

**ORDER FOR ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 3, 2026, ON THE PROPOSITION  
OF AUTHORIZING AUSTIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1  
PURSUANT TO IMPOSE A SALES AND USE TAX AS PROVIDED UNDER TEXAS  
HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §775.0751 AND §775.0752**

**WHEREAS**, AUSTIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1 (the "District") operates pursuant to Texas Constitution, Article III, § 48-e, and Chapter 775, Texas Health & Safety Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the District is an Austin County District and is therefore governed by an appointed Board of Emergency Services Commissioners under Chapter 775, Texas Health & Safety Code; and

**WHEREAS**, §775.0751, Texas Health & Safety Code, provides that the District may adopt a sales and use tax at an election held as provided by §775.0752 of the Texas Health & Safety Code; and

**WHEREAS**, §775.0752, Texas Health & Safety Code, requires that such Election be governed by the provisions of Subchapter E, Chapter 323, Tax Code, as provided by § 323.403 for the election to be held on the next uniform election held in conformity with § 41.001, of the Texas Election Code, providing for Uniform Election Dates; and

**WHEREAS**, the District may impose the tax at a rate from one-eighth of one percent to two percent in increments of one-eighth of one percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the District may not adopt a tax if as a result of the adoption of the tax the combined rate of all sales and use taxes imposed by the District and other political subdivisions of this state having territory in the District would exceed two percent (2%) at any location in the District; and

**WHEREAS**, there is contained in the District certain territories contained in certain political subdivisions which overlap portions of the District whereby a total local sales and use tax of up to two percent (2%) has been imposed; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Board of ESD Commissioners finds that it would be in the best interests of the District and the residents and commercial interests situated in the District to afford the eligible voters within the District the opportunity to determine whether the District should impose a local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one and one-half percent (1.5%), any location in the district, **excluding application of the proposed District sales and use tax to any areas** where there currently exists a two percent (2%) local sales and use tax; and

**WHEREAS**, Texas Health & Safety Code, §775.0752 and Texas Tax Code, §323.403, requires that such Election be held on the next uniform election day not less than 30 days after the day on which the order calling the election was passed,

**WHEREAS**, the next uniform date for an election called under such circumstances is November 3, 2026,

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that an Election be held in Austin County Emergency Services District No. 1 on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., on the following proposition:

**THIS IS A TAX INCREASE**

The adoption of a local sales and use tax in Austin County Emergency Services District No. 1 at a rate not to exceed one and one-half percent (1.5%), in any location in the district.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that:

1. The ballot for the Sales Tax Election shall provide for voting "for" or "against" the above stated proposition. A majority of the votes cast either "for" or "against" the proposition shall determine whether the proposition is adopted. A vote "for" shall mean a vote in favor of the proposition and a vote "against" shall mean a vote against the proposition.
2. The election will be held jointly with other Austin County entities under the Joint Election Agreement promulgated by the Austin County Elections Office.
3. The election will be conducted by the Austin County Elections Office under the terms of the Election Services Agreement promulgated by the Austin County Elections Office. To the full extent allowed by law, the District delegates to the Austin County Elections Administrator all election duties described in the Agreement.
4. The Election shall be held within the Election Precincts and at the Polling Places designated by the Election Official (also called "Contracting Officer") pursuant to the Austin County Election Order for the Austin County elections scheduled for November 3, 2026, subject to any such changes as may be made under the authority of such County Order(s). The designation is adopted and approved by the Board of ESD Commissioners.
5. Only persons qualified to vote within the geographic boundaries of **AUSTIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1** shall be allowed to vote at the Election and each voter shall vote at the Polling Place designated by Austin County, as described above.
6. The Notice of the Election shall be prepared in accordance with law and shall be given by publication of the Notice of Election along with the Order designating the Voting Precincts and Polling Places for the Election. Such publication shall be made one time in a daily newspaper of general circulation within the geographic boundaries of the District, said publication to be made not earlier than the 30th day nor later than the 10th day before the Election Date. Further, a copy of such Notice shall, not later than the 21st day before the Election Date, be posted on the bulletin board or other place conspicuous to the public used for posting Notices of the meetings of the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners and a copy shall be filed with the Election Official of Austin County, Texas. After publication, the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners shall retain a copy of the published Notice that contains the name of the newspaper in which it was published and the date of publication.

7. The voting in the District's Election Precincts shall utilize an Electronic Voting System procured and certified by the Austin County Elections Office. Austin County's certified electronic voting equipment is to be used in the November 3, 2026 Joint Election, as described in the Joint Election Agreement and/or Election Services Agreement and Election Order of Austin County.

8. **Kim Rinn**, is hereby designated as the Early Voting Clerk for the Election. Early voting shall be conducted from October 19, 2026 (the date which represents the earliest date on which early voting may begin) through October 30, 2026 (the date which represents the last day on which early voting may be performed). As ordered by the District Board of Emergency Services Commissioners, the location of the main early voting place is determined by the Austin County Elections Office and is designated as **Austin County Annex, 800 East Wendt Street, Bellville, Texas 77418**, subject to change by Order of the County Commissioners Court.

Branch early voting locations and election day locations will be determined by Austin County for its November 3, 2026 elections.

9. For the use of those voters in the District who are entitled by law to vote early by mail, the Early Voting Clerk above named shall receive applications for early voting ballots to be voted by mail in accordance with the Texas Election Code. For the use of those voters who are entitled by law to vote an early voting ballot by mail, the County shall provide each voter with a paper ballot and instructions to make a mark on the paper ballot.

10. As described in the Election Services Agreement, the District Board orders that ballot applications and ballots voted shall be sent to the Early Voting Clerk Kim Rinn, at **804 East Wendt Street, Bellville, Texas 77474**, or as otherwise designated by the Austin County Early Voting Clerk. The ballot applications must be received by October 23, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. If any Application for Ballot By Mail is submitted by email or fax or if a Federal Post Card Application is submitted by fax, to be effective, the application must also be submitted by mail and be received not later than the fourth (4th) business day after it is received by email or fax. All requests for early voting ballots to be voted by mail that are received by the District shall be forwarded in person or by email or fax to the Contracting Officer on the day of receipt. Original applications that are received by mail and forwarded by email or fax must also be mailed to the Contracting Officer for all processing.

11. The following concurrent and subsequent Orders, among other Orders, may be made by the District to facilitate the Election: Joint Election Agreement; Order Approving and Appointing an Agent; Order Approving a Contract with Austin County; Order Establishing And Designating Election Precincts And Polling Places; Order Appointing Presiding Election Judge(s); Order Appointing Early Voting Ballot Board; Order Appointing An Early Voting Clerk; Order Establishing And Designating A Polling Place; Resolution Adopting Voting System.

12. In accordance with all applicable Federal and State law, there shall be provided Spanish translation of the ballot as well as other applicable election materials.

13. This Order constitutes the Election Order of **AUSTIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1** Election to conduct a Sales and Use Tax Proposition election.

ADOPTED at Open Meeting this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2026, by a vote of 5 to 0.

**AUSTIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES  
DISTRICT NO. 1**

By:

Raymond Christoff  
President

ATTEST:

By:

Sharon J. Williams  
Secretary