

HPD ICRC Commissioners

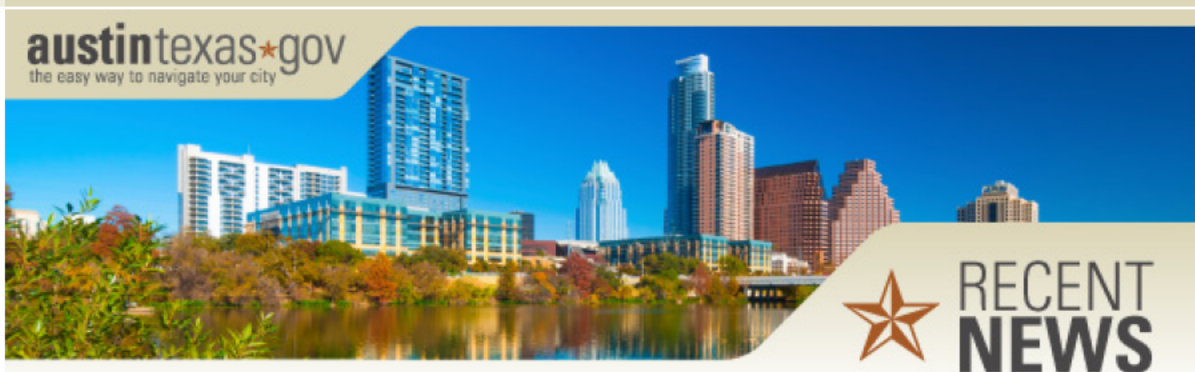
From: Nick Barbaro <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, August 4, 2021 10:06 AM
To: Austin Notes; HPD ICRC Commissioners
Subject: Re: News from AustinTexas.gov

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Thanks for this information about the Redistricting Commission's forums. However, I can't find a link on the city website that gives this info on how to join these meetings. It seems like this should be posted on <http://www.austintexas.gov/content/independent-citizens-redistricting-commission> and perhaps elsewhere. Or am I missing it somewhere?

On Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 6:13 PM Communications and Public Information Office - City of Austin, Texas <austinnotes@austintexas.gov> wrote:

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News from the City of Austin, Texas

Redistricting Commission Moves to Virtual Public Forums in Response to Raising COVID-19 Concerns

Aug 02, 2021 02:34 pm

The Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC) is working to confront challenges to scheduling public forums in every City Council district given the recent move to Stage-4 of COVID precautions. The commissioners have replaced some in-person meetings with virtual meetings and have also added two virtual meetings to their schedule – Full schedule below.

These forums are the ICRC's primary method of receiving public feedback related to the redistricting of the 10 Austin city council boundaries.

"One of the biggest challenges this commission has faced in getting the word out to the public that these forums are happening has been COVID," said Commissioner Dr. Sterling Lands. "People are afraid to congregate, so we are hosting some public forums online via Zoom."

After the Austin City Library closed its branches when the city moved to Stage-4 of COVID precautions, Tuesday's District 6 Public Forum, among others, has moved to a virtual format. The public can still attend the District 6 public forum 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021, via Zoom – Details below.

The Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC) continues to focus on gathering feedback in each of the districts as it waits for the 2020 Census data to redraw the boundaries for the 10 city council districts and will host in-person public forums in accordance with Austin Public Health safety guidelines.

Adjusted Schedule of remaining ICRC public forums:

- Tuesday, August 3, 2021, 6-8 p.m., District 6 via Videoconferencing,
Join Zoom Meeting at:
<https://zoom.us/j/93834842830?pwd=ajNDNzhYRHFDWxEQ3RFSmh6MExBUT09>
Meeting ID: 938 3484 2830
Passcode: 7Fn9ST
- Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021, 1-3 p.m., District 3 via Videoconferencing,
Join Zoom Meeting at:
<https://zoom.us/j/97196422290?pwd=cjVzNDRzNDJ2R09VRk9ML2h3am1jdz09>
Meeting ID: 971 9642 2290
Passcode: cwKV8g
- Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2021, 6-8 p.m., District 2 at Mendez Middle School, 5106 Village Square Dr., Austin, TX 78744
- Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021, 1-3 p.m., District 1 at George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina St., Austin, TX 78702
- Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, 6-8 p.m., District 5 via Videoconferencing,
Join Zoom Meeting at:
<https://zoom.us/j/97858938245?pwd=RDNmZzNMcfZnaHZiU2tFTHRYUEJpZz09>
Meeting ID: 978 5893 8245
Passcode: 1pHMxp
- Saturday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m.-noon, Virtual Public Forum No. 1 via Videoconferencing,
Join Zoom Meeting at:
<https://zoom.us/j/98899977402?pwd=MW9hS05WMmJOTWVsK1ZFfEJOYXpVUT09>
Meeting ID: 988 9997 7402

Passcode: dFc0nd

- Friday, Aug. 27, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Virtual Public Forum No. 2, via Videoconferencing, Join Zoom Meeting at:
<https://zoom.us/j/99080158693?pwd=cjZRODhCYTY3dGwvQzN0NkhtUWoxQT09>
Meeting ID: 990 8015 8693
Passcode: H639E4c

Interpretation and/or translation services in Spanish, Chinese, or Vietnamese are available free of charge by advance request. Call 311 or email matthew.dugan@austintexas.gov to request these services 48-hours in advance of a forum.

Public input forums are recorded and made available after the meetings here:
<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>.

Past meetings and agendas can be viewed on the commission's website at:
www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/116_1.htm

About the ICRC

The volunteer board of commissioners wants to learn about the unique characteristics of Austin's communities from community members themselves. Community members are familiar with their neighborhoods and have crucial feedback to help the commissioners determine the areas that should remain intact and/or be grouped together. This way they are inviting the public to these public forums.

These volunteers are committed to drawing up a fair, impartial, and inclusive city district map. At these forums, attendees will hear from the ICRC about the process being followed to create the new City Council district maps.

The goal is to have a new district map approved in November.

To contact ICRC commissioners or leave feedback please email:
icrc.commissioners@austintexas.gov or by direct mail: Housing and Planning Department,
Attn: ICRC, P.O. Box 1088, Austin, Texas 78767.

To find City Council Districts in Austin visit this link and type in an address:
<https://www.austintexas.gov/GIS/CouncilDistrictMap/>

ICRC Information

Commissioners are: Joshua Blank (District 8), Sara Inés Calderón (D2), Erin Dempsey (D10), Camellia Falcon (D7), Luis Gonzalez (D10, Vice-Chair), Errol Hardin (D1), Shaina Kambo (D9), Prabhu Kannan (D5), Dr. Sterling Lands (D4), Hoang Le (D8), Brigham Morris (D3), Christina Puentes (D7, Chair), Eugene Schneider (D6) and Selina Yee (D1).

The ICRC board will hold its weekly commission meeting via videoconferencing 6 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2021.

To join the Zoom meeting visit:

<https://zoom.us/j/98278207374?pwd=eEhDSFpzNjVIZWFXNGcyYWpOKzZvZz09>

Login credentials: Meeting ID: 982 7820 7374 Passcode: iqY34Q

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Austin Mobility News: How to get to TxDOT's Capital Express Open House

Aug 02, 2021 02:07 pm

[External News Link](#)

[Read in browser »](#)



Affordability of Water Service Forecasted into the Next Half Decade

Aug 02, 2021 09:37 am

AUSTIN – With many Austinites challenged by rising home ownership costs and rent increases, Austin Water has made water and wastewater services increasingly affordable year after year. A report released Wednesday shows Austin Water customers have progressively paid less on their water bill as a percentage of household income, a trend that is forecasted to continue for years to come. The trends and improvements to affordability are highlighted in the **2021 Affordability Metric Report** available at [AustinWater.org](https://austinwater.org).

Affordability drives Austin Water's financial management approach," said Joseph Gonzales, Austin Water's Assistant Director of Financial Services. "By putting affordability at the center of what we do, we've been able to implement successful strategies so that Austin Water has not had to raise

rates since 2018, while continuing to make investments in the performance and resilience of our infrastructure.

The report studied water and wastewater service costs in Austin and found that the average residential customer's annual bill as a percentage of median household income (MHI) has improved year over year, starting at 1.47% in FY2017, decreasing to 1.22% in FY2021. Austin Water also projects that customers will spend even less in FY2022, an estimated 1.19% of their annual income on water and wastewater bills.

Improvements to the affordability metric is due to Austin Water's successful initiatives that have stabilized water rates. Austinites received rate reductions in FY2018, zero rate increases since FY2019, and no rate increases are proposed for FY2022.

The report also examines internal metrics and benchmarks to compile a comprehensive study of the utility's efforts to stabilize rates and improve affordability for customers of all incomes.

The first Affordability Metric Report was provided to Austin City Council in 2018 and set the benchmark for future analysis and evaluation of Austin Water's successes in improving affordability for all customers. Updates to these 5-year forecast metrics have been completed and published annually.

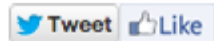
For more information about Austin Water's affordability initiatives or to view the complete **2021 Affordability Metric Report**, visit [AustinWater.org](https://austinwater.org).

Improving Affordability

Improving affordability is a component of Austin Water's long-term strategic business plan that uses Effective Utility Management principles to meet the challenges ahead. The utility continues to find savings through cost containment, debt management, and innovations in technology and processes. Cost savings are then passed along to customers as rate reductions, rebates, and financial assistance.

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[\(07/30-08/01\) Austin Public Health and Travis County Partner with Community Organizations for COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics](#)

[Austin-Travis County Marks the 900th Death Due to COVID-19](#)

[Arrest Made in July 17 Homicide at 6th and Neches Streets](#)

[APD Release of Critical Incident Briefing video, April 9 Incident](#)

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