



37 **Proposition F:** Shall the City Charter be amended to clarify the meaning of the term  
38 “election” and to provide that the campaign contribution and expenditure limits shall be  
39 modified each year by January 1<sup>st</sup> instead of with the adoption of the budget?

40 **Proposition G:** Shall the City Charter be amended to provide that initiative elections and  
41 citizen-initiated charter amendment elections must be held on the next available  
42 November election date that occurs in an even-numbered year and that allows sufficient  
43 time to comply with other requirements of law?

44 **Proposition H:** Shall the City Charter be amended to provide that a petition for an  
45 election to recall a City Council Member other than the Mayor must contain valid  
46 signatures of at least 15% of the qualified voters of the respective Council district, instead  
47 of the current 10%, and to clarify that the affidavit on the recall petition must be signed  
48 by a petition circulator rather than by a person who signed the petition?

49 **Proposition I:** Shall the City Charter be amended to provide that the City Council appoints  
50 and removes the City Attorney?

51 **Proposition J:** Shall the City Charter be amended so that the time frame for the  
52 automatic resignation provision for municipal court judges is the same as that provided in  
53 the Texas Constitution for other officials?

54 **Proposition K:** Shall the City Charter be amended to ensure that City financial practices  
55 are consistent with generally accepted accounting principles, reflect current practices for  
56 appropriations for department-level work programs, and reflect best practices in contract  
57 execution authority and competitive bidding procedures consistent with state law for  
58 local government procurement, and also be amended to increase the annual amount of  
59 contracted expenditures the City Manager may approve without Council approval?

60 **Proposition L:** Shall the City Charter be amended to remove appointees and employees  
61 of the office of the City Auditor from the classified civil service?

62 **Proposition M:** Shall the City Charter be amended to remove the requirement that an  
63 individual must submit an affidavit to provide notice to the City of a claim of death,  
64 personal injury, or damaged or destroyed property, and to align the claim notice deadline  
65 with state law?

66 **Proposition N:** Shall the City Charter be amended to make non-substantive corrections  
67 of typographical errors, punctuation, and sentence structure, and to change or remove  
68 language that is moot or unenforceable because it has been superseded by state law or by  
69 a final court order?

70 **Proposition O:** Shall the City Charter be amended to remove the restriction that  
71 officeholders must wait until after leaving office in order to solicit and accept political  
72 contributions to pay unpaid campaign expenses or to reimburse campaign expenditures  
73 made from personal funds?

74 **PART 3.** If Proposition C is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
75 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

76 Article II. – THE COUNCIL

77 § 3. - REDISTRICTING.

78 (A) For purposes of this section, the following terms are defined:

79 (1) COMMISSION means the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.

80 (2) CONTROLLING PERSON means an officer, director, manager, principal, or  
81 shareholder or member owning at least 10% ownership of a legal entity.

82 (3) DAY means a calendar day, except that if the final day of a period within  
83 which an act is to be performed is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday in which the City  
84 of Austin's offices are closed, the period is extended to the next day that is not a  
85 Saturday, Sunday, or holiday in which the City of Austin's offices are closed.

86 (4) PANEL means the Applicant Review Panel of three qualified, independent  
87 auditors that screens applicants for the commission.

88 (5) QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITOR means an auditor who is currently  
89 licensed by the Texas Board of Public Accountancy and has been a practicing  
90 independent auditor for at least five years prior to appointment to the Applicant  
91 Review Panel.

92 (6) SPOUSE means one's licensed marriage spouse, common law spouse, or  
93 recognized domestic partner.

94 (7) SUBSTANTIAL NEGLIGENCE OF DUTY means that an individual has  
95 disregarded a manifest duty, prescribed by this section, intentionally, knowingly,  
96 or negligently. Missing half or more of the meetings in a three month period  
97 constitutes a substantial neglect of duty.

98 (8) INDEPENDENT means independent from the influence of city council and  
99 does not limit the commission receiving assistance as required from city staff.

100 (B) In 2013 and thereafter in each year following the year in which the national census is  
101 taken under the direction of Congress at the beginning of each decade, the commission  
102 shall adjust the boundary lines of the 10 single-member districts in conformance with the  
103 standards and process set forth in this article. The commission shall be fully established  
104 no later than July 1, 2013, and thereafter no later than March 1 in each year ending in the  
105 number (1). The commission shall not draw district lines at any other time, except if the  
106 districts must be redrawn because of a judicial decision invalidating the then existing  
107 district plan, in whole or in part, redistricting is required due to annexations or

108 disannexations completed by the City, or the date of the city election is moved. If the date  
109 of the city election is moved, then the dates in this article shall be adjusted to ensure the  
110 commission has sufficient time to draw the lines prior to the election date.

111 (D) The commission shall consist of 14 members.

112 (4) Each commission member shall apply this section in a manner that is impartial  
113 and that reinforces public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process. A  
114 commission member shall be ineligible, for a period of 10 years beginning from  
115 the date of appointment, to hold elective public office for the City of Austin. A  
116 member of the commission shall be ineligible, for a period of three years beginning  
117 from the date of appointment, to hold appointive public office for the City of  
118 Austin, to serve as a paid [staff] full-time, part-time, or temporary City of Austin  
119 employee [for], or to serve as a paid consultant to the City of Austin, the city  
120 council or any member of the city council, or to receive a non-competitively bid  
121 contract with the City of Austin. This three year ban on having a paid consultancy  
122 or entering noncompetitively bid contracts applies to the member individually and  
123 all entities for which the member is a controlling person.

124 (G) By December 1, 2013, and thereafter by November 1 in each year ending in the  
125 number one, the commission shall adopt a final plan for the City of Austin specifically  
126 describing the district boundaries for each of the council districts prescribed above. No  
127 later than 30 days after the commission's [Upon] adoption of the final plan and at a public  
128 meeting of the city council, the commission shall certify the plan to the city council. The  
129 city council may not change the plan. The plan shall have the force and effect of law and  
130 take effect at the time of its certification to the city council.

131 (1) The commission shall issue a report that explains the basis on which the  
132 commission made its decisions in achieving compliance with the criteria listed  
133 above and shall include definitions of the terms and standards used in drawing the  
134 final plan.

135 (2) If the commission does not adopt a final plan by the dates in this section, the  
136 city attorney for the City of Austin shall [immediately] petition state court for an  
137 order prescribing the boundary lines of the single-member districts in accordance  
138 with the redistricting criteria and requirements set forth in this section. The plan  
139 prescribed by the court shall be used for all subsequent city council elections until  
140 a final plan is adopted by the commission to replace it.

141 (I) Commission Selection Process.

142 (6) No later than May 1, 2013, and thereafter by January 15 in each year ending in  
143 the number one, the Applicant Review Panel shall select a pool of 75[60]  
144 applicants from among the qualified applicants. These persons shall be the most  
145 qualified applicants on the basis of relevant analytical skills, ability to be impartial,

146 residency in various parts of the city, and appreciation for the City of Austin's  
147 diverse demographics and geography. The members of the Applicant Review Panel  
148 shall not communicate directly or indirectly with any elected member of the city  
149 council, or their representatives, about any matter related to the nomination process  
150 or any applicant prior to the presentation by the panel of the pool of recommended  
151 applicants to the city council.

152 (7) No later than May 2, 2013, and by January 16 in each year ending in the  
153 number one thereafter, the Applicant Review Panel shall submit its pool of 75[60]  
154 recommended applicants to the city council. Each member of the city council  
155 within five days in writing may strike up to one applicant from the pool of  
156 applicants. No reason need be given for a strike. Any applicant struck by any  
157 member of the city council must be removed from the pool of applicants. No later  
158 than May 8, 2013, and thereafter by January 22 in each year ending in one, the  
159 Applicant Review Panel shall submit the pool of remaining applicants to the City  
160 Auditor.

161 (J) Citizens Redistricting Commission Vacancy, Removal, Resignation, or Absence.

162 (1) In the event of substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, or  
163 inability to discharge the duties of office, a member of the commission, having  
164 been served written notice and provided with an opportunity for a response, may  
165 be removed by a vote of 10 of the commissioners.

166 (2) Any vacancy, whether created by removal, resignation, or absence, in the 14  
167 commission positions before the adoption of the final plan shall be filled by the  
168 commission within 15 days after the vacancy occurs, from the remaining pool of  
169 applicants and in compliance with the applicant requirements of  
170 subsection[division] 3(I)(8). Nine members must agree to any appointment.

171 (3) Any vacancy, whether created by removal, resignation, or absence, in the 14  
172 commission positions after adoption of the final plan shall be filled by the  
173 commission at the next regular or special called meeting after the vacancy occurs,  
174 from the remaining pool of applicants and in compliance with the applicant  
175 requirements of subsection 3(I)(8). Nine members must agree to any appointment.

176 (K) The activities of the commission are subject to all of the following:

177 (1) the commission shall comply with all state and city requirements for open  
178 meetings.

179 (2) the records of the commission and all data considered by the commission are  
180 public records that will be made available in a manner that ensures immediate and  
181 widespread public access.

~~[(3) commission members and commission staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing. This paragraph does not prohibit communication between commission members, commission staff (which shall exclude staff of any council members), legal counsel, and consultants retained by the commission that is otherwise permitted by state and city open meeting requirements.]~~

(3[4]) the commission shall select one of its members to serve as the chair and one to serve as vice chair. The chair and vice chair shall remain voting members of the commission.

(4[5]) in addition to using city staff, the commission shall hire its own commission staff, legal counsel, and consultants as needed; provided, however, that compensation of such persons shall be limited to the period in which the commission is active. The commission shall establish clear criteria for the hiring and removal of these individuals, communication protocols, and a code of conduct. The commission shall apply the conflicts of interest listed in subdivision 3(I)(3) to the hiring of staff, legal counsel, and consultants. The commission shall require that at least one of the legal counsel hired by the commission has demonstrated extensive experience and expertise in implementation and enforcement of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 and following). The commission shall make hiring, removal, or contracting decisions on staff, legal counsel, and consultants by nine or more affirmative votes.

(5[6]) notwithstanding any other provision of law, no employer shall discharge, threaten to discharge, intimidate, coerce, or retaliate against any employee by reason of such employee's membership on the commission or attendance or scheduled attendance at any meeting of the commission.

(6[7]) the commission shall establish and implement an open hearing process for public input and deliberation that shall be subject to public notice and promoted through an extensive outreach program to solicit broad public participation in the redistricting public review process. The hearing process shall begin with hearings to receive public input before the commission votes and approves a preliminary redistricting plan. In 2013, there shall be at least two such public hearings, before the commission votes on a preliminary plan, in each of the four Travis County Commissioner precincts, and in each year ending in the number one thereafter, there shall be at least one such public hearing, before the commission votes on a preliminary redistricting plan in each of the then existing 10 council districts. In addition, these hearings shall be supplemented with all other appropriate activities to further increase opportunities for the public to observe and participate in the review process.

220 Following the commission's vote approving the preliminary plan, there shall be at  
221 least four public hearings, geographically dispersed with at least one hearing in  
222 each of the four Travis County Commissioners' precincts and each hearing shall be  
223 held on a different date. The commission also shall display the approved  
224 preliminary plan for written public comment in a manner designed to achieve the  
225 widest public access reasonably possible. Written public comment shall be taken  
226 for at least 14 days from the date of public display of the approved preliminary  
227 plan. The commission then shall vote on a proposed final plan and then it shall  
228 hold two subsequent public hearings, one north of Lady Bird Lake and one south  
229 of Lady Bird Lake and take at least five days of written public comments. The  
230 commission then shall be finished with all hearings and adopt a final plan by no  
231 later than December 1, 2013, and thereafter by November 1 in each year ending in  
232 the number one.

233 (7[8]) members of the commission shall not be compensated for their service.  
234 Members of the panel and the commission are eligible for reimbursement of  
235 reasonable and necessary personal expenses incurred in connection with the duties  
236 performed pursuant to this act.

237 (8[9]) the city council shall appropriate sufficient funds to meet the operational  
238 cost of the commission and the cost of any outreach program to solicit broad public  
239 participation in the redistricting process.

240 (9[10]) the commission shall remain inactive except when necessary to comply  
241 with its duties under this ordinance and the Charter of the City of Austin, including  
242 any redistricting required when areas are newly annexed to the city or disannexed  
243 from the city.

244 **PART 4.** If Proposition D is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
245 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

246 Article II. – THE COUNCIL

247 § 12. - MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

248 The council shall meet in regular session at the City Hall [~~at least once each week~~] at  
249 such time as may be prescribed by ordinance [~~unless otherwise ordered by the council for~~  
250 ~~reasons to be documented in the minutes~~]. Special meetings of the council shall be called  
251 by the city clerk upon written request of the mayor or two members of the council. All  
252 meetings shall be open to the public except as may be authorized by the laws of the State  
253 of Texas.

254 **PART 5.** If Proposition E is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
255 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

256 Article II. – THE COUNCIL

257 § 13. - RULES OF PROCEDURE.

258 The council shall [~~by ordinance~~] determine its own rules and order of business. A  
259 majority of the whole council shall constitute a quorum, and no action of the council shall  
260 be of any force or effect unless it is adopted by the favorable votes of a majority of the  
261 whole council. Minutes of all meetings of the council shall be taken and recorded, and  
262 such minutes shall constitute a public record.

263 **PART 6.** If Proposition F is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
264 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

265 Article III. - ELECTIONS

266 § 8. - LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES.

267 (A) Limits On Contributions To Candidates.

- 268 (1) No candidate for mayor or city council and his or her campaign committee shall  
269 accept campaign contributions in excess of \$300 per contributor per general,  
270 runoff, or special election from any person, except for the candidate and small-  
271 donor political committees. The amount of the contribution limit shall be  
272 modified each year by January first or as otherwise provided by state law [~~with~~  
273 ~~the adoption of the budget~~] to increase or decrease in accordance with the most  
274 recently published federal government Bureau of Labor Statistics Indicator,  
275 Consumer Price Index (CPI-W U.S. City Average) U.S. City Average. The most  
276 recently published Consumer Price Index on May 13, 2006, shall be used as a  
277 base of 100 and the adjustment thereafter will be to the nearest \$50.00.
- 278 (2) Each candidate may authorize, establish, administer, or control only one  
279 campaign committee at one time.
- 280 (3) No candidate and his or her committee shall accept an aggregate contribution  
281 total of more than \$30,000.00 per general or special election and \$20,000.00 in  
282 the case of a runoff election, from sources other than natural persons eligible to  
283 vote in a postal zip code completely or partially within the Austin city limits. The  
284 amount of the contribution limit shall be modified each year by January first or  
285 as otherwise provided in state law [~~with the adoption of the budget~~] to increase or  
286 decrease in accordance with the most recently published federal government  
287 Bureau of Labor Statistics Indicator, Consumer Price Index (CPI-W U.S. City  
288 Average) U.S. City Average. The most recently published Consumer Price Index  
289 on May 13, 2006, shall be used as a base of 100 and the adjustment thereafter  
290 will be to the nearest \$1,000.00.

291 (B) Small-Donor Political Committees.



292 (1) A small-donor political committee is a political committee which has accepted no  
293 more than \$25.00 from any contributor during any calendar year, has had at least  
294 100 contributors during either the current or previous calendar year, has been in  
295 existence for at least six months, and has never been controlled by a candidate.

296 (2) Such a committee shall not contribute more than \$1,000.00 per candidate per  
297 general, runoff, or special election for the offices of mayor and city council.

298 **PART 7.** If Proposition G is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
299 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

300 Article IV. – INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

301 § 4. - COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.

302 (A) When the council receives an authorized initiative petition certified by the city clerk  
303 to be sufficient, the council shall either:

304 (1) ~~(a)~~ Pass the initiated ordinance without amendment within 10 days after the  
305 date of the certification to the council; or

306 (2) ~~(b)~~ Order an election and submit said initiated ordinance without amendment  
307 to a vote of the qualified voters of the city at the city's next November election  
308 date that occurs in an even-numbered year and that allows sufficient time to  
309 comply with other requirements of law ~~[a regular or special election to be held on~~  
310 ~~the next allowable election date authorized by state law after the certification to the~~  
311 ~~council]~~.

312 (B) When the council receives an authorized referendum petition certified by the city  
313 clerk to be sufficient, the council shall reconsider the referred ordinance, and if upon such  
314 reconsideration such ordinance is not repealed, it shall be submitted to the voters at a  
315 regular or special election to be held on the next allowable election date authorized by  
316 state law after the date of the certification to the council.

317 (C) When the council receives an authorized charter amendment petition certified by the  
318 city clerk to be sufficient, the council shall submit said proposed charter amendment to a  
319 vote of the qualified voters of the city at the city's next November election date that  
320 occurs in an even-numbered year and that allows sufficient time to comply with other  
321 requirements of law.

322 (D) Special elections on initiated or referred ordinances shall not be held more frequently  
323 than once each six months, and no ordinance on the same subject as an initiated  
324 ordinance which has been defeated at any election may be initiated by the voters within  
325 two years from the date of such election.

326 **PART 8.** If Proposition H is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
327 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

328 Article IV. – INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

329 § 6. - POWER OF RECALL

330 The people of the city reserve the power to recall any member of the council and  
331 may exercise such power by filing with the city clerk a petition, with valid signatures of  
332 [signed by]qualified voters of the territory from which the council member is elected  
333 equal in number to at least 15[10] percent of the qualified voters of the territory from  
334 which a district[the]council member is elected, or 10 percent of the qualified voters in  
335 the City of Austin in order to recall the mayor, demanding the removal of a council  
336 member. The petition shall be signed and verified in the manner required for an initiative  
337 petition, shall contain a general statement of the grounds for which the removal is sought,  
338 and one of the circulators [signers] of each petition paper shall make an affidavit that the  
339 statements therein made are true.

340 **PART 9.** If Proposition I is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
341 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

342 Article V. – ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

343 § 6. – CITY ATTORNEY

344 There shall be a department of law, the head of which shall be the city attorney, who  
345 shall be appointed by the city council [manager]. The city attorney shall be a competent  
346 attorney who shall have practiced law in the State of Texas for at least five years  
347 immediately preceding his or her appointment. The city attorney shall be the legal advisor  
348 of, and attorney for, all of the officers and departments of the city, and he or she shall  
349 represent the city in all litigation and legal proceedings. He or she shall draft, approve, or  
350 file his or her written legal objections to every ordinance before it is acted upon by the  
351 council, and he or she shall pass upon all documents, contracts and legal instruments in  
352 which the city may have an interest. The city attorney may be removed at the will and  
353 pleasure of the council by a majority vote of the entire membership of the council.

354 **PART 10.** If Proposition J is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, the  
355 City Charter is amended to read as follows:

356 Article VI. – MUNICIPAL COURT

357 § 2. - JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

358 If any judge of a municipal court announces candidacy, or in fact becomes a  
359 candidate, in any general, special, or primary election, for any elective public office, at a  
360 time when the unexpired term of the judge's office exceeds one year and 30 days, the

361 judge's announcement or candidacy is an automatic resignation of the office of municipal  
362 judge.

363 **PART 11.** If Proposition K is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election,  
364 the City Charter is amended to read as follows:

365 Article VII. - FINANCE

366 § 2.- DIRECTOR OF FINANCE — POWERS AND DUTIES.

367 The director of finance shall administer all financial affairs of the city, other than the  
368 assessment and collection of taxes assigned by state law or city ordinance to be  
369 administered by other governmental entities, including the state comptroller and county  
370 assessor-collectors. He or she shall have authority and be required to:

- 371 (1) Maintain a general accounting system for the city government and exercise  
372 financial control over all offices, departments, and agencies thereof;
- 373 (2) Certify as to the availability of funds for all proposed expenditures. Unless the  
374 Director of Finance shall certify that there is an unencumbered balance in the  
375 appropriation and funds available, no appropriation shall be encumbered, and no  
376 expenditure shall be made;
- 377 (3) Submit to the council, through the city manager, a monthly statement of all  
378 receipts and disbursements in sufficient detail to show the exact financial  
379 condition of the city;
- 380 (4) Prepare, as of the end of the fiscal year, a complete financial statement and  
381 report.

382 § 4. – ~~[INTERIM BUDGET.]~~ REPEALED

383 ~~[The city manager shall submit to the council an interim budget which shall be~~  
384 ~~prepared, as nearly as practicable, in accordance with the requirements for the~~  
385 ~~budget document herein prescribed, for the interim fiscal period hereinabove~~  
386 ~~established. Following the approval of such interim budget, the council shall~~  
387 ~~enact such appropriation and other ordinances as may be necessary for the~~  
388 ~~effectuation of such interim budget.]~~

389 § 6. - BUDGET PREPARATION AND ADOPTION.

390 At least 30 days prior to the beginning of each budget year, the city manager shall  
391 submit to the council a proposed budget in the form required by this Charter. ~~[At the~~  
392 ~~meeting of the council at which the budget is submitted, t]~~ The council shall schedule  
393 ~~[order]~~ a public hearing on the budget and shall cause to be published ~~[, at least 10 days~~  
394 ~~prior to]~~ the date ~~[of such hearing]~~, ~~[the]~~ time, and place thereof in the form and manner

395 required by applicable state law. At the published time and place [~~so advertised~~] the  
396 council shall hold a public hearing on the budget in the manner required by applicable  
397 state law [~~as submitted~~], at which all interested persons shall be given an opportunity to  
398 be heard. The budget shall be finally adopted not later than the twenty-seventh day of  
399 the last month of the fiscal year. Upon final adoption the budget shall be in effect for  
400 the budget year, and copies thereof shall be filed with the city clerk and any other entity  
401 with which the city is required to file a copy of the budget by applicable state law [~~, the~~  
402 ~~county clerk of Travis County, and the state comptroller of public accounts~~]. The final  
403 budget shall be [~~reproduced and sufficient copies shall be~~] made available electronically  
404 on a public facing website of the city for use of all offices, departments, and agencies of  
405 the city, and for the use of interested persons.

406 § 7. - [~~WORK PROGRAMS AND ALLOTMENTS~~]. REPEALED

407 [~~At the beginning of each fiscal year the head of each department or agency of the city~~  
408 ~~government, upon the direction of the city manager, shall submit to the department of~~  
409 ~~finance a work program for the year. Said work program shall include all appropriations~~  
410 ~~for operation, maintenance, and capital outlays and shall indicate the requested~~  
411 ~~allotments of such appropriations by months for the entire fiscal year. The city manager~~  
412 ~~shall review the requested allotments, and, after such alteration or revision as he may~~  
413 ~~deem necessary, authorize such for expenditure. Thereafter the department of finance~~  
414 ~~shall authorize all expenditures for departments and agencies to be made from the~~  
415 ~~appropriations on the basis of the approved allotments and not otherwise. The approved~~  
416 ~~allotments may be revised during the fiscal year by the city manager, or upon~~  
417 ~~application by the head of any department or agency and approval by the city manager,~~  
418 ~~but in no event shall the aggregate of departmental or agency allotments exceed the~~  
419 ~~appropriation available to such departments or agencies for the fiscal year. If, at any~~  
420 ~~time during the fiscal year, the city manager shall ascertain that available revenues will~~  
421 ~~be less than total appropriations for the year, he or she shall reconsider the work~~  
422 ~~program and allotments of the departments and agencies and revise them so as to~~  
423 ~~prevent the making of expenditures in excess of available revenues.]~~

424 § 8. - APPROPRIATIONS.

425 No funds of the city shall be expended nor shall any obligation for the expenditure of  
426 money be incurred, except in pursuance of the annual [~~or interim period~~] appropriation  
427 ordinance provided by this Charter. If, at any time during the fiscal year, the city manager  
428 ascertains that available revenues will be less than total appropriations for the year, the  
429 city manager shall reconsider the appropriations of the departments and agencies and  
430 revise them to prevent the making of expenditures in excess of available revenues. At the  
431 close of each fiscal year any unencumbered balance of an appropriation shall revert to the  
432 fund from which appropriated and may be reappropriated by the city council. The council  
433 may transfer any unencumbered appropriation balance or portion thereof from one office,  
434 department, or agency to another. The city manager shall have authority, without council

435 approval, to transfer appropriation balances from one expenditure account to another  
436 within a single office, department, or agency of the city.

437 § 15. - PURCHASE PROCEDURE.

438 All purchases made and contracts executed by the city shall be pursuant to a written  
439 requisition from the head of the office, department or agency whose appropriation will be  
440 charged, and no contract or order shall be binding upon the city unless and until the  
441 director of finance certifies that there is to the credit of such office, department or agency  
442 a sufficient unencumbered appropriation balance to pay for the supplies, materials,  
443 equipment or contractual services for which the contract or order is to be issued. Before  
444 the city makes any purchase or contract for supplies, materials, equipment or contractual  
445 services, opportunity shall be given for competition unless exempted by state statute. The  
446 city manager shall have the authority to contract for expenditures without further  
447 approval of the council for an expenditure that does not exceed one hundred fifty [~~forty-~~  
448 ~~three~~]thousand dollars annually. A contract or an amendment to a contract, involving an  
449 expenditure of more than one hundred fifty [~~forty-three~~]thousand dollars annually must  
450 be expressly approved by the council. All contracts or purchases involving more than  
451 \$5,000.00 shall be let to the bid deemed most advantageous to the city after there has  
452 been an opportunity for competitive bidding; provided, however, that the council shall  
453 have the right to reject any and all bids. Contracts for personal or professional services  
454 shall not be let on competitive bids and each such contract, or amendment to a contract,  
455 involving more than one hundred fifty [~~forty-three~~]thousand dollars annually shall be  
456 approved by the council. The city manager may not contract for personal or professional  
457 services under the manager's authority if the manager knows or reasonably should know  
458 that the contractor's full scope of work will exceed the limit of the manager's authority.  
459 The amount of the one hundred fifty [~~forty-three~~]thousand dollar annual limitation shall  
460 be modified each year with the adoption of the budget to increase or decrease in  
461 accordance with the most recently published federal government, Bureau of Labor  
462 Statistics Indicator, Consumer Price Index (CPI-W U.S. City Average) U.S. City Average  
463 . [~~The most recently published Consumer Price Index on May 4, 2002, shall be used as~~  
464 ~~a base of 100 and the adjustment thereafter will be to the nearest \$1,000.00.~~]

465 § 16. - INDEPENDENT AUDIT.

466 At the close of each fiscal year, and at such other times as may be deemed necessary,  
467 the council shall cause an independent audit to be made of all accounts of the city by a  
468 certified public accountant. The certified public accountant so selected shall have no  
469 personal interest, directly or indirectly, in the financial affairs of the city or any of its  
470 officers. Upon completion of the audit, the audited financial report [~~results thereof~~] shall  
471 be published [~~immediately in a newspaper in the city of Austin~~] on a public facing  
472 website of the city and shall be filed with the city clerk as a public record in accordance  
473 with state law [~~and copies placed on file in the city hall as a public record~~].

474 **PART 12.** If Proposition L is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election,  
475 the City Charter is amended to read as follows:

476 Article IX. – PERSONNEL

477 § 1. - CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE.

478 (B) There is hereby established a classified civil service in which all employment and  
479 promotions shall be made on the basis of merit and fitness. The civil service shall  
480 include all appointive offices and employments in the administrative service and in  
481 other agencies and offices of the city, except the following:

- 482 (1) members of the city council and their direct staff;
- 483 (2) persons who are appointed or elected by the city council pursuant to this Charter;
- 484 (3) the city manager and assistant city managers;
- 485 (4) department directors and assistant department directors;
- 486 (5) the city attorney and all assistant city attorneys;
- 487 (6) appointees or employees of the city auditor's office;
- 488 (7[6]) temporary and seasonal employees; and
- 489 (8[7]) employees covered by a state civil service statute.

490 **PART 13.** If Proposition M is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election,  
491 the City Charter is amended to read as follows:

492 Article XII. – GENERAL PROVISIONS

493 § 3. - NOTICE OF CLAIMS.

494 Before the City of Austin shall be liable for damages for the death or personal  
495 injuries of any person or for damage to or destruction of property of any kind, which does  
496 not constitute a taking or damaging of property under Article I, Section 17, Constitution  
497 of Texas, the person injured, if living, or his or her representatives, if dead, or the owner  
498 of the property damaged or destroyed, shall give the city council or city manager notice  
499 in writing of such death, injury, damage or destruction, [~~duly verified by affidavit~~] within  
500 the time period required under the Texas Tort Claims Act [~~45 days after same has been~~  
501 ~~sustained~~], stating specifically in such written notice when, where, and how the death,  
502 injury, damage or destruction, occurred, and the apparent extent of any such injury, the  
503 amount of damages sustained, the actual residence of the claimant by street and number  
504 at the date the claim is presented, the actual residence of such claimant for six months  
505 immediately preceding the occurrence of such death, injury, damage or destruction, and

506 the names and addresses of all witnesses upon whom it is relied to establish the claim for  
507 damages; and the failure to so notify the council or city manager within the time and  
508 manner specified herein shall exonerate, excuse and exempt the city from any liability  
509 whatsoever. No act of any officer or employee of the city shall waive compliance, or  
510 estop the city from requiring compliance, with the provisions of this section as to notice,  
511 but such provisions may be waived by resolution of the council, made and passed before  
512 the expiration of the ~~time~~[45-day] period herein provided, and evidenced by minutes of  
513 the council.

514 **PART 14.** If Proposition N is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election,  
515 the City Charter is amended to read as follows:

516 ARTICLE I. - INCORPORATION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, POWERS.

517 § 5. - STREET DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT.

518 As an alternate and cumulative method of developing, improving, and paving any  
519 and all public streets, sidewalks, alleys, highways, and other public ways within the  
520 corporate limits, the city shall have the power and authority to proceed in accordance  
521 with ~~state law~~[Chapter 106, page 489, Acts 1927, Fortieth Legislature, First Called  
522 ~~Session~~], as now or hereafter amended, to adopt plans and specifications pursuant thereto;  
523 to pay to the contractor, the successful bidder, in cash, that part of the cost which may be  
524 assessed against the abutting property and the owners thereof; to reimburse itself for the  
525 amount paid such contractor by levying assessments against the abutting property and the  
526 owners thereof, after the hearing and notice prescribed in the aforesaid statutes, in an  
527 amount permitted by said statutes and not in excess of the enhancement in value of such  
528 property occasioned by the improvements; and to issue assignable certificates in favor of  
529 the city for such assessments, said certificates to be enforceable in the manner prescribed  
530 by the aforesaid statutes. The city shall likewise have the power to make any such  
531 development, improvement or paving with its own forces if, in the opinion of the council,  
532 the work can be done more expeditiously or economically, and in such event the city  
533 shall have the power to reimburse itself for the cost of such improvement in the same  
534 amount and in the same manner as if the work had been performed by a successful  
535 bidding contractor.

536 § 6. - ANNEXATION FOR ALL PURPOSES.

537 The city council shall have the power by ordinance to fix the boundary limits of the  
538 City of Austin; and to provide for the alteration, reduction, and the extension of said  
539 boundary limits, and the annexation of additional territory lying adjacent to the city[~~, with  
540 or without the consent of the territory and inhabitants annexed~~]. Before the city may  
541 institute annexation or disannexation proceedings, the city council shall provide an  
542 opportunity for all interested persons to be heard at a public hearing. [~~Prior notice of such  
543 hearings shall be published in accordance with state law in a newspaper having general  
544 circulation in the city and in the territory proposed to be annexed.~~] Upon the final passage

545 of any such ordinance, the boundary limits of the city shall thereafter be fixed in such  
546 ordinance; and when any additional territory has been so annexed, same shall be a part of  
547 the City of Austin, and the property situated therein shall bear its pro rata part of the taxes  
548 levied by the city, and the inhabitants thereof shall be entitled to all rights and privileges  
549 of all the citizens, and shall be bound by the acts, ordinances, resolutions, and regulations  
550 of the city.

551 § 7. - LIMITED PURPOSE ANNEXATION.

552 In addition to the power to annex additional territory for all purposes, the city shall  
553 have the power, by ordinance, to fix, alter, and extend the corporate boundary limits of  
554 the city for the limited purposes of planning, zoning, health, and safety and to annex for  
555 such limited purposes additional territory lying adjacent to the city [~~-, with or without the~~  
556 ~~consent of the property owners or inhabitants of such annexed territory~~]; provided,  
557 however, that no such territory which lies farther than five miles from the corporate  
558 boundary limits enclosing the territory which is a part of the city for all purposes, as those  
559 corporate boundary limits are now or may hereafter be established shall be annexed for  
560 any limited purpose or purposes. Whenever the boundary limits annexed for such limited  
561 purposes are not coterminous with the corporate boundary limits enclosing the territory  
562 which a part of the city for all purposes, such boundary limits of the limited purpose  
563 territory shall be known as "Limited Purpose Boundary Limits." [~~Every ordinance by~~  
564 ~~which territory is to be annexed to the city for limited purposes shall state clearly the~~  
565 ~~limited purpose or purposes for which it is being annexed, and shall be published one~~  
566 ~~time, in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and in the form in which it is to be~~  
567 ~~finally adopted, not less than 30 days prior to its final passage.~~]

568 ARTICLE II. - THE COUNCIL.

569 § 6. - VACANCIES.

570 Where a vacancy in any place on the council shall occur, the vacant place shall be  
571 filled by a special election, and, where necessary, by a run-off election, in the same  
572 manner as provided in this Charter for the regular election of a council member. Such  
573 special election shall be held in accordance with state law [~~on the next available state~~  
574 ~~uniform election date following the creation of the vacancy~~], and, where necessary, the  
575 run-off election shall be held according to state law following the preceding election;  
576 provided, however, that where a vacancy shall occur within 90 days of a regular election,  
577 no special election to fill the vacancy shall be called, unless more than one vacancy  
578 occurs.

579 ARTICLE III. - ELECTIONS

580 § 4. - FILING OF CANDIDATES.



581 Any qualified person who desires to become a candidate for election to a place on the  
582 council shall file with the city clerk~~[, at least 45 days prior to the election day,]~~ an  
583 application for his or her name to appear on the ballot in accordance with state law. Such  
584 application shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$500.00 or a petition in lieu of a filing  
585 fee. ~~[Such filing fee may be reduced by \$1.00 per signature for each registered voter who~~  
586 ~~signs a petition requesting that the name of the candidate be placed on the ballot, if such~~  
587 ~~petition is sufficient to satisfy statutory requirements.]~~In case of a district position, the  
588 petition shall be signed by registered voters residing in the particular district. Such  
589 application shall clearly designate by number the place on the council to which the  
590 candidate seeks election and shall contain a sworn statement by the candidate that he or  
591 she is fully qualified under the laws of Texas and the provisions of this Charter to hold  
592 the office he or she seeks.

593 § 5. - BALLOTS.

594 For every regular election and for every special election called to fill one or more  
595 vacant places on the council, the city clerk shall place upon the official ballot the name of  
596 every candidate who shall file an application which complies with the provisions of this  
597 Charter. The council places to be filled shall be placed on the ballot in numerical order.  
598 The name of each candidate shall be placed on the ballot under the designated place for  
599 which he or she shall have filed, and in such manner that the names of the candidates for  
600 each place shall be clearly separate and distinguishable from the names of the candidates  
601 for every other council place. For a general election or a special election called to fill one  
602 or more vacant places on the council, ~~[T]~~the order on the ballot of the names of the  
603 candidates for each respective council place shall be determined by lot in a drawing to be  
604 held under the supervision of the city clerk, at which drawing each candidate or his or her  
605 named representative shall have a right to be present.

606 § 8. - LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES.

607 (F) ~~[Time Restrictions On Candidate]~~Fundraising; Officeholder Accounts.

608 (1) In this section terms have the same meaning as they have in Title 15 of the Texas  
609 Election Code. The term "officeholder account" means an account in which  
610 funds described by subsection (F)(~~2~~4) must be kept. "Officeholder" means the  
611 mayor or a council member.

612 ~~[(2) An officeholder, a candidate for mayor or city council, or an officeholder's or~~  
613 ~~candidate's committee may not solicit or accept a political contribution except~~  
614 ~~during the last 180 days before an election for mayor or council member or in~~  
615 ~~which an officeholder faces recall.~~

616 ~~(3) Except as provided by subsection (F)(6), no later than the 90th day after an~~  
617 ~~election, or if a candidate is in a runoff election no later than the 90th day after~~  
618 ~~the runoff, a candidate or officeholder shall distribute the balance of funds~~

619 ~~received from political contributions in excess of any remaining expenses for the~~  
620 ~~election:~~

621 ~~(a) to the candidate's or officeholder's contributors on a reasonable basis,~~

622 ~~(b) to a charitable organization, or~~

623 ~~(c) to the Austin Fair Campaign Fund.]~~

624 (2[4]) An unsuccessful candidate who, after an election, has unpaid expenses  
625 remaining, or who has unreimbursed campaign expenditures from personal funds  
626 that were made with the intent to seek reimbursement from political  
627 contributions, may solicit and accept political contributions after the election  
628 until the unpaid expenses are paid and the unreimbursed expenditures are  
629 reimbursed.

630 (3[5]) An officeholder who, after an election, has unpaid expenses remaining, or  
631 who has unreimbursed campaign expenditures from personal funds that were  
632 made with the intent to seek reimbursement from political contributions, may  
633 solicit and accept political contributions after leaving office until the unpaid  
634 expenses are paid and the unreimbursed expenditures are reimbursed. An  
635 officeholder may also pay the unpaid expenses and reimburse the unreimbursed  
636 expenditures from political contributions received during a subsequent  
637 campaign.

638 (4[6]) An officeholder may retain up to \$20,000.00 of funds received from political  
639 contributions for the purposes of officeholder expenditures.

640 (5[7]) An officeholder shall keep funds retained under subsection (F)([6]4) in an  
641 account separate from any other funds including personal funds of the  
642 officeholder and any other political funds of the officeholder. The funds kept in  
643 an officeholder account may be used only for officeholder expenditures. The  
644 funds kept in an officeholder account may not be used for campaign  
645 expenditures. The funds kept in an officeholder account may not exceed  
646 \$20,000.00 at any time.

647 (6[8]) When an officeholder leaves the council, the funds remaining in an  
648 officeholder account must be paid to the Austin Fair Campaign Fund.

649 ARTICLE IV. - INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL.

650 § 5. - BALLOT FORM AND RESULTS OF ELECTION.

651 The ballot used in voting upon an initiated or referred ordinance shall state the  
652 caption of the ordinance and below the caption shall set forth on separate lines the words,

653 "For the Ordinance" and "Against the Ordinance," or other language and placement as  
654 permitted by the Texas Election Code.

655 Any number of ordinances may be voted on at the same election in accordance with  
656 the provisions of this article. If a majority of the votes cast is in favor of a submitted  
657 ordinance, it shall thereupon be effective as an ordinance of the city. An ordinance so  
658 adopted may be repealed or amended at any time after the expiration of two years by  
659 favorable vote of at least three-fourths of the council. A referred ordinance which is not  
660 approved by a majority of the votes cast shall be deemed thereupon repealed.

661 § 8. - RECALL BALLOT.

662 Ballots used at recall elections shall conform to the following requirements:

- 663 (1) With respect to each person whose removal is sought, the question shall be  
664 submitted "Shall (name of council member) be removed from the office of city  
665 council member?"
- 666 (2) Immediately below each such question there shall be printed the two following  
667 propositions, one above the other, in the order indicated:

668 "For the recall of (name of council member)."

669 "Against the recall of (name of council member)."

670 (3) Other language and placement may be used as permitted by the Texas Election  
671 Code.

672 ARTICLE VII.- FINANCE.

673 § 3. - FISCAL YEAR.

674 The~~[fiscal year of the city which began on January 1, 1953, shall end on December~~  
675 ~~31, 1953. The next succeeding fiscal year shall begin on January 1, 1954, and end on~~  
676 ~~September 30, 1954, and shall constitute an interim fiscal period. After September 30,~~  
677 ~~1954, the]~~ fiscal year of the city shall begin on the first day of October and end on the last  
678 day of September of each calendar year. The fiscal year established by this section shall  
679 also constitute the budget and accounting year. As used herein, the term "budget year"  
680 shall mean the fiscal year for which any budget is adopted and in which it is  
681 administered. ~~[All funds collected by the city during any fiscal year, including both~~  
682 ~~current and delinquent revenues, shall belong to such fiscal year and, except for funds~~  
683 ~~derived to pay interest and create a sinking fund on the bonded indebtedness of the city,~~  
684 ~~shall be applied to the payment of expenses incurred during such fiscal year. Any~~  
685 ~~revenues uncollected at the end of any fiscal year shall become resources of the next~~  
686 ~~succeeding fiscal year.]~~

687 § 5. - THE BUDGET DOCUMENT.

688 The budget for the city government shall present a complete financial plan for the  
689 ensuing fiscal year, and shall consist of~~[three parts as follows]~~:

690 ~~[Part I shall contain:]~~

691 (1) A budget message, prepared by the city manager, which shall outline his or her  
692 proposed fiscal plan for the city and describe significant features of the budget  
693 for the forthcoming fiscal period;

694 (2) A general budget summary which, with supporting schedules, will show the  
695 relationship between total proposed expenditures and total anticipated revenues  
696 for the forthcoming fiscal period and which shall compare these figures with  
697 corresponding figures for the last completed fiscal year and the year in  
698 progress~~[-]~~;

699 ~~[Part II shall contain:]~~(~~3~~<sup>4</sup>)Detailed estimates of all proposed expenditures, showing  
700 the corresponding expenditures for each item for the current fiscal year and the  
701 last preceding fiscal year with explanations of increases or decreases  
702 recommended;

703 (~~4~~<sup>2</sup>) Detailed estimates of anticipated revenues and other income;

704 (~~5~~<sup>3</sup>) Delinquent taxes for current and preceding years, with the estimated  
705 percentage collectible; and

706 (~~6~~<sup>4</sup>) Statement of the indebtedness of the city, showing debt redemption and  
707 interest requirements, debt authorized and unissued, and conditions of the  
708 sinking funds.

709 (~~7~~<sup>7</sup>)~~[Part III shall contain a]~~ A proposed complete draft of the appropriation ordinance,  
710 the tax levying ordinance, and any other ordinances required to effectuate the budget.

711 § 9. - DEPOSITORIES.

712 All monies received by any person, department, or agency of the city for or in  
713 connection with affairs of the city shall be deposited promptly in city depositories, which  
714 shall be designated by the council in accordance with state law~~[such regulations]~~ and  
715 subject to such requirements as to security for deposits and interest thereon as may be  
716 established by ordinance. All checks, vouchers, or warrants for the withdrawal of money  
717 from the city depositories shall be signed by the director of finance or his or her deputy  
718 and countersigned by the city manager.

719 § 11. - REVENUE BONDS.

720 The city shall have power to borrow money for the purpose of acquiring,  
721 constructing, [~~purchasing,~~] improving, extending, or repairing of public utilities, and for  
722 any other public purpose authorized by state law, provided such bonds shall be  
723 [~~recreational facilities or facilities for any other self-liquidating municipal function not~~  
724 ~~now or hereafter prohibited by any general law of the state, and to issue revenue bonds to~~  
725 ~~evidence the obligation created thereby. Such bonds shall be a charge upon and~~]payable  
726 solely from designated sources, [~~the~~]properties, or interest therein, acquired and the  
727 income therefrom, and shall never be a debt of the city. [~~All revenue bonds issued by the~~  
728 ~~city shall first be authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting at an election~~  
729 ~~held for such purpose.~~] The council shall have authority to provide for the terms and form  
730 of any purchase agreement, contract, mortgage, bond or document desired or necessary  
731 for the issuance of revenue bonds and the acquisition and operation of any such property  
732 or interest.

733 § 14. - SINKING FUND.

734 It shall be the duty of the council to levy an annual tax sufficient to pay the interest  
735 on and provide the necessary sinking fund required by law on all outstanding general  
736 obligation bonds of the city. The interest and sinking fund shall be deposited in a separate  
737 account and shall not be diverted to or used for any other purpose than to pay the interest  
738 and principal on such bonds. The sinking fund maintained for the redemption of any debt  
739 may be invested in accordance with state law[~~any interest bearing bonds of the United~~  
740 ~~States government, the State of Texas, the County of Travis, or the City of Austin~~].

741 ARTICLE VIII. - TAXATION.

742 § 1. - TAXES — ARREARS OF OFFSET TO DEBT AGAINST CITY.

743 No money shall be paid by the city upon any claim, debt, demand or account  
744 whatsoever to any person, firm or corporation who is in arrears to the City of Austin for  
745 taxes; and the city shall be entitled to counter-claim and offset against any such debt,  
746 claim, demand or account in the amount of taxes so in arrears, and no assignment or  
747 transfer of such debt, claim, [~~claim,~~]demand or account after the said taxes are due, shall  
748 affect the right of the city to so offset the said taxes against the same.

749 ARTICLE IX. - PERSONNEL.

750 § 1. - CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE.

751 (A) To the extent of any conflict with other provisions of this Charter, this article  
752 controls. [~~If another ballot proposition amending the previous Section 1 of this article~~  
753 ~~is approved by the voters at the same election at which this section is adopted, this~~  
754 ~~section supersedes and replaces the other amendment to Section 1, but does not~~  
755 ~~supersede or replace other amendments to this article that were part of the other~~  
756 ~~proposition.~~]

757 § 5. - EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

758 There shall be one or more[a] retirement systems for [~~the~~]employees of the city  
759 established in accordance with state law[~~which shall be known as the employees'~~  
760 ~~retirement system of the City of Austin. After the first six months of employment, all~~  
761 ~~municipal employees except the mayor, members of the council, members of boards and~~  
762 ~~commissions, employees of the fire department, and part-time or temporary employees,~~  
763 ~~shall become members of such system. Such system shall be governed by a board of~~  
764 ~~directors composed of such members and selected in such a manner as may be provided~~  
765 ~~by ordinance of the council, provided that classified employees shall have representation~~  
766 ~~on the board. Such system shall be financed by a retirement fund created by contributions~~  
767 ~~of the members and of the city, and the contributions by the city shall always be equal to~~  
768 ~~or greater than the contributions of the members].~~ The benefits payable to any member  
769 upon retirement shall be based upon the amount of contributions made on behalf of such  
770 member[~~, and shall be determined on an actuarial basis~~]. Upon separation of any member  
771 from the service of the city before retirement, such member shall be entitled to receive  
772 only the amount of his or her contributions to the fund and interest thereon.

773 [~~Establishment of the employees' retirement system shall not preclude the council~~  
774 ~~from merging such system with, or adopting, any voluntary statewide or national~~  
775 ~~retirement system where the general benefits of such merger or change are at least equal~~  
776 ~~to those under the employees' retirement system. The council shall likewise not be~~  
777 ~~precluded from consolidating any retirement system maintained by employees of the fire~~  
778 ~~department with the employees' retirement system of the City of Austin under terms~~  
779 ~~agreeable to both systems.]~~

780 ARTICLE X. - PLANNING.

781 § 2. - THE PLANNING COMMISSION — ORGANIZATION.

782 There shall be established a planning commission which shall consist of citizens of  
783 the City of Austin who must be registered voters in the city and must have resided within  
784 the city for one year [~~next~~]preceding their appointment. The planning commission shall  
785 have a number of members equal to the number of members on the council plus two  
786 additional members, a minimum of two-thirds of the members who shall be lay members  
787 not directly or indirectly connected with real estate and land development. The city  
788 manager, the chairperson of the zoning board of adjustment, the director of public works,  
789 or successor department, and the president of the board of trustees of the Austin  
790 Independent School District shall serve as ex officio members. The members of said  
791 commission shall be appointed by the council for a term of up to two years. The timing of  
792 appointments, as well as a process for removing commissioners prior to expiration of a  
793 term, shall be established by ordinance. The commission shall elect a chairperson from  
794 among its membership and shall meet not less than once each month. Vacancies in an  
795 unexpired term shall be filled by the council for the remainder of the term.

796 **PART 15.** If Proposition O is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election,  
797 the City Charter is amended to read as follows:

798 Article III. ELECTIONS.

799 § 8. - LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES.

800 (F) [~~Time Restrictions On Candidate~~] Fundraising; Officeholder Accounts.

801 (5) An officeholder who, after an election, has unpaid expenses remaining, or who has  
802 unreimbursed campaign expenditures from personal funds that were made with the  
803 intent to seek reimbursement from political contributions, may solicit and accept  
804 political contributions [~~after leaving office~~] until the unpaid expenses are paid and the  
805 unreimbursed expenditures are reimbursed. An officeholder may also pay the unpaid  
806 expenses and reimburse the unreimbursed expenditures from political contributions  
807 received during a subsequent campaign.

808 **PART 16.** The elections shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00  
809 p.m. The location of the main early voting polling place, the dates and hours for early  
810 voting, and the early voting clerk's official mailing address are provided in Exhibit A,  
811 attached and incorporated as a part of this ordinance. This ordinance will be amended  
812 prior to the election to add exhibits containing executed English and Spanish copies of  
813 this ordinance, providing the full lists of early voting sites and election day polling  
814 places, containing executed contracts and joint election agreements, and designating  
815 election judges and staff, as required by state law.

816 **PART 17.** As specified in Resolution No. 20231019-006, the City adopts Travis  
817 County's electronic voting system for use in the elections for early voting and voting  
818 conducted on election day in Travis County. The central counting station for Travis  
819 County is established at the Travis County Elections Division, 5501 Airport Boulevard,  
820 Austin, Texas 78751.

821 **PART 18.** As specified in Resolution No. 20231019-006, the City adopts Williamson  
822 County's electronic voting system for use in the elections for early voting and voting  
823 conducted on election day in Williamson County. The central counting station for  
824 Williamson County is established at Williamson County Elections Administration, 301  
825 SE Inner Loop, Suite 104, Tabulation Room, Georgetown, Texas 78626.

826 **PART 19.** As specified in Resolution No. 20231019-006, the City adopts Hays County's  
827 electronic voting system for use in the elections for early voting and voting conducted on  
828 election day in Hays County. The central counting station for Hays County is established  
829 at Hays County Government Center, 712 South Stagecoach Trail, Suite 1012, San  
830 Marcos, Texas 78666.

831 **PART 20.** Notice of the elections shall be posted and published in accordance with state  
832 law. The notice shall be posted, in both English and Spanish, in the office of the City

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Clerk and at the City Hall notice kiosk not later than the 21<sup>st</sup> day before election day.  
Notice of the elections shall be published one time, in English and Spanish, not earlier  
than the 30<sup>th</sup> day before the date of the elections or later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day before the date  
of the elections, in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Austin.

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**PART 21.** In accordance with Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, the November 5,  
2024, general and special elections may be held jointly with the various political  
subdivisions that share territory with the City of Austin and that are holding elections on  
that day. The City Clerk may enter and sign joint election agreements with other political  
subdivisions for this purpose.

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**PART 22.** The Council finds that the need to immediately begin required preparations  
for these elections constitutes an emergency. Because of this emergency, this ordinance  
takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public  
peace, health, and safety.

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**PASSED AND APPROVED**

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\_\_\_\_\_, 2024      § \_\_\_\_\_

852

Kirk Watson  
Mayor

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854

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856

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

857

Deborah Thomas  
Acting City Attorney

Myrna Rios  
City Clerk

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