



Neighborhood Ballot Forum

May 2021 Special Election

April 18, 2021



Thank you to all the host
neighborhood groups!



Important Election Information

- Ballot by mail
 - Tuesday, April 20 - last day to request a ballot by mail (*received, not postmarked*)
 - <https://countyclerk.traviscountytexas.gov/elections/ballot-by-mail.html>
- Early voting
 - Monday, April 19th – Tuesday, April 27th, 2021
- Election Day
 - Saturday, May 1st, 2021
- Polling locations, wait times, hours of operation
 - <https://votetravis.com>
- Voter guide
 - <https://lwvaustin.org/voter-guide/>



Proposition A

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to give the Austin Firefighters Association, Local 975 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, the authority to require the City to participate in binding arbitration of all issues in dispute with the Association if the City and the Association reach impasse in collective bargaining negotiations?**
- Charter amendment allowing the Austin Firefighters Association to require the city and the union into binding arbitration if they reach an impasse in collective bargaining.

Proposition B

- **Shall an ordinance be adopted that would create a criminal offense and a penalty for sitting or lying down on a public sidewalk or sleeping outdoors in and near the Downtown area and the area around the University of Texas campus; create a criminal offense and penalty for solicitation, defined as requesting money or another thing of value, at specific hours and locations or for solicitation in a public area that is deemed aggressive in manner; create a criminal offense and penalty for camping in any public area not designated by the Parks and Recreation Department?**
- Code amendment prohibiting public camping, in addition to sitting or lying down on a public sidewalk or sleeping outdoors in and near Downtown and the UT-Austin area.



Proposition C

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to allow for a Director of Police Oversight to be appointed or removed in a manner established by City Council ordinance, with duties that include the responsibility to ensure transparency and accountability as it relates to policing?**
- Charter amendment permitting City Council to determine who should oversee the Director of the Office of Police Oversight.



Proposition D

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to transition the election for mayor from gubernatorial election years to presidential election years, providing that the mayor elected in 2022 will serve a 2-year term and then mayoral elections will occur on the same date as presidential elections starting in 2024?**
- Charter amendment moving Austin's mayoral election to presidential election years.



Proposition E

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to provide for the use of ranked choice voting in city elections, if such voting is permitted by state law?**
- Charter amendment creating ranked-choice voting for city elections. If passed, voters would rank candidates instead of voting for just one candidate.

Proposition F

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to change the form of city government from ‘council-manager’ to ‘strong mayor-council,’ which will eliminate the position of professional city manager and designate an elected mayor as the chief administrative and executive officer of the city with veto power over all legislation which includes the budget; and with sole authority to hire and fire most department heads and direct staff; and with no articulated or stated charter authority to require the mayor to implement Council decisions?**
- Charter amendment changing Austin’s form of government from “council-manager” to “mayor-council,” also known as “strong mayor.” If passed, this would eliminate the city manager position; the mayor would not have a vote on Council but would have the authority to veto Council decisions.



Proposition G

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to provide for an additional geographic council district which will result in 11 council members elected from single member districts?**
- Charter amendment creating an 11th City Council district. Because the mayor would be rendered a non-voting member of Council if Prop F passed (see above), an 11th single-member district was proposed in an effort to avoid potential 5-5 deadlocks on Council. However, because Prop G is a standalone proposition, it is not dependent on Prop F's passage or failure.



Proposition H

- **Shall the City Charter be amended to adopt a public campaign finance program, which requires the city clerk to provide up to two \$25 vouchers to every registered voter who may contribute them to candidates for city office who meet the program requirements?**
- Charter amendment creating a so-called “Democracy Dollars” public campaign finance program that, if passed, would provide up to two \$25 vouchers to every registered voter who could then contribute them to candidates for city office.



Thank you for attending

- Recording available through your neighborhood group
- Make a plan to vote!
- Check out the LWV voter guide for more information.
- Tell your neighbors!

