Election Day is November 7th this year, and there are critically important ballot initiatives that will offer Texans the chance to keep our economy thriving and make key investments that will support businesses and communities across the state. From creating new targeted funds to bolster our workforce, water infrastructure and electric grid, to cutting taxes and strengthening our state’s park system, these ballot initiatives will have a positive impact on our way of life here in Central Texas.

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce encourages you to support the following amendments when you cast your ballot, and to share this as a resource for your employees.

**PROPOSITION 2**
Allows counties or municipalities to create property tax exemptions for child-care facilities, which would free up resources that could be used to pay higher wages and bolster Texas’ child care workforce.

**PROPOSITION 4**
Limits the increase in taxable value for non-homestead property valued at less than $5 million to no more than 20 percent per year and would increase the homestead exemption from $40,000 to $100,000 for all homesteads.

**PROPOSITION 5**
Establishes the Texas University Fund, creating a permanent endowment to increase the research capabilities of four Texas universities and help drive our state economy.

**PROPOSITION 6**
Establishes the New Water Supply for Texas Fund, the Statewide Water Public Awareness Account, and the Texas Water Fund to address Texas’ growing water deficit and finance key water infrastructure projects across the state.

**PROPOSITION 7**
Creates the Texas Energy Fund to incentivize new production of dispatchable power-generating facilities and increase grid reliability during times of peak demand.

**PROPOSITION 8**
Creates the Broadband Infrastructure Fund to expand access to reliable, high-speed internet statewide which is critical to ensuring all parts of Central Texas can thrive in our 21st century digital economy.

**PROPOSITION 9**
This constitutional amendment would provide a COLA increase for retired teachers in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). This is a temporary COLA increase with varying percentage increases depending on the date of the former teachers retirement. Additionally, certain TRS retirees ages 70 and over will also receive a one-time supplemental check.

**PROPOSITION 10**
Exempts medical or biomedical product manufacturers’ equipment or inventory from ad valorem taxation to protect our healthcare network and strengthen the Texas medical supply chain.

**PROPOSITION 14**
The amendment would create the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund as a trust fund outside of the state treasury. The fund would consist of money appropriated, credited, or transferred by the legislature; gifts, grants, and donations received by the Parks and Wildlife Department; and investment earnings. Overall, the fund would invest $1 billion to buy more land for the state parks system. Texas ranks 35th in the nation in state park acreage per capita.
November 2023  BALLOT ENDORSEMENTS

EARLY VOTING: OCTOBER 23 – NOVEMBER 3  |  ELECTION DAY: TUES, NOVEMBER 7

WILLIAMSON COUNTY BOND PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION A: ROAD CONSTRUCTION & IMPROVEMENTS
• This bond measure is for voters to decide on whether or not to authorize the issuance of bonds up to $825 million in principal for road construction and improvements. This proposition names 38 proposed road projects located in all four county precincts that vary from right-of-way acquisitions, to design and full construction.
• Williamson County is the third fastest growing county in the state of Texas over the past 12 years, and the number of vehicles in the county has increased over 40% this past decade. Supporting this bond proposal will ensure that road improvements are made to improve safety and keep up with the pace of growth in the county.

PROPOSITION B: PROPOSED PARKS & RECREATION
• This bond measure is for voters to decide on whether or not to authorize the issuance of bonds not to exceed $59 million in principal for parks, trails and recreational purposes.
• The Parks bond package includes approximately 14 proposed projects related to connectivity through several shared use path projects, future parkland acquisition, facility development projects associated with Berry Springs Park and Preserve, Williamson County Expo Center and Twin Lakes Park.

TRAVIS COUNTY BOND PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION A: ROAD CONSTRUCTION & IMPROVEMENTS
• This bond measure asks voters to approve $233 million for road and safety projects. These projects include active transportation safety projects like adding sidewalks, shared-use paths, bike lanes and signalization improvements to existing roadways.
• The expansion of bike lanes new sidewalks will improve safety for pedestrians, bikers and vehicles while creating better connectivity between neighborhoods in Austin.

PROPOSITION B: PARKS & RECREATION
• The bond measure asks voters to approve $276.4 million in bonds for the purposes of constructing and improving county parks and the acquisition of future parkland to boost recreational opportunities for Austrinites.
• Funding for this bond proposal will construct new greenway trails and amenities, a new community group building, sports fields for youth and more.