

# NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

**January 8, 2021**

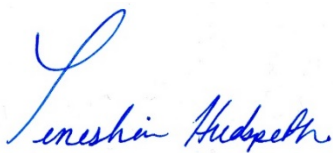
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Texas statute, a special joint meeting of Harris County Commissioners Court and the City of Houston Council will be held on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. virtually, to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), and for the purpose of: (1) appointing the Chair of the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority for a two year term commencing on February 1, 2021; and (2) appointing the Chair of the Board of Pilot Commissioners for a two year term commencing on February 1, 2021. The agenda is attached to this notice.

Section 5007.205 of the Special District Local Law Code provides that the Chair is appointed in January of odd-numbered years. Section 5007.205(d) requires that the Mayor and City Council of Houston and the County Judge and Commissioners of Harris County shall hold a joint meeting to appoint the Chair of the Port Commission on the second Monday of January. Section 5007.205(e) provides that each City Council Member and the Mayor have one vote each and each member of Commissioners Court has 3.4 votes (17 divided by 5). Section 5007.205(f) requires that at least 17.1 votes ("a majority of the total potential votes") be present to establish a quorum and that the chair be appointed by a majority of the potential voters.


Section 66.0116 of the Texas Transportation Code provides that the Chair of the Board of Pilot Commissioners is appointed in January of odd-numbered years. Section 66.0116(d) requires that the Mayor and City Council of Houston and the County Judge and Commissioners of Harris County shall hold a joint meeting on the second Monday of January in each odd-numbered year to appoint the Chair. Section 66.0116(e) provides that each City Council Member and the Mayor have one vote each and each County Commissioner and the County Judge has 3.4 votes (17 divided by 5). Section 66.0116(f) requires that at least 17.1 voters ("a majority of the total potential votes") be present to establish a quorum and that the chair be appointed by a majority of the potential voters.

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 access the meeting through the following link: <https://agenda.harriscountytexas.gov>. Members of the public are still entitled to participate and address governmental bodies during any telephonic or video conference meeting. In accordance with the Governor's order, the public may make comments by signing up to speak by no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting at <https://appearancerequest.harriscountytexas.gov/>. You will be placed in a queue and will receive a phone call when it is your time to speak. Agendas may be obtained in advance of the court meeting via the internet at <https://agenda.harriscountytexas.gov>.



Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk  
and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court  
of Harris County, Texas



James E. Hastings Jr., Director  
Commissioners Court Records





**Joint Session of the Harris County Commissioners Court and Houston City Council<sup>1</sup>**

**Appointment of the Chairman of the Port Commission of the  
Port of Houston Authority of Harris County, Texas  
and  
Appointment of the Chairman of the Board of Pilot Commissioners For Harris County Ports**

**Monday, January 11, 2021<sup>2</sup>**

**Virtual Meeting**

**1:00 PM**

Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 coronavirus, this meeting will be conducted by virtually.

This meeting will be broadcasted via the municipal channel on public television. The Council Members will be participating by videoconference in accordance with the provisions of Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code that have not been suspended by order of the Governor. Public comment will be allowed on Monday via teleconference at [+1-469-210-7159](tel:+14692107159), Conference ID# [1460837994###](https://www.houstontx.gov/council/meetingsinfo.html) and details for signing up and participating are posted at <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/meetingsinfo.html>.

**Meeting Agenda**

- I. Call to Order** – *Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner*
- II. Determination that a Quorum is Present** – *Harris County Clerk and Houston City Secretary<sup>3</sup>*
- III. Pledge of Allegiance (optional)**
- IV. Invocation (optional)**
- V. Opening Comments**
  - *Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner*
  - *Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo*
- VI. Public Comments**
  - *City of Houston Public Speakers: Pat Jefferson-Daniel*
  - *County Public Speakers: Judith Marshall*
- VII. Call for Nominations**
  - *Chairman of the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority of Harris County, Texas*
- VIII. Call for a Vote<sup>4</sup>**

- *Texas Special District Local Laws Code, Sec. 5007.205(e) provides that each Houston City Council Member and the Mayor have one vote each and Commissioners Court members have 3.4 votes each (17 divided by 5).*

**IX. Call for Nominations**

- *Chairman of the Board of Pilot Commissioners For Harris County Ports*

**X. Call for a Vote<sup>5</sup>**

- *Texas Transportation Code, Sec. 66.0116(e) provides that each Houston City Council Member and the Mayor have one vote each and Commissioners Court members have 3.4 votes each (17 divided by 5).*

**XI. Adjourn**

<sup>1</sup> Texas Special District Local Laws Code, Sec. 5007.205(a)

<sup>2</sup> Texas Special District Local Laws Code, Sec. 5007.205(d)

<sup>3</sup> Texas Special District Local Laws Code, Sec. 5007.205(f)

<sup>4</sup> Texas Special District Local Laws Code, Sec. 5007.205(e)

<sup>5</sup> Texas Transportation Code, Sec. 66.0116(e)