

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE ORDERING A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS (SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS) FOR DISTRICT 2, DISTRICT 4, DISTRICT 6, DISTRICT 7, AND DISTRICT 10; ORDERING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING A PROPOSED TAX RATE THAT EXCEEDS THE VOTER APPROVAL RATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING AND AUTHORIZING THE PROJECT CONNECT TRANSIT SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE MUNICIPAL GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE ELECTIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

PART 1. A general municipal election shall be held in the City of Austin on November 3, 2020. At the election there shall be elected by the qualified voters of the City five City Council Members (single member districts) for District 2, District 4, District 6, District 7, and District 10. The candidates for Districts 2, 4, 6, 7, and 10 shall meet all requirements, shall be residents of their respective districts, and shall be elected by majority vote of voters residing in each respective district.

PART 2. A special municipal election shall be held in the City on November 3, 2020, to submit to the voters of the City a proposed tax rate that exceeds the voter approval rate, for the purpose of funding and authorizing a fixed rail transit system known as Project Connect. The ballot shall be prepared to permit voting “For” or “Against” the Proposition:

CITY OF AUSTIN PROPOSITION A

Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.5335 per \$100 valuation in the City of Austin for the current year, a rate that is \$0.0875 higher per \$100 valuation than the voter-approval tax rate of the City of Austin,

32 for the purpose of providing funds for a citywide traffic-easing rapid
33 transit system known as Project Connect, to address traffic congestion,
34 expand service for essential workers, reduce climate change emissions,
35 decrease traffic fatalities, create jobs, and provide access to schools,
36 health care, jobs and the airport; to include neighborhood supportive
37 affordable housing investments along transit corridors and a fixed rail
38 and bus rapid transit system, including associated road, sidewalk, bike,
39 and street lighting improvements, park and ride hubs, on-demand
40 neighborhood circulator shuttles, and improved access for seniors and
41 persons with disabilities; to be operated by the Capital Metropolitan
42 Transportation Authority, expending its funds to build, operate and
43 maintain the fixed rail and bus rapid transit system; the additional
44 revenue raised by the tax rate is to be dedicated by the City to an
45 independent board to oversee and finance the acquisition, construction,
46 equipping, and operations and maintenance of the rapid transit system
47 by providing funds for loans and grants to develop or expand
48 transportation within the City, and to finance the transit-supportive anti-
49 displacement strategies related to Project Connect. Last year, the ad
50 valorem tax rate in the City of Austin was \$0.4431 per \$100 valuation.

51 **PART 3.** The elections shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00
52 p.m. The location of the main early voting polling place, the dates and hours for
53 early voting, and the early voting clerk's official mailing address are provided in
54 Exhibit A, attached and incorporated as a part of this ordinance.

55 **PART 4.** A direct electronic recording voting system, as the term is defined in Title
56 8 of the Texas Election Code, shall be used for early voting and for voting conducted
57 on election day. The central counting station is established at the Travis County
58 Elections Division, 5501 Airport Boulevard, Austin, Texas.

59 **PART 5.** Notice of these elections shall be given by posting and publishing a copy
60 of this ordinance in both English and Spanish. The notice and a copy of this
61 ordinance shall be posted, in both English and Spanish, in the office of the City Clerk
62 and at the City Hall notice kiosk not later than the 21st day before election day. Notice
63 of this election shall be published one time, not earlier than the 30th day before the

64 date of the election or later than the 10th day before the date of the election, in a
65 newspaper of general circulation in the City of Austin.

66 **PART 6.** In accordance with Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, the
67 November 3, 2020 municipal elections may be held jointly with the various political
68 subdivisions that share territory with the City of Austin and that are holding elections
69 on that day. The City Clerk may enter and sign joint election agreements with other
70 political subdivisions for this purpose, and their terms as stated in the agreements
71 are hereby adopted.

72 **PART 7.** The Council finds that the need to immediately begin required
73 preparations for these elections constitutes an emergency. Because of this
74 emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate
75 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

76 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

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Steve Adler
Mayor

APPROVED:

Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

ATTEST:

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk