Austin City Council Budget Meeting

This agenda includes items that are not related to budget.

Monday, August 17, 2026

The City Council will convene at 10:00 AM on Monday, August 17, 2026 at Austin City Hall 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX and some members may be participating via videoconference

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

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

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

10:00 AM – City Council Convenes

Budget and Organizational Excellence

1. Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance adopting and levying a property (ad valorem) tax rate for the City for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

2. Conduct a public hearing and consider proposed rate and fee changes for Austin Resource Recovery as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 proposed budget.

3. Conduct a public hearing and consider a proposed drainage charge rate change for Austin Watershed Protection as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 proposed budget.

4. Conduct a public hearing and consider proposed rate and fee changes for Austin Water as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 proposed budget.

5. Conduct a public hearing and consider proposed rate and fee changes for Austin Energy as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 proposed budget.

6. Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance authorizing fees, fines, and other charges to be set or charged by the City for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 beginning on October 1, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2027, and waiving fees and other charges.

7. Approve an ordinance adopting the City of Austin Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, beginning on October 1, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2027.

8. Approve an ordinance establishing classifications and positions in the classified service of Austin Fire; creating certain positions; and repealing Ordinance No. 20251218-003 relating to Austin Fire classifications and positions. Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Operating Budgets of Austin Fire.

9. Approve an ordinance establishing classifications and positions in the classified service of Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services (ATCEMS); and repealing Ordinance No. 20250813-007 relating to ATCEMS classifications and positions. Funding: Available in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Operating Budget of ATCEMS.

10. Approve an ordinance establishing classifications and positions in the classified service of Austin Police and repealing Ordinance No. 20250813-008 relating to Austin Police classifications and

positions. Funding: Available in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Operating Budget of Austin Police.

11. Ratify the property tax increase reflected in the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Housing

12. Authorize negotiation and execution of a one-year service agreement with the Austin Housing Finance Corporation to manage and operate various housing programs on the City's behalf during Fiscal Year 2026-2027 in an amount not to exceed $90,506,483. Funding: Funding in the amount of $90,506,483 is available in the City's Operating and Capital Budgets.

Item(s) from Council

13. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to study fees and regulations that apply to special events held in parks, propose options for accepting special event proposals at underutilized parks; and to provide a progress report on Resolution No. 20240215-023, which related to supporting and preserving accessible, inclusive, open-to-the-public events and creating an application process for City co-sponsorship or other partnerships.

Sponsors: Council Member Ryan Alter, Council Member José Velásquez, Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, Council Member Paige Ellis, and Council Member Marc Duchen

14. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to develop a schedule and process for reviewing social services and contracting performance, working with Council Committees on this review, and reporting back to Council.

Sponsors: Council Member Ryan Alter, Council Member José Velásquez, Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, Council Member Zohaib "Zo" Qadri, and Mayor Kirk Watson

15. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to review and make recommendations regarding key performance measures including a comprehensive review of existing data, audits and models for performance management for Austin Police.

Sponsors: Council Member Ryan Alter, Council Member José Velásquez, Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela, Council Member Krista Laine, and Council Member Mike Siegel

16. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to propose City Code amendments to classify "microbusiness," adjust permitting and licensing requirements to reduce the barriers to entry for microbusinesses, establish eligibility criteria, and develop a program that waives City fees for qualifying microbusinesses.

Sponsors: Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, Council Member José Velásquez, Council Member Krista Laine, and Council Member Zohaib "Zo" Qadri

17. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to develop a security implementation plan for City parks and recreation lands and facilities; to acquire, deploy, and activate equipment to improve parks security and safety; and to ensure any parks surveillance technology is in full compliance with Ordinance No. 20260423-029 (known as the "TRUST Act") and prioritized for deployment to City parks with a history of violent crimes.

Sponsors: Council Member Paige Ellis, Council Member Krista Laine, Council Member Ryan Alter, Council Member Marc Duchen, and Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela

18. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to create a nature trail to connect the Circle C Metropolitan Park to the Hielscher Tract Greenbelt trail through adjacent City-owned land, ensure environmental protection, engage with community partners, and identify funding in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.

Sponsors: Council Member Paige Ellis, Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela, Council Member Krista Laine, and Council Member Ryan Alter

19. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to establish an Office of Joint Emergency Communications within the Management Services Department, take the necessary steps to create an independent Joint Emergency Communications Department outside of the Austin Police Department, and make recommendations regarding the creation of an independent Joint Emergency Communications Department.

Sponsors: Council Member Krista Laine, Council Member Mike Siegel, Council Member Ryan Alter, and Council Member José Velásquez

20. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to study if the proposed increase in the drainage charge rate for Austin Watershed Protection as part of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 proposed budget is sufficient for the City's drainage infrastructure needs and bring back any required ordinances if necessary to increase the change in the proposed drainage utility charge.

Sponsors: Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela, Council Member Mike Siegel, Council Member Zohaib "Zo" Qadri, Council Member Krista Laine, and Council Member Ryan Alter

21. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to provide Council with a summary list of complaints of police misconduct and related information commonly referred to as the "G-file," and directing the City Manager to provide Council with an assessment of costs, as well as any legal, technological, or operational barriers, to develop a publicly accessible online database of information related to allegations of misconduct.

Sponsors: Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela, Council Member José Velásquez, Council Member Zohaib "Zo" Qadri, Council Member Ryan Alter, and Council Member Mike Siegel

22. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to evaluate and develop recommendations for the social services contracts that are proposed for reductions or elimination as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget.

Sponsors: Mayor Kirk Watson, Council Member José Velásquez, Mayor Pro Tem José "Chito" Vela, Council Member Ryan Alter, and Council Member Krista Laine

10:30 AM - Austin Housing Finance Corporation Meeting

23. The Mayor will recess the City Council meeting to conduct a Board of Directors' meeting of the Austin Housing Finance Corporation. Following the adjournment of the AHFC Board meeting, the City Council will reconvene. This item has no fiscal impact.

10:30 AM - Mueller Local Government Corporation Meeting

24. The Mayor will recess the City Council meeting to conduct a Board of Directors' meeting of the Mueller Local Government Corporation. Following adjournment of the MLGC Board meeting the City Council will re-convene.

Adjourn

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request.

For assistance, please call 512-974-2210 or TTY users' route through 711.

Spanish interpretation is available at all regular City Council meetings. For other languages, a person may request an interpreter by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (512) 974-2210 no later than 48 hours before the scheduled meeting.