

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$.56743 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Austin County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$.56743 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$.55351 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$.65715 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2021 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Austin County from the same properties in both the 2020 tax year and the 2021 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Austin County may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Austin County is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at The Austin County Courthouse, One East Main, Bellville, TX 77418.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Austin County is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Austin County Commissioner's Court of Austin County at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property) / 100

FOR the proposal: Mark Lamp, Leroy Cerny, Chip Reed

AGAINST the proposal: Robert "Bobby" Rinn

PRESENT and not voting: None

Absent: None

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Austin County last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Austin County this year.

	2020	2021	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.56964	\$0.56743	Decrease of .3894%
Average homestead taxable value	\$176,107	\$178,348	Increase of 1.272%
Tax on average homestead	\$1003.10	\$1012.00	Increase of .8872%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$20,528,042	\$21,292,778	Increase of 3.72%

Indigent Health Care Compensation Expenditures

Austin County spent \$113,411 from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, on indigent health care compensation procedures at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance.

For current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$39,798. This increased the no-new-revenue tax rate by .00108 / \$100.

Indigent Defense Compensation Expenditures

Austin County spent \$201,062 from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, to provide appointed counsel for indigent individuals in criminal or civil proceeding in accordance with the schedule of fees adopted under Article 26.05, Code of Criminal Procedure, less the amount of an state grants received. For current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent defense compensation expenditures is \$42,735. This increased the no-new-revenue tax rate by .00021 / \$100.