

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, will be held on October 20, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, on the ninth floor of the Harris County Administration Building, 1001 Preston Street, Houston, Texas. The first part of the special meeting will be for the purpose of conducting a Public Hearing on the 2020 proposed tax rates for the Harris County Flood Control District and the Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System in accordance with Section 26.06 of the Texas Property Tax Code. The Court will adopt the final schedule of rates on October 27, 2020. To afford adequate opportunity for proponents and opponents of the tax increase to present their views and to advance the health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the public may also attend the Public Hearing virtually using this link: <https://agenda.harriscountytexas.gov>.

Following the Public Hearing, the special meeting will continue for the purpose of considering and taking action on matters brought before the Court. This portion of the special meeting will be held virtually, to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of COVID-19. **The public will only be able to attend this part of the special meeting virtually** using this link: <https://agenda.harriscountytexas.gov>.

On March 16, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott granted a request by the Texas Attorney General to waive certain requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act to reduce face-to-face contact relating to government meetings while maintaining government transparency during government meetings in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code. Governor Abbott suspended various statutory provisions requiring government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. On October 7, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order GA-32 which directs that all persons not otherwise excepted by the order shall not be in groups larger than ten and shall maintain six feet of social distancing from those not in their group.

The public may make comments by signing up to speak by no later than **Tuesday October 20, 2020 at 8 a.m.** at: <https://appearancerequest.harriscountytexas.gov/>. Members of the public who choose to attend the Public Hearing in person may be asked to wait for their turn to address Commissioners Court in an alternate location within the Harris County Administration Building to allow for social distancing in accordance with the Governor's executive orders. Members of the public are still entitled to participate and address governmental bodies during any telephonic or video conference meeting. If you choose to participate in the Public Hearing virtually or if you sign up to speak for the portion of the special meeting that will be held virtually, you will be placed in a queue and will receive a phone call when it is your time to speak.



Christopher G. Hollins, County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court
of Harris County, Texas



Maricela V. Martinez, Assistant Director
Commissioners Court Records





HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT 1001 Preston St., Suite 934 ♦ Houston, Texas 77002 ♦ (713) 274-1111

Lina Hidalgo
County Judge

Rodney Ellis
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Adrian Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Steve Radack
Commissioner, Precinct 3

R. Jack Cagle
Commissioner, Precinct 4

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

October 20, 2020

1:00 p.m.

Opening prayer by Pastor Adam Mason of Houston’s First Baptist Church in Houston.

I. Tax Rates

Public Hearing The following proposed 2020 tax rates were discussed by the court on September 29, 2020 and it was determined that public hearings were necessary for the Flood Control District and Hospital District rates. Hearings for the Flood Control District and Hospital District rates have been set for October 20, 2020. The court will adopt the final schedule of rates on October 27, 2020.

	<u>2019</u> <u>Adopted</u>	<u>2020</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>Change</u>
Harris County:			
General Fund	.34000	.33028	(.00972)
PIC Fund	.00174	.01000	.00826
Debt Service	<u>.06539</u>	<u>.05088</u>	<u>(.01451)</u>
Total Harris County	.40713	.39116	(.01597)
Flood Control District:			
Maint. & Operations	.02670	.02649	(.00021)
Debt Service	<u>.00122</u>	<u>.00493</u>	<u>.00371</u>
Total Flood Control	.02792	.03142	.00350
Port of Houston:			
Debt Service	<u>.01074</u>	<u>.00991</u>	<u>(.00083)</u>
Hospital District:			
Maint. & Operations	.16491	.16491	-
Debt Service	<u>.00100</u>	<u>.00180</u>	<u>.00080</u>
Total Hospital District	.16591	.16671	.00080
Total	<u>.61170</u>	<u>.59920</u>	<u>(.01250)</u>

II. Department

Request by the **Commissioner of Precinct 2** for approval of the development of a working group made up of representatives of the Budget Office, the Purchasing Department, each of the Commissioner's Offices and the County Judge's Office, to determine next steps on an energy procurement strategy; and to decline participation in the Public Power Pool's 2023 procurement proposal at this time to ensure that the deadline set by the Power Pool is met.

III. Appearances before court

The Clerk of the Court or another person designated by the presiding member of the court shall keep the time for speakers. Those persons who do not conduct themselves in an orderly and appropriate manner will be ordered to leave the meeting and recognition to speak may be refused at subsequent meetings of the court. Refusal to abide by the court's order may result in a Contempt of Court Citation.

1. 3 minutes

A speaker whose subject matter as submitted relates to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be requested to come to the podium where they will be limited to three minutes. A speaker whose subject matter as submitted does not relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda will be limited to three minutes if they have not appeared at any of the three preceding court meetings on the same issue.

2. 1 minute

A speaker whose subject matter as submitted does not relate to an identifiable item of business on this agenda and who has appeared at any of the three preceding court meetings on the same issue will be limited to one minute.

Adjournment.