



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 14, 2026

Committee Members Present:

1. Chair Mayor Kirk Watson
2. Vice Chair Mackenzie Kelly
3. Council Member Jose “Chito” Vela

Committee Members Absent:

1. Council Member Zohaib “Zo” Qadri

Call to Order

Mayor Watson called the committee meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Public Communication: General

There was 1 speaker.

Approval of the minutes

1. Approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of June 10, 2024.

The minutes of the June 10, 2024, meeting of the Public Safety Committee were approved. The motion was made by Council Member Kelley and seconded by Council Member Veka. The motion passed on a 3 – 0 vote, with Council Member Qadri off the dais.

Discussion and Possible Action

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the acquisition of facilities known as One and Two Barton Skyway as 1501 and 1601 South Mopac Expressway, Austin, Texas 78756, for use as a public safety headquarters for Austin Police Department, Austin Fire Department, and Austin Travis County Emergency Medical Services

The committee received a briefing from Kim Olivares, Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the City. There were four speakers on this item. No action was taken.

Executive Session

4. Discuss recommendations for judicial appointments to the City of Austin Municipal Court (Personnel matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code)

The committee went into closed door executive session at 2:37PM.

Call to Order

Mayor Watson called the committee meeting back to order at 3:04 p.m.

Discussion and Possible Action

2. Discuss and recommend judicial appointments to the City of Austin Municipal Court.

The Committee approved recommending to the full Council appointing Brian Guerra as an associated judge for the Austin Municipal Court. The motion was made by Council Member Vela and seconded by Council Member Kelly. The motion was approved on a 3 – 0 vote, with Council Member Qadri off the Dais.

The Committee also approved recommending to the full council appointing Susanna Meringola, Randy Ortega, and Rae-Ann Allong as substitute judges for the Austin Municipal Court. The motion was made by Council Member Vela and seconded by Council Member Kelly. The motion

was approved on a 3 – 0 vote, with Council Member Qadri off the Dais

Mayor Kirk Watson adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

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