliable energy are non-negotiable. I will champion long-term water planning, resilient infrastructure, and continue strong regional partnerships such as the BCRUA and with neighboring cities to protect supply. For energy, I'll work with PEC and advocate for reliable grid capacity and backup readiness, ensuring Leander families and businesses are never left behind.

Mandates: I believe in protecting Leander's right to self-govern, while responsibly working with state and federal mandates. I'll ensure local voices guide decisions, and where mandates exist, I'll stand up for flexibility, funding, and fairness. By collaborating regionally and advocating strongly, Leander stays in control of its future without being sidelined.

Other Issue: Another critical issue for Leander is maintaining our small-town community spirit as we grow. I will focus on strengthening civic engagement—supporting schools, libraries, and volunteer networks—so every resident feels connected and heard. Growth must bring us together, not apart, and I'll ensure our community values remain at the heart of every decision.

Campaign Website: www.mohanmarchetty.com



Anna Yelaun

Qualifications: Wife, mother, small business owner. Member of Leander Public Arts & Culture and the Historical Preservation committees and multiple Leander ISD committees. Advanced degrees in engineering and finance.

Growth: Leander's rapid growth brings many challenges. I'll keep working to ensure every voice is heard, while protecting what makes Leander unique: our history, arts and culture, and strong sense of community. With my expertise in finance and geophysics, I will assure our police and fire are fully funded, our water sources are protected, and that we're flood resilient and ready for natural disasters.

Water and Energy: Smart growth takes knowledge and experience. I bring both to the table. As a geophysicist, I understand the critical processes behind delivering water and energy to homes/businesses. I will prioritize funding for modern infrastructure, support updates to the city's Master Plan, and work with BCRUA and LCRA for reliable supply. Building natural resource awareness/conservation will top priorities.

Mandates: My primary duty will be to put Leander's residents first. The city must follow mandates on numerous fronts including water quality and public safety, but we can shape how they are applied and interpreted locally. I have built great relationships with our local, county, state, federal leaders and will continue working with them to protect taxpayers, ensure reliable services, and direct our future.

CITY OF LEANDER

PLACE 3

Anna Yelaun (continued)

Other Issue: Let's keep Leander Leander! As a commissioner on our city's Arts & Culture and Historical Preservation committees, I've seen first-hand how a knowledge of our history and

local culture brings neighbors together. I will promote public safety and civic engagement, so families not only sleep here but LIVE here and know this is their home, even as we surpass the 100,000 population mark and beyond.

Campaign Website: annayelaun4leander.com

CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

MAYOR

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Growth: How do you plan to meet the challenges of development and demographic change?

Water and Energy: What specific steps would you take to guarantee access to clean water and reliable energy?

Public Safety: What are your top three priorities related to public safety, and how do you plan to address them?

Other Issue: What other critical issue do you think is important to your community, and how do you plan to address it?

.....



Gregory L. Harrington

Qualifications: National Society of Black Engineers, Jr. Weekly tutoring @ St. Mary's Baptist Church Strategic Planning Committee - Pflugerville ISD Advisory Council -Harmony Science Academy Early College High School

Growth: My top 2 priorities are addressing the growth of Pflugerville. 1. Create effective and efficient public transportation 2. Bring Pflugerville into the Austin Community College District. 29% population is young adults (18-34) & 9% seniors (65+). Public transportation is needed for our young adults who don't have cars & seniors who don't drive. Joining ACC district reduces college debt for students.

Water and Energy: Fortunately, I believe that Pflugerville is doing a great job in this area for clean water and little to no blackouts in my 27 years of being a citizen of Pflugerville. I continually support existing maintenance plans for clean water and reliable energy. Related to the water in Pflugerville Lake for recreational purposes, it needs drastic improvement to remove the muck and trash.

Public Safety: 1. Be an active participant in choosing our next Pflugerville Police Chief 2. Return the EMS and paramedics duties to Pflugerville Fire Department instead of remaining private. 3. Build more lanes in areas where there's higher traffic due to growth and currently have single lane 2-way are streets. Also consider areas that can benefit from bike lanes and add bike lanes.

Other Issue: My top 2 priorities are 1. To bring effective and efficient public transportation to Pflugerville. I propose that we cre-

ate our own which will quickly pay for itself. 2. To bring Pflugerville into the Austin Community College District. This will stop our Pflugerville citizen from overpaying by \$201 per college credit. . . Equating to \$9648 overpayment for 2 year degree and \$19,296 for 4 year

Campaign Website: www.gregory-harrington.com

Andy Lindsey

No response received



Pat McCord

Qualifications: I have previously served on the Pflugerville City Council for 2 terms, 6 years. I run my own business and I am a semi-retired Tech Executive and Operations manager. I work well in teams and alone.

Growth: Growth in Pflugerville continues at a rapid pace. Balancing the needs of existing and new community members is challenging. The ability to serve recent college graduates and young starting families needs to be a top priority. Apartments are not the answer. Pflugerville growth need to focus on serving and attracting segments of new residents that are not being served now.

Water and Energy: The correct and responsible operation of water and wastewater systems are key to the delivery of clean water. Conservation plans and a focus on large water consumers is needed to ensure water is not wasted and will remain available. The City Of Pflugerville does not generate and sell electricity. As a city, Pflugerville can encourage conservation, alternate energy sources to reduce demand.

Public Safety: Public Safety is a very broad topic. Within Pflugerville, the effectiveness and visibility of law enforcement is necessary. Supporting the law enforcement efforts and guaranteeing adequate staffing, equipment, and training is paramount. Officer to public engagement need to be increased, to ensure residents are comfortable interacting with officers.

Other Issue: The high cost of living through taxes and service fees need to be a focus of the City. Alternative affordable housing is also a serious issue. Apartments and expensive houses leave limited options. Starter homes and intermediate level housing is needed. The fixed income elderly community is also under pressure from taxes and fees. Avoiding being taxed out of your home needs to be addressed.

Campaign Website: patmccordformayor.com

CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

MAYOR (continued)



Doug Weiss

Qualifications: With 15+ years serving on community boards, the Education Foundation, Pflugerville Rotary, and 9 years on City Council, I am dedicated to Pflugerville's future and ready to lead as Mayor.

Growth: Pflugerville has grown and will continue to grow. The best way to meet the challenges of development and demographic change is by investing in resilient infrastructure and ensuring new development funds its share of the impact. I'll keep roads, water, and drainage strong while supporting projects that add jobs, protect neighborhoods, and strengthen our diverse, connected community.

Water and Energy: I will continue the forward-thinking planning from my nine years on council with an eye to future technological and strategic opportunities. We've doubled water rights, pipeline capacity, and treatment capacity to secure Pflugerville's

future. The new plant's state-of-the-art membrane system delivers cleaner water with fewer chemicals, which won us the award for Best Tasting Water in Texas.

Public Safety: My top priority is hiring a new Police Chief with a team of community stakeholders to ensure this leader reflects our values. I'll also maintain the standards that keep us among the safest cities in Texas. We'll create a long-term ambulance strategy with partners to guarantee quality emergency care. I'll also continue to support community events that keep us connected to our officers.

Other Issue: As Pflugerville grows, our transportation infrastructure will experience more pressure. As your Councilman, I prioritize planning transportation arteries while reducing build time along with road maintenance and repair. As Mayor, I'll continue taking action on our latest Strategic Plan, expanding access to transit options and expanding our trail network, cementing us as the Trail Capital of Texas.

Campaign Website: www.dougweiss.com

COUNCILMEMBER

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Growth: How do you plan to meet the challenges of development and demographic change?

Water and Energy: What specific steps would you take to guarantee access to clean water and reliable energy?

Mandates: How do you balance local control with state and federal mandates?

Other Issue: What other critical issue do you think is important to your community, and how do you plan to address it?

PLACE 1



Sam Aly (Write-In)

Qualifications: I have an MBA, 15+ yrs exp leading finance & operations, and a proven record cutting waste & fixing budgets. I'll bring discipline, transparency & common sense to stop Pflugerville's debt spiral.

Growth: Pflugerville is growing fast, but reckless spending has left us overextended. I'll ensure new growth pays for itself by raising impact fees and cutting red tape so responsible development happens here. We must phase in big projects, prioritize essentials like water, and stop wasting your money on boondoggles. Growth should strengthen our city, not bankrupt families already struggling.

Water and Energy: We must secure water supply without crushing families. I'll try to restructure our \$1B water debt so costs are spread fairly, make new growth pay its way, and explore

selling excess water to nearby cities to offset costs and bring down base rates. On energy, I'll support grid resiliency and local preparedness so Pflugerville families always have reliable service without being priced out.

Mandates: I believe government closest to the people governs best. The Founders designed separation of powers to protect local control, and I'll honor that by pushing back on unfunded or wasteful mandates. We'll meet only what's legally required while keeping decisions here in Pflugerville, so residents, not distant bureaucrats, set priorities on water, taxes, and growth.

Other Issue: Pflugerville is \$1.5B in debt, with water bills higher than electric and 20% of property taxes already gone to debt. One more \$200M project could tip us into insolvency, where bondholders get paid first and families face service cuts or bill hikes. I'll cut waste, phase projects, restructure debt, and require voter approval to protect residents and keep Pflugerville solvent.

Campaign Website: www.pfsamaly.com



Jonathan Coffman

Qualifications: As a 12-year resident, I've served as Planning & Zoning Chair and community volunteer. My professional background in tech leadership and collaborative style prepare me to serve Pflugerville well.

Growth: Growth must pay for itself. I'll fight for development that covers infrastructure costs, not at the expense of taxpayers. By expanding our commercial tax base and attracting businesses that keep sales tax dollars in Pflugerville, we can ease property tax burdens on homeowners while preserving our community's character through walkability, housing choice, and support for small business growth.

CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

Jonathan Coffman (continued)

Water and Energy: Water is our biggest challenge. I'll fight for fairer rate structures that protect basic household use, reward conservation, and ensure big users and developers pay their share. I'll strengthen regional partnerships, expand long-term supply planning, and invest in reliable infrastructure so Pflugerville families have clean, affordable water and energy they can count on for decades to come.

Mandates: Neighbors deserve a say in how Pflugerville grows and governs. I'll listen to residents first while navigating state and federal rules, ensuring that our community's values and voice guide decisions, not outside mandates. I'll continue to build strong relationships with regional and state leaders to ensure Pflugerville is represented fairly and has a seat at the table.

Other Issue: Affordability underpins everything. I'll address rising utility bills by implementing fairer water rates, support diverse housing options so families and seniors can stay in Pflugerville, and expand our commercial tax base to ease property tax burdens. We need innovative solutions that draw on proven best practices, and I'm ready to bring that informed, data-driven approach to Council.

Campaign Website: www.jonathanforpflugerville.com



Phil Davis

Qualifications: As a hardworking member of this community, I know our struggles firsthand. I bring common sense, real-world experience, and a commitment to putting people over politics.

Growth: I will prioritize smart growth that protects neighborhoods, supports working families, and ensures all voices are heard as our city grows—focusing on affordability, infrastructure, and most important to me, community input.

Water and Energy: I will push for audits of water and energy providers, fight rate hikes, and support investment in local infrastructure to ensure clean, affordable, and reliable utilities for all residents.

Mandates: Local control means putting our community first. State and federal mandates can bring resources, but they don't always fit our city's needs. I will always put the voices, interests, and well being of our residents at the center of how we implement any mandate.

Other Issue: I strongly believe that elected officials work for the people. I plan to reach out, listen, and bring community ideas to the table so that decisions are shaped by those most impacted and always aimed at delivering real results.

CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD

PROPOSITION A

Ballot Language

The reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Rollingwood at the rate of one-fourth of one percent to provide for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the fourth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized.

Explanation

This proposition, if passed, reapproves the City of Rollingwood's sales tax rate of one-fourth of one percent (.25%) to fund maintenance and repair of city streets. This is not a sales tax increase, as this sales tax rate for maintenance and repair of municipal streets has been in effect since before 2021.

INFORMATION ON WHERE TO VOTE

Voters can look up information on where to vote at their county's election website:

<https://votetravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/>

www.wilcotx.gov/elections

These websites list the most up-to-date information on the locations of polling places and their hours of operation.

For Travis County, there is also a live map with the current wait times for each polling location.

Remember, you can vote at ANY polling location in your county.

JOIN THE LEAGUE— BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Be part of a respected national, state, and local grassroots organization where individuals like you are actively engaged in creating positive change on all levels. Add your voice to more than 100,000 members and supporters across the country in Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. Membership is open to everyone at least 16 years of age.

The Austin Area needs you to be part of the solution, to help ensure our communities are strong, safe and vibrant places to live. Joining is easy online at LWVAustin.org/join-us.

CITY OF SUNSET VALLEY

COUNCIL MEMBER (3 SEATS)

Vote for none, one, two, or three

Dawn Dickson Roy Green Karen Medicus

PROPOSITION A

Ballot Language

Reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in City of Sunset Valley at the rate of one-fourth of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the fourth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized.

Explanation

This proposition, if passed, reapproves the City of Sunset Valley’s sales tax rate of one-fourth of one percent (.25%) to fund maintenance and repair of city streets. The sales tax rate for maintenance and repair of municipal streets would be 25 cents for every 100 dollars. This is not a sales tax increase, as this tax rate for maintenance and repair of municipal streets has been in effect since before 2021.

CITY OF WEST LAKE HILLS

SPECIAL ELECTION

PROPOSITION A

Ballot Language

The reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of West Lake Hills, Texas, at the rate of one-half (½) of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the eighth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized.

Explanation

This proposition, if passed, reapproves the City of West Lake Hills’ sales tax rate of one-half of one percent (.50%) to fund maintenance and repair of city streets. The sales tax rate for maintenance and repair of municipal streets would be 50 cents for every 100 dollars. This is not a sales tax increase, as this tax rate for maintenance and repair of municipal streets has been in effect since 2021.

VILLAGE OF THE HILLS

CITY COUNCILMEMBER

Choose 0, 1, 2, or 3

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Growth: How will you balance development in your area and surrounding areas with increased stress on your infrastructure?

Water and Energy: What specific steps would you take to guarantee access to clean water and reliable energy?

Mandates: How do you balance local control with state and federal mandates?

Other Issue: What other critical issue do you think is important to your community, and how do you plan to address it?

.....



Tom Harrelson

Qualifications: A combination of executive leadership experience (most recently a GM for a division of Fiserv), community service (current Hills POA Board President), and earnest commitment to responsible governance

Growth: Through proactive planning in collaboration with our partnerships within the Hills (POA, MUD, Invited Clubs), as well as our surrounding municipalities and developers, to ensure that infrastructure investment (predominantly in security/law enforcement and the residual impacts from increased traffic) keeps pace with growth. Growth should enhance the quality of life in The Hills, not diminish it.

Water and Energy: In partnership with Hurst Creek MUD and LCRA, I support investing in modern infrastructure, monitoring systems, and innovative conservation programs that protect water supply and quality for the Hills residents for the long term. Through our existing relationships with PEC and Austin Energy, I would explore opportunities for backup systems and renewable options to add resilience to our community.

Mandates: Through understanding council’s ability to make local decisions while responsibly complying with state and federal mandates such as the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Clean Water Act, and the ADA. My focus would be on advocating for flexibility and potentially securing necessary funding to avoid being burdened with unfunded or unplanned mandates.

Other Issue: A critical issue for the Village of The Hills is maintaining public safety and community security as our area contin-

VILLAGE OF THE HILLS

CITY COUNCILMEMBER

Tom Harrelson (*continued*)

ues to grow/expand. I would prioritize close coordination with law enforcement/first responders, support investments in technology and resources that improve response times, and encourage community-based safety initiatives such as neighborhood engagement and emergency preparedness.

Martin Khait

Qualifications: I've served proudly on the City Council and have also been the council liaison for the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Welcome Committee Commission.

Growth: The Hills has a few single-family lots left, which I have no issue with developing. That said, the city also has larger lots of land, which I strongly oppose developing. Thankfully, at the current moment, we are not stressed for resources, but we should not take this for granted. Our MUD does a great job of stewarding our water.

Water and Energy: Our city does not control either but has taken steps in emergency planning to ensure preparedness in situations where water and energy are at risk, such as natural disasters. Outside of this, we continue to have great relationships with our emergency management and first response partnerships.

Mandates: The beauty of our local government is that we can create change quickly and decisively. I have voted for a few consequential and positive actions this year. Generally speaking, I believe in local representation, control, governance, and taxation. If I have to pay taxes, I want to pay it to the smallest and most local entity I can.

Other Issue: Our community has long been in good hands. Recently however, issues of decorum, etiquette, and friendliness have arisen at the margins. My work focuses on uniting us to embrace shared values and love of our beautiful neighborhood. Through Parks events, the Welcome Committee, and Club events, I'm striving to continue to bring us together.

Campaign Website: martykhait.com

Karthik Naralasetty

No response received



Madison Wickham

Qualifications: I have 16+ years experience as an entrepreneur building businesses in Central Texas. My family and I have lived in the Hills for nearly a decade and I care deeply about our community.

Growth: Growth is inevitable, but should be managed thoughtfully. New development projects should undergo sufficient scrutiny to ensure we strike a balance between growth and maintaining the integrity of our infrastructure. On a project-by-project basis, I would seek insights and opinions from all stakeholders to help inform our plans.

Water and Energy: This is not my area of expertise. I would seek advice from experts in the area and educate myself on the nuances of any project related to water and energy resource man-

agement. At my company, I regularly take on projects where knowledge from experts is required to accomplish our goals.

Mandates: As an entrepreneur, I understand the importance of maintaining strong working relationships with various public and private organizations outside my company. I will prioritize the interests of our local community, and advocate for our community at the state and federal level when necessary.

Other Issue: The safety of our community is my number one priority. As the father of three young children, I will always advocate for projects and strategies that protect the safety of the children in our community.

Gary Wolff

Qualifications: Business degree from The University of Texas. Extensive property management experience. Significant Board experience with Capital spending projects.

Growth: Ensure the Village has a strong liaison relationship with Lakeway, Bee Cave and Travis County leadership.

Water and Energy: Conduct water and energy field audits to ensure infrastructure is adequately maintained. Ensure Emergency Management Plan is current and addresses water and energy risks.

Mandates: By nature, I am a rules follower. It is essential the Village be in full compliance with all state and federal mandates. If not capable of compliance, we would seek a formal variance.

Other Issue: The Village Council has done a superb job managing our community. Continued focus on public safety, emergency management, property taxes, capital spending and debt reduction and regulatory compliance are essential issues. The Council has demonstrated commitment to these issues. It is essential to engage subject matter experts, with very defined boundaries, to assess risks and opportunities.

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LAGO VISTA ISD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Qualifications: What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

Teachers: What programs or policies would you put in place to attract and retain teachers?

Students: What are your top priorities for improving student outcomes?

Parents: How do you resolve competing parental concerns about books and curriculum?

Budget: How would you balance the budget to address shortfalls?

PLACE 1



Brian Caller

Qualifications: 20+ years experience working in large organizations focusing on financial excellence, strategy creation/execution, and people development; Director on two non-profit boards serving as the treasurer

Teachers: Budgets are tight, but we must prioritize improving teacher pay while also strengthening support and culture. Competitive compensation, coupled with respect, mentoring, and empowerment, keeps great teachers in classrooms—directly improving student learning and long-term success.

Students: My top priority is student success. That means providing strong academics, hands-on career and technical programs, and a wide range of extracurricular opportunities that let every child explore their strengths. By ensuring safe, supportive schools and encouraging parent and community involvement, we prepare all students to thrive and reach their full potential.

Parents: Parents bring valuable perspectives, and their input are welcomed. By sharing suggestions and concerns, they help ensure the process is inclusive and reflects our community's values. Educators should make the final decisions to align with educational goals and provide diverse topics that spark curiosity, strengthen critical thinking, and match students' developmental needs. Each student should be supported to thrive, grow with confidence, and succeed in school and beyond.

Budget: Building on the district's efforts to balance the budget, I'd lend my budgeting expertise to maximize every dollar for student success—focusing on high-value programs, maximize special funding, strong attendance, operational efficiency, community partnerships, and regularly evaluating each investment to prioritize programs that provide the meaningful outcomes and opportunities for every student.

Campaign Website: briancaller.wixsite.com/lvisd



Sara Jane Cantwell

Qualifications: I am a mother of three, one being in the SPED program. I have been involved in their public school journey for 18 years leading PTO/A's & subbing. I serve on and have led many board of directors.

Teachers: I would like to understand from teachers what their individual ideal teaching journey looks like. After collecting that data I would comprise an essay to present to the Superintendent, Administrators & School Board to discover what we can do to improve as a district to keep our educators & recruit top talent. Knowing that we can't do it all, I would still work toward initiatives for retention.

Students: Safety is paramount to improving student outcomes. When students (& teachers) feel safe they are able to focus on the task/lessons presented & not the background "noise" or being on constant alert. Safety doesn't just include preventing lockdown situations, but being comfortable with other people on campus, being on a drug/vape free campus & feeling heard. Improving safety will improve outcomes.

Parents: As a parent, if I am upset about a school situation, I want to be heard. I believe that a first vital step to addressing curriculum & book concerns is listening to parents, in the appropriate setting. I also realize that there will likely never be a situation where the school board's choices will make everyone happy. But, when parents feel heard it is easier to collaborate as an entity with concerned parents with an understanding that we are all working to do what is best for the entire district student body. If parents are still upset, concerns should be documented in the official minutes.

Budget: Lago Vista ISD works hard to address shortfalls, I believe that they're doing a really great job with what they have. If I were to suggest any changes it would be to continue to monitor the M&O section of the budget since that is part of the recapture by the State of Texas (paying out). I am a fan of attrition versus layoffs & continuing to encourage attendance for our students to not lose funds.

IF YOU HAVE ISSUES AT YOUR POLLING LOCATION

Please call one of these nonpartisan hotlines if you have any issues at your polling location:

Election Protection Hotlines

ENGLISH: 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)

SPANISH: 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682)

ASIAN LANGUAGES: 888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683)

ARABIC: 844-YALLA-US (844-925-5287)

ASL (Video): 301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)

DISABILITY RIGHTS TX: 888-796-VOTE (888-796-8683)

LAGO VISTA ISD

PLACE 1 (continued)



Daniel R. Carroll

Qualifications: As a pharmacist, a former hospital CEO, and current Executive Director of the Texas Pharmacy Board, I understand accountability is crucial. Plus 18 years living in Lago and a child in our schools.

Teachers: Retention isn't just about pay, it's about culture, support, and respect. We need to provide teachers with resources, development, and a voice in decisions. Competitive pay is important but so is creating an environment where teachers want to stay. Competitive Pay, Loan Forgiveness Assistance, Mentorship Programs, Professional Development, Tuition Reimbursement, Recognition for Excellence.

Students: High-quality instruction: recruit and retain excellent teachers; evidence-based curriculum according to state standards; ongoing teacher training. Access: close achievement gaps for underprivileged students. Access to advanced courses (AP, dual credit, and tech-ed). Data-driven decisions using student data for guidance. Well-being support with anti-bullying and positive behavior campaigns.

Parents: Clear policies on: 1. How instructional materials are chosen (state standards, expert review), 2. Process for adding/removing books from classrooms, 3. Parent review rights. Engage parents early with listening sessions, surveys, and feedback tools. Follow state standards and accreditation requirements. Staff and leadership training on legal and ethical issues and conflict resolution. Proactive communication with curriculum previews and consistent messages.

Budget: Assess financials for root causes of shortfall (enrollment, funding cuts, costs). Determine which programs most directly affect student achievement. Protect core academic programs and classroom resources for student learning first. Involve community early and communicate clearly. Reduce costs: hiring freeze for non-essential staff, review ratios, energy bill, contracts. Multi-year plan.

PLACE 2



Michele Coronis

Qualifications: I have lived in LV for 18 years. We have 3 boys, 2 of which are still in the school system. I am active in my church, little league, & other organizations. I'm driven and passionate about our town.

Teachers: My strategy to attract and retain teachers would be, first to prioritize a positive work culture, where teachers feel valued and respected. Second, make sure we offer high-quality professional development relevant to the teachers' work and let them have some say in determining the PD topics. Third, improve working conditions by reducing unnecessary administrative burdens to reduce burnout.

Students: I would continue to support the goals the district has

in place, including cultivating an environment that fosters leadership & good citizenship among our students, and early childhood education. An area of special interest to me is career preparedness, helping students understand that college is not the only next step, keeping them more engaged & committed to their academic success.

Parents: To resolve competing parental concerns the district should follow a structured, transparent process built on clear communication and defined policies. This approach acknowledges parental perspectives, addresses specific objections, and upholds professional educational standards. This process would include holding a constructive conversation with the concerned parent, allowing for a review committee, and seeking compromises and alternatives. Proactively, the curriculum and syllabi should be easily accessible to parents at the beginning of the year to avoid any mid-year disruptions.

Budget: To help balance the budget I would suggest a comprehensive review of the budget and from there analyze and prioritize spending, using data and performance metrics. From this, operations and services that deliver the most value would be apparent, allowing for the opportunity to cut spending on initiatives and operations that are of less impact.

Jerrell Roque

Qualifications: Having served on the board since 2007, including positions on the District Safety and Education Foundation Committees, I continue to value serving our community and students of Lago Vista.

Teachers: I appreciate the commitment demonstrated by our teachers. My record shows I have voted consistently in favor of raises and bonus opportunities they well deserve and will continue to do so. Teachers should always have and experience support in their valued profession.

Students: One priority already mentioned above is continued support for our teachers who serve our students every day. Teacher commitment translates to student success. I will continue to keep this success a board priority, immediately addressing any short-comes that might occur.

Parents: This is a relevant question in today's culture. The students we serve belong first to those parents who have a voice in the standards of our community. The priority of school curriculum should address the academic needs and requirements which provide the tools and training students need to be successful, both at school and in their chosen professions.

Budget: Due to a state mandate to recapture money from some school districts, including LVISD, we are presently addressing such a shortfall. The board continues to look for items to cut without compromising staff positions or salaries. One strategy is to pay off bonds early, greatly reducing interest rates.

PLACE 3

Isai Arredondo

Unopposed

LIBERTY HILL ISD

PROPOSITION A

Background

Changes in operating costs and revenue sources are affecting Liberty Hill ISD's ability to maintain its operations without raising property taxes. The district will have to begin making recapture payments to the state this year, as part of the state's system to equalize student funding across the state. The state has mandated teacher retention salary increases, and school safety and security measures, which the district has to pay for. Additionally, assuming voter approval of this November's proposed state constitutional amendments concerning homestead and small business property tax exemptions, the district will collect proportionately less revenue for properties eligible for these exemptions. This spring, the state legislature increased the Basic Allotment that provides funding for public education, but the increase was not enough to offset the impact of costs and revenue reductions.

In the face of rising costs and declining revenues, the district has cut over \$10 million in expenses in the past two years by cutting student programs, reducing staff, reducing department budgets, increasing class sizes, freezing hiring, reallocating instructional personnel, and cutting administrative positions. The district has also operated at a budget deficit for the past two years. This has reduced the district's fund balance to less than two months' operating budget. (The Texas Education Agency's recommended fund balance level is three months' operating budget.)

Ballot Language

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE

Ratifying the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.2389 per \$100 valuation in the Liberty Hill Independent School District for the current year, a rate that will result in an increase of 19 percent in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the District for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$10,750,115.

Explanation

This measure would increase funding for LHISD's Maintenance & Operations to support the district's adopted 2025–2026 budget without additional cuts or reduction of the district's fund balance. The proposal would add 7 pennies to the current Maintenance & Operations (M&O) tax rate of \$0.6669 per \$100 valuation, bringing the M & O tax rate to \$0.7389 per \$100 valuation. The total tax rate, including the Investment & Sinking (I&S) tax rate, would be \$1.2389 per \$100 property valuation.

If Proposition A Passes:

Passage would add an additional \$10.7 million revenue, allowing the district to fund support staff for student programs, reduce class sizes that have been raised in the past two years, restore some student programs and campus/departmental budgets that have been cut, and to fund state mandates on raises and safety measures.

Passage of the proposition will mean an increase in property taxes for many property owners. For a median-value home in the district (valued at \$470,000), the district estimates the homeowner's tax bill would increase by \$29 per month. This estimate assumes passage of proposed state constitutional amendments increasing property tax exemptions to be voted on this November.

If Proposition A Fails:

Failure will prompt an additional \$4 million of cuts to the district's budget. These could include delays in the opening of Legacy Ranch Middle School and Elementary School #8, reduced transportation routes, increased class sizes, staff sharing among campuses (School Resource Officers, nurses, counselors, etc.), and fees for participation in extracurricular activities.

Failure of the proposition means that taxpayers' property tax bills will not increase, or will increase less than they would if the tax rate were not raised. (Individual tax bills can still increase even without a tax rate increase because of higher property appraisal values.)

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MANOR ISD

PROPOSITIONS

Background

Manor ISD Facilities Advisory Committee, consisting of approximately 21 members representing MISD parents, community members, and the Manor business community met from March to June 2025 to review data, met with district officials, and developed a list of recommendations for the Board to consider as part of a Bond Election to address calls for updates to classrooms, safety equipment, and building upgrades. Every recommendation from the committee's work was included in the final project list for the bond elections. The Board of Trustees voted to call an election with three separate propositions based on the committee's recommendation.

None of the propositions are projected to raise the school district's property tax rate. Manor ISD has been paying off past debt and has enough capacity to pay debt service on the proposed Bond, if it's passed, without raising the tax rate. In addition, new construction and business openings in the area have added to the overall property value within the district, raising the amount of revenue the current tax rate generates. Manor ISD also does not plan to issue all \$385 million in debt at the same time. By breaking up the debt issuance overtime, Manor ISD can better ensure no raise in tax rates will be needed to maintain that debt.

Even though the tax rate will stay the same, the ballot will say "Tax Rate Increase" for each Proposition.

PROPOSITION A

Ballot Language

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The issuance of an amount not to exceed \$359,500,000 school building bonds for the construction, renovation, acquisition, and equipment of school buildings in the District, the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and the purchase of new school buses and other new vehicles to be used for student transportation and the levying and imposition of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements.

Explanation

If passed, Proposition A will cost \$359.5 million and will include upgrades for campus safety, facility upgrades, and buses. The projects include but are not limited to:

- New and additional security cameras
- Network infrastructure and security to support panic buttons and emergency communication systems
- Renovations and upgrades at Blake Manor, Bluebonnet Trail, and Decker Elementary; and classroom additions at Shadow Glen Elementary School
- Dedicated space for the special education program for individuals age 18 and older
- Additions to Manor New Tech High School and Manor High School
- Purchase additional buses

PROPOSITION B

Ballot Language

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The issuance of an amount not to exceed \$8,500,000 school building bonds for the acquisition of technology equipment and the levying and imposition of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements.

Explanation

If passed, Proposition B will cost \$8.5 million and will include new devices for students and staff districtwide.

PROPOSITION C

Ballot Language

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The issuance of an amount not to exceed \$16,500,000 school building bonds for the construction and equipment of a performing arts facility and the levying and imposition of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements.

Explanation

If passed, Proposition C will cost \$16.5 million and will allow for the construction of performing arts additions at the Manor High School Complex.



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PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION A

Ballot Language

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE

The issuance of \$147,000,000 of bonds by the Taylor Independent School District for the design, construction, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, improvement, acquisition, and equipment of school facilities, the necessary sites for school facilities, and the purchase of school buses and vehicles, with priority given to safety and security renovations District-wide and a multi-purpose facility to be used for student curricular and U.I.L. programs, including, but not exclusive to, band, theater, choir, dance, general classroom space, auditorium, community events, student assemblies, other student programs, and profes-

sional development, and the levying of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the cost of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds.

PROPOSITION B

Ballot Language

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE

Ratifying the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.0638 in Taylor Independent School District for the current year, a rate that will result in an increase of 2.65 percent in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the District for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$545,101.

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE/CARD

The precinct number of where you live

State Senate district

County Commissioner precinct

Justice of the Peace precinct/ Constable precinct

Congressional district

State House district

VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
(Certificado de Registro Electoral)
TRAVIS COUNTY (Condado de Travis)

VUID (VUID) [REDACTED] Gender (Sexo) [REDACTED] Valid from (Válido desde) 1/1/2024

Year of Birth (Año de Nacimiento) [REDACTED] Prec. No. (Núm. Pcto.) 413 thru (hasta) 12/31/2025

Name and Permanent Residence Address (Nombre y dirección residencial permanente)
[REDACTED]

X
VOTER MUST PERSONALLY SIGN HIS/HER NAME IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT, IF ABLE
(El votante debe firmar esta tarjeta personalmente al recibirla, si puede.)

U.S. REP. 37	ST. SEN. 14	ST. REP. 51	COMM. 4	J.P./CN. 4
ISD AISD	ISD SMD 5	SBOE 5	CITY AUSFP	CITY SMD CA9

School district

School board member district

State Board of Education district

Which city you may vote in

City Council district

The Voter Registration Certificate/Card provides the district numbers for each race, or you may go to **VOTE411.org**, <https://elections.traviscountytexas.gov/current-election-information/>, or <https://www.wilcotx.gov/elections> to receive the list of all candidates you will consider. All citizens wishing to vote must be on the official list of registered voters in their county of residence and provide ID.



EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas (LWVTX) and the League of Women Voters Austin Area (LWVAA). We invite every candidate in competition for office to provide information. We list the names of unopposed candidates but do not send them questionnaires. The League reserves the right to redact portions of a candidate's response, but avoids doing so as much as possible and any redactions are noted. Ballot measure explanations are written by League volunteers with a focus on being informative and unbiased.

Learn more about our process at: <https://lwvaustin.org/voters-guide>.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE

The League of Women Voters Austin Area is a grassroots, all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization promoting informed and active participation of citizens in government. Since 1919, both LWVTX and LWVAA have helped voters cast informed votes when going to the polls. No League organization supports or opposes any political party or candidate. As a nonpartisan organization, the League believes that all of us are stakeholders in making democracy work. We host informative programs concerning important public policy issues, organize and offer voter registration efforts, engage in get-out-the-vote projects, work with local area schools and universities to promote civic participation, and conduct fair and open candidate forums.

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