



NOTICE OF JOINT ELECTIONS

TO THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD:

The City of Friendswood will hold Joint Elections with Harris County and Galveston County on May 7, 2022, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in order for residents to vote in General and Special Elections for the purpose of electing Councilmembers for Position Nos. Four (4) and Six (6) and voting for or against proposed Charter Amendments, which will be set forth on the ballot substantially in the forms listed below:

<u>OFFICIAL BALLOT</u>
<p>Councilmember, Position No. Four (Vote for none or one) <input type="checkbox"/> Robert J. Griffon</p> <p>Councilmember, Position No. Six (Vote for none or one) <input type="checkbox"/> Meg Crowley <input type="checkbox"/> Brent Erenwert</p>

<u>OFFICIAL BALLOT</u>		Estimated anticipated Fiscal Impact to the City if approved.
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	<p>PROPOSITION A THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II “POWERS OF THE CITY,” SECTION 2.01 “GENERAL POWERS” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY WITHIN GALVESTON, HARRIS AND BRAZORIA COUNTIES.</p>	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	<p>PROPOSITION B THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III “CITY COUNCIL,” SECTION 3.02 “QUALIFICATIONS,” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO REMOVE THE REFERENCE TO QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO FILE FOR OFFICE FROM THIS SECTION, WHICH PERTAINS TO QUALIFICATIONS WHILE IN OFFICE.</p>	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	<p>PROPOSITION C THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III “CITY COUNCIL,” SECTION 3.09 “MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO CONFORM MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF STATE LAW.</p>	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	<p>PROPOSITION D THE AMENDMENT TO REPEAL AND REPLACE ARTICLE III “CITY COUNCIL,” SECTION 3.11 “ORDINANCES IN GENERAL” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO UPDATE THE PROCEDURES FOR THE PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES AND THEIR EFFECTIVE DATES.</p>	An estimated cost savings of \$600 per year on publication costs.
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	<p>PROPOSITION E THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IV “ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES,” SECTION 4.04 “CITY SECRETARY” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO ALLOW THE CITY MANAGER TO APPOINT AND SUPERVISE THE CITY SECRETARY.</p>	\$0

<u>OFFICIAL BALLOT</u>		Estimated anticipated Fiscal Impact to the City if approved.
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	PROPOSITION F THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V “INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL,” SECTION 5.06 “ACTION ON PETITIONS,” SUBSECTION (B) “SUBMISSION TO VOTERS” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO REQUIRE A PROPOSED OR REFERRED ORDINANCE BE POSTED ON THE CITY’S WEBSITE INSTEAD OF BEING POSTED AT EACH POLLING LOCATION AND ON THE CITY’S NOTICE BOARDS.	An estimated savings of \$15,000 per initiative, referendum or recall election.
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	PROPOSITION G THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI “NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS; OATH OF OFFICE,” SECTION 6.04 “CANVASSING AND ELECTION RESULTS,” SUBSECTION (A) “CANVASSING” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO CONFORM THE CANVASSING REQUIREMENTS TO STATE LAW.	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	PROPOSITION H THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII “FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION,” SECTION 8.03 “ANNUAL BUDGET,” SUBSECTION (A) “CONTENT” AND SUBSECTION (C) “PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARING” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO CONFORM BUDGET MATTERS RELATED TO CONTENT AND HEARINGS TO STATE LAW.	An estimated savings of \$350 per additional yearly publication.
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	PROPOSITION I THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII “FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION,” SECTION 8.05 “BORROWING FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS,” SUBSECTION (F) “ELECTIONS TO AUTHORIZE DEBT” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO AUTHORIZE COUNCIL TO ISSUE DEBT ONLY TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW BUT REQUIRE VOTER APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION.	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	PROPOSITION J THE AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IX “FRANCHISES AND PUBLIC UTILITIES,” SECTION 9.10 “PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS TO FILE ANNUAL REPORTS” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO ALLOW COUNCIL TO DETERMINE WHEN PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO FILE ANNUAL REPORTS WITH THE CITY.	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	PROPOSITION K AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XI “GENERAL PROVISIONS,” SECTION 11.02 “CITY NEWSPAPER” OF THE FRIENDSWOOD CITY CHARTER TO REQUIRE THE CITY COUNCIL TO DESIGNATE A PUBLIC NEWSPAPER FOR ITS PUBLICATIONS AT LEAST EVERY TWO YEARS.	\$0

Voters may apply for a ballot by mail at any time; however, the last day to apply for a ballot by mail is at the close of business on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 (received, not postmarked). Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. Residents applying for a ballot by mail shall send their application to Early Voting Clerk/Elections Administrator of the county in which they are registered to vote. Below is the ballot by mail information for each county:

HARRIS COUNTY	GALVESTON COUNTY
Request an application by: Downloading an application at: https://www.harrisvotes.com or calling 713-755-6965 Submit Application to: Isabel Longoria, Harris Elections Administrator Attn: Elections Division PO Box 1148 Houston, TX 77251-1148 Via Common or Contract Carrier: Isabel Longoria, Harris Elections Administrator 1001 Preston, 4 th Floor Houston, TX 77002	Request an Application by: Downloading application at: http://galvestonvotes.org or calling 409-770-5108 Submit Application to: Attn: Ballots by Mail, c/o Dwight Sullivan Galveston County Clerk P. O. Box 17253 Galveston, TX 77552-7253 Via Common or Contract Carrier: Galveston County Courthouse Dwight D. Sullivan, Galveston County Clerk, Elections Division 600 59th St., 2nd Floor, Suite 2001 Galveston, TX 77551

HARRIS COUNTY	GALVESTON COUNTY
Via Fax to: 713-755-4983 or 713-437-8683 Via Email to: vbm@HarrisVotes.com ***	Via Fax to: (409) 765-3249 Via Email to: absenteeballotapplications@co.galveston.tx.us ***

**** If an application is sent to the early voting clerk by fax or email, the original application must still be mailed, and received by the early voting clerk no later than the 4th business day after receiving the emailed or faxed ABBM or faxed FPCA, to the address shown above for Regular Mail.

Early Voting by Personal Appearance will begin on Monday, April 25, 2022, and end on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. The City of Friendswood is in two counties that will have different early voting hours and locations. Below is listed the early voting by personal appearance information for the main early voting polling locations and locations near or within Friendswood for each county:

HARRIS COUNTY	GALVESTON COUNTY
Main EV Polling Location: County Attorney Conference Center 1019 Congress Avenue, Conference Room Houston, TX 77002	Main EV Polling Location: Galveston County Justice Center, First Floor Vending Area 600 59th Street Galveston, TX 77551
Branch EV Polling Locations: Forest Bend Civic Center Building 4300 Laura Leigh Lane Friendswood, TX 77546	Branch EV Polling Locations: Friendswood Activity Building – Activity Room 416 Morningside Dr. Friendswood, TX 77546
The early voting office hours are as follows: <i>Monday - Saturday, 4/25 - 4/30, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.</i> <i>Sunday, 5/1, 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.</i> <i>Monday - Tuesday, 5/2 - 5/3, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.</i>	The early voting office hours are as follows: <i>Monday - Friday, 4/25 - 4/29, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</i> <i>Monday - Tuesday, 5/2 - 5/3, from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.</i>
For More Information or Additional EV Locations & Times: Call 713-755-6965 or visit http://www.harrisvotes.org	For More Information or Additional EV Locations: Call 409-770-5108 or visit: https://www.galvestonvotes.org/voter-information/polling-locations

Hart InterCivic Verity equipment shall be used for early voting by personal appearance and at the designated Election Day countywide polling locations listed below. Electronic counting devices and equipment shall be used for counting the ballots at the general and special elections for both Harris County and Galveston County.

ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES

(Countywide Polling Locations are subject to change up to Election Day)

GALVESTON COUNTY – COUNTYWIDE POLLING LOCATIONS (Voters may <u>CHOOSE</u> to vote at any designated voting center throughout the County) For more countywide polling locations in Galveston County visit: https://www.galvestonvotes.org/voter-information/polling-locations
Friendswood Activity Building – Activity Room, 416 Morningside Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546

HARRIS COUNTY - COUNTYWIDE POLLING LOCATIONS (Voters may <u>CHOOSE</u> to vote at any designated voting center throughout the County) For more or changed countywide polling locations in Harris County visit: www.harrisvotes.com
Forest Bend Civic Center Building , 4300 Laura Leigh Lane, Friendswood, TX 77546
Clear Brook High School, Gym 3 , 4607 FM 2351, Friendswood, TX 77546

Pursuant to Section 9.004 “Charter Amendments” of the Texas Local Government Code below is a more substantial copy of the proposed charter amendments.

PROPOSITION A

Amending Article II “Powers of the City,” Section 2.01 “General powers” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 2.01. General powers.

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Charter, the City shall have all powers possible for a Home Rule city to have under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas as fully and completely as though they were expressly enumerated in this Charter, including the power to acquire property within Galveston, Harris, and Brazoria Counties.

PROPOSITION B

Amending Article III “City Council,” Section 3.02 “Qualifications” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 3.02. Qualifications.

In addition to any other qualifications prescribed by law, the Mayor and each Councilmember shall be a qualified voter and shall reside within the City while in office.

PROPOSITION C

Amending Article III “City Council,” Section 3.09 “Meetings of the City Council” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 3.09. Meetings of the City Council.

The City Council shall establish the days and times of its regular meetings but hold at least one regular meeting each month. Except during declared emergencies, all regular meetings of the City Council shall be held within the corporate limits of the City. All meetings of the council shall be open to the public, except as authorized by law.

PROPOSITION D

Amending Article III “City Council,” Section 3.11 “Ordinances in general” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 3.11. Ordinances in general.

- (a) *Form.* The Council shall legislate by ordinance only, and the enacting clause of every ordinance shall be: “Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Friendswood, State of Texas.”
- (b) *Effective Date.* Each proposed ordinance shall be introduced in written, electronic, or printed form and, upon passage, shall take effect at the time indicated therein; provided that any ordinance imposing a penalty, fine or forfeiture for a violation of its provisions shall become effective upon adoption or at a later time as specified in the ordinance. The City Secretary shall give notice of the passage of every ordinance imposing a penalty, fine or forfeiture for a violation of the provisions thereof, by causing the caption of any such ordinance to be published in the official newspaper in the City of Friendswood.
- (c) *Readings.* Ordinances that require one reading are those ordinances that:

- (1) require a public hearing or more notice than required by the Texas Open Meetings Act;
- (2) relate to the adoption or amendment to the budget;
- (3) relate to the assessment, levy, or collection of taxes;
- (4) relate to the calling of an election, or the canvassing of the returns and declaration of results of an election;
- (5) relate to the incurring of indebtedness, including, specifically, the issuance or sale of bonds or certificates of obligation;
- (6) relate to the development or improvement of a street; or
- (7) relate to an emergency so declared by Council.

For all other ordinances, including the franchise for a public utility, the caption shall be read at two council meetings on separate days. An ordinance requiring two readings shall be deemed rejected if approval on final reading is not obtained within 90 days of the date approval on first reading is obtained.

- (d) *Amendments/Printed Code.* The City Council shall have power to cause the ordinances of the City to be corrected, amended, revised, codified, and printed in code form as often as the Council deems advisable, and such printed code, when adopted by the Council, shall be in full force and effect without the necessity of publishing the same or any part thereof in a newspaper. Such printed code shall be admitted in evidence in all courts and places without further proof.

PROPOSITION E

Amending Article IV “Administrative Services,” Section 4.04 “City Secretary” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 4.04. City Secretary.

- (a) *Appointment.* The City Manager shall appoint a City Secretary who shall act as the secretary to the Council and shall hold office at the pleasure of the City Manager. He/she shall be provided an office in the City Hall sufficient to maintain the records entrusted to his/her care and shall be entitled to a seat at the Council table at all official meetings.
- (b) *Duties of the City Secretary.* The duties of the City Secretary shall be as follows:
 - (1) Record the minutes of all official meetings of the Council; provided, however, only the captions of duly enacted ordinances and resolutions shall be recorded in the minutes.
 - (2) Be the custodian of all municipal records of the Council.
 - (3) Recommend to the Council rules and regulations to be adopted by ordinances to protect the safety and security of the municipal records.
 - (4) Hold and maintain the City seal and affix [it] to all instruments requiring such seal.
 - (5) Cause written notice of appointment to be delivered to each person appointed by the Mayor or Council to any board, commission, committee, or other appointive office or position, within five working days following such appointment by the Mayor or Council.
- (c) *Compensation.* The City Manager shall set the compensation of the City Secretary.

PROPOSITION F

Amending Article V “Initiative, Referendum and Recall,” Section 5.06 “Action on petitions,” Subsection (b) “Submission to voters” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 5.06. Action on petitions.

- (b) *Submission to voters.* The vote of the City on a proposed or referred ordinance shall be held at a Special Election called for such purpose in accordance with subsection (a)(3) above. Copies of the proposed or referred ordinance shall be made available at the City Secretary’s Office and posted on the City’s website 15 days immediately preceding the election.

PROPOSITION G

Amending Article VI “Nominations and Elections; Oath of Office,” Section 6.04 “Canvassing and election results,” Subsection (a) “Canvassing” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 6.04. Canvassing and election results.

Canvassing. Returns of the elections, general and special, shall be made by the election officers to the city council and the council shall canvass the returns and declare the results of such election in accordance with law.

PROPOSITION H

Amending Article VIII “Financial Administration,” Section 8.03 “Annual budget,” Subsection (a) “Content” and Subsection (c) “Public notice and hearing” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 8.03. Annual Budget.

- (a) *Content.* The budget shall provide a complete financial plan of all City funds and activities and, except as required by law or this Charter, shall be in such form as the City Manager deems desirable or the Council may require. A budget message explaining the budget both in fiscal terms and in terms of the work programs shall be submitted with the budget. It shall outline the proposed financial policies of the City for the ensuing fiscal year, describe the important features of the budget, indicate any major changes from the current year in financial policies, expenditures, and revenues, with reasons for such changes. It shall also summarize the City's debt position and include such other material as the manager deems desirable. The budget shall begin with a clear general summary of its contents; shall show in detail all estimated income, the proposed property tax levy, and all proposed expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year, including debt service and an itemized estimate of the expense of conducting each department of the City. The proposed budget expenditures shall not exceed the total of estimated income. The budget shall be so arranged as to comply with state law.
- (c) *Public notice and hearing.* Any public hearing on the proposed budget shall be held and published in accordance with law.

PROPOSITION I

Amending Article VIII “Financial Administration,” Section 8.05 “Borrowing for capital improvements,” Subsection (f) “Elections to authorize debt” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 8.05. Borrowing for Capital Improvements.

- (f) *Elections to authorize debt.* Notwithstanding any other provision contained in this Section 8.05 to the contrary, the Council shall only issue debt pursuant to state law and shall be prohibited from issuing certificates of obligation without voter approval; provided, however, the Council shall be authorized to incur debt without the necessity of a Special Election if necessary due to an emergency or urgent public necessity, which emergency or urgent public necessity shall be expressed in the ordinance or resolution authorizing such debt.

PROPOSITION J

Amending Article IX “Franchises and Public Utilities,” Section 9.10 “Public service corporations to file annual reports,” Subsection (a) of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 9.10. Public service corporations to file annual reports.

- (a) The Council may require all public service corporations operating within the corporate limits of the City to file a sworn annual report of the receipts from the operation of the said business for the current year, how expended, how much thereof for betterments or improvements, the rate of tolls or charges for services rendered to the public, and any other facts or information that the Council may deem pertinent for its use, including reports on operations within the City in intelligently passing upon any questions that may arise between the City and the said public service corporations; said reports to be filed with the City Secretary, and preserved for the use of the City Council. Such reports shall be reviewed annually by the Council to determine the propriety of the rates being charged.

PROPOSITION K

Amending Article XI “General provisions,” Section 11.02 “City newspaper” of the Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, to read as follows:

Sec. 11.02. City newspaper.

The Council shall, at a minimum, biennially designate a public newspaper of general circulation in the City as official publication thereof, and to continue as such until another is designated, and shall cause to be published therein all ordinances, notices and other matters required by this Charter, by the ordinances of the City, or by the Constitution and/or laws of the State of Texas to be published.

The current Charter of the City of Friendswood, Texas, as well as, the full text of the proposed charter amendments may be viewed at the City Secretary’s Office, located at 910 S. Friendswood Drive, Texas, 77546 or online at: <http://www.friendswood.com>. For more information on this election, please contact the City Secretary at 281-996-3270 or citysecretary@friendswood.com.



Issued this 1st day of April, 2022

Mike Foreman, Mayor

FOR A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION IN SPANISH, VIETNAMESE, OR CHINESE, PLEASE VISIT THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD WEBSITE AT: WWW.FRIENDSWOOD.COM.