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City of Killeen

Agenda

City Council

Friday, December 19, 2025

1:00 PM

City Hall

Council Chambers
101 N. College Street
Killeen, Texas 76541

	SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Call to Order and R	Roll Call
	Debbie Nash-King, Mayor Jessica Gonzalez Ramon Alvarez Jose Segarra Anthony Kendrick Joseph Solomon Nina Cobb Riakos Adams
Approval of Agend	а
Citizen Comments	on Agenda Items
	This section allows members of the public to address the Council regarding any item, other than a public hearing item, on the agenda for Council's consideration. Each person shall sign up prior to the start of the Council meeting, may speak only one (1) time, and such address shall be limited to three (3) minutes. A timer will be placed so that the speaker and citizens can see it. A majority vote of the City Council is required for any time extensions. The Mayor and Councilmembers shall have one (1) minute to respond to citizen comments with a statement or explanation without engaging in dialogue.
Resolutions	
<u>RS-25-193</u>	Consider a memorandum/resolution changing the date of general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years. Attachments: Senate Bill 1494 Senate Bill 1494 Bill Analysis Presentation
Adjournment	
	I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the Internet and on the bulletin board at Killeen City Hall on or before 5:00 p.m. on December 15, 2025.

Laura J. Calcote, City Secretary

The public is hereby informed that notices for City of Killeen meetings will no longer distinguish between matters to be discussed in open or closed session of a meeting. This practice is in accordance with rulings by the Texas Attorney General that, under the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council may convene a closed session to discuss any matter listed on the agenda, without prior or further notice, if the matter is one that the Open Meetings Act allows to be discussed in a closed session.

This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Law [V.T.C.A., Government Code, § 551.001 et seq.]. This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act [42 USC 12101 (1991)]. The facility is wheelchair accessible and handicap parking is available. Requests for sign interpretive services are available upon requests received at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To make arrangements for those services, please call 254-501-7717, City Secretary's Office, or TDD 1-800-734-2989.

Notice of Meetings

The Mayor and/or City Council have been invited to attend and/or participate in the following meetings/conferences/events. Although a quorum of the members of the City Council may or may not be available to attend this meeting, this notice is being posted to meet the requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act and subsequent opinions of the Texas Attorney General's Office. No official action will be taken by Council.

Dedicated Service -- Every Day, for Everyone!



City of Killeen

Staff Report

File Number: RS-25-193

Consider a memorandum/resolution changing the date of general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.

DATE: December 19, 2025

TO: Kent Cagle, City Manager

FROM: Holli Clements, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Changing General Elections to November in Odd-Numbered Years

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Texas Election Code (EC) Section 41.0052 was amended this year by SB 1494. The new law allows City Council to change the date on which it holds its general election for officers to the November uniform election date in odd-numbered years only, no later than December 31, 2025.

The City Charter of the City of Killeen allows for general elections to be held on either uniform election date. Uniform election dates are the first Saturday in May or the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

The City Charter also provides for staggered terms with the election of the Mayor and three at-large Councilmembers held on a uniform election date in even-numbered years and the election of four district Councilmembers held on a uniform election date in odd-numbered years. Changing the date of all general elections to a November uniform election in odd-numbered years to elect the Mayor and all Councilmembers would conflict with the City Charter. However, the Election Code states that a home-rule city may provide for the election of all members of the governing body at the same election through adoption of a resolution and that such resolution supersedes a city charter provision that requires a different general election date or that requires the terms of members of the governing body to be staggered.

THE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The alternatives are:

- 1) Change the date of general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years to elect District Councilmembers. The general election to elect Mayor and at-large Councilmembers would continue to be held in May of even-numbered years.
- 2) Change the date of all general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years to elect Mayor and all Councilmembers at the same time. A resolution changing all general elections to November in odd-numbered years would eliminate elections in even-numbered years

and would eliminate staggered terms of Councilmembers. Current Mayor and at-large Councilmembers would holdover until November 2027.

- 3) Change the date of all general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years beginning in 2029 to elect Mayor and all Councilmembers at the same time.
- 4) Do not change the date of general elections from May to November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.

Which alternative is recommended? Why?

City Council consider potentially changing the date of general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

Changing the date of general elections in odd-numbered years to November complies with the City Charter. Changing the date of all general elections to a November election date in odd-numbered years conflicts with City Charter.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

What is the amount of the revenue/expenditure in the current fiscal year? For future years?

Fewer elections would result in lower election expenses.

Is this a one-time or recurring revenue/expenditure?

Recurring

Is this revenue/expenditure budgeted?

Yes.

If not, where will the money come from?

N/A

Is there a sufficient amount in the budgeted line-item for this revenue/expenditure?

Yes.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Council consider potentially changing the date of general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Senate Bill 1494 Senate Bill 1494 Bill Analysis Presentation

S.B. No. 1494

1 AN ACT

- 2 relating to the authority of certain political subdivisions to
- 3 change the date of their general elections.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 41.0052(a), Election Code, is amended to
- 6 read as follows:
- 7 (a) The governing body of a political subdivision, other
- 8 than a county or municipal utility district, that holds its general
- 9 election for officers on a date other than the November uniform
- 10 election date may, not later than December 31, 2025 [2016], change
- 11 the date on which it holds its general election for officers to the
- 12 November uniform election date <u>in odd-numbered years</u>.
- 13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
- 14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
- 15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
- 16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
- 17 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

President of the Senate	Speaker of the House
I hereby certify that S.	B. No. 1494 passed the Senate on
April 10, 2025, by the followin	g vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; and that
the Senate concurred in House	amendment on May 31, 2025, by the
following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0	
	Secretary of the Senate
	secretary or one sender
I hereby certify that S.E	. No. 1494 passed the House, with
amendment, on May 28, 2025, by	the following vote: Yeas 129,
Nays 12, one present not voting.	
	Chief Clerk of the House
Approved:	
Date	
Governor	

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1494 By: Johnson; West State Affairs 7/7/2025 Enrolled

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

In November 2024, Dallas voters approved Proposition D, which amended the city charter to hold elections "according to state law" rather than in May. In order to preserve their nonpartisan nature, the Dallas Charter Review Commission took the additional step of suggesting odd-numbered Novembers, which regularly coincide with state constitutional ballot propositions.

However, Section 41.0052 of the Texas Election Code sets a deadline of December 31, 2016, for the ability of cities that hold their general elections in months other than November to change their general election date to be uniform with state law. May city elections in Dallas have had disparagingly low turnout, averaging single digits during the last six cycles. Holding city elections in November will increase turnout due to the heightened attention on up-ballot elections while maintaining their nonpartisan nature—the elections will be held in odd-numbered Novembers, avoiding the potential influence of highly partisan statewide and federal elections while still receiving the turnout boost by coinciding with state constitutional ballot propositions.

S.B. 1494 amends Section 41.0052 of the Election Code to change the date on which cities with off-cycle elections can alter their election dates to coincide with the state's to December 31, 2026. This will ensure that the city of Dallas is able to change their date in compliance with Proposition D, as well as provide this ability to other cities in the future.

S.B. 1494 amends current law relating to the authority of certain political subdivisions to change the date of their general elections.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 41.0052(a), Election Code, to authorize the governing body of a political subdivision, other than a county or municipal utility district, that holds its general election for officers on a date other than the November uniform election date to, not later than December 31, 2025, rather than December 31, 2016, change the date on which it holds its general election for officers to the November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2025.

CHANGING THE DATE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS TO NOVEMBER ELECTION DATE IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS

December 19, 2025

- Recent changes to the Texas Election Code would allow the City Council to pass a resolution to change the date of its general elections from the May uniform election date to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years only, no later than December 31, 2025.
- City Charter allows for general elections to be held on either uniform election date – May or November.
- City Charter provides for staggered terms with the election of the Mayor and at-large Councilmembers in even-numbered years and the election of district Councilmembers in odd-numbered years.

Background

- 2011: Upon notice that Bell County would no longer provide election equipment, City Council passed a resolution to maintain the May uniform election date.
- 2013: City Charter was amended to allow elections to be held on any uniform election date.
- 2016: City Council did not take action to change the uniform election date to November prior to statutory deadline of December 31, 2016.
- 2024: City Council removed changing election dates from its legislative priorities.
- 2025: SB 1494 extends deadline to change to a November uniform election date to December 31, 2025, but limits the change to oddnumbered years only.

Alternatives

- Change the date of odd-numbered year general elections from May to a November uniform election date. Odd-numbered year elections to elect District Councilmembers would occur in November, but even-numbered year elections to elect Mayor and at-large Councilmembers would still occur in May.
- Change the date of all general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years to elect Mayor and all Councilmembers at the same time, eliminating staggered terms and elections in even-numbered years. Current Mayor and at-large Councilmembers would holdover until November 2027.
- 3. Change the date of all general elections to a November uniform election date in odd-numbered years beginning in 2029 to elect Mayor and all Councilmembers at the same time.
- 4. Do not change the date of general elections.

- Election Code 42.0052(c) states that a home-rule city may provide for the election of all members of the governing body at the same election through adoption of a resolution and that such resolution supersedes a city charter provision that requires a different general election date or that requires the terms of members of the governing body to be staggered.
- The statute also provides that the governing body changing an election date under this section shall adjust the terms of office to conform to the new election date.

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 Staff recommends that City Council provide direction on how to proceed prior to December 31, 2025.