



Ethics Code & Municipal Campaign Finance Code

Ethics Review Board Recommendations

**Ms. Christy Ann Woodward
Vice Chair – Ethics Review Board
May 2, 2024**

Ethics Review Board Members

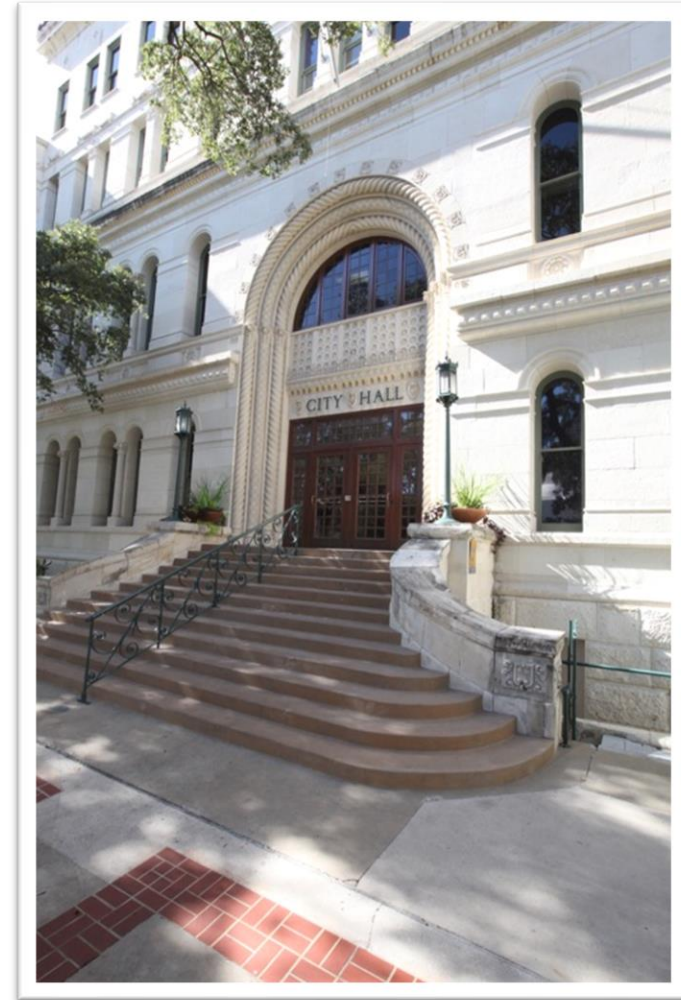


Dr. Fred Campbell	District 1
Mr. Patrick Lang (Chair)	District 2
Mr. Philip Ryan Garza	District 3
Dr. Esther S. Gergen	District 4
Ms. Yvette Y. Changuin Humble	District 5
Mr. Efrain Rene Sosa	District 6
Mrs. Roxana V. Vargas	District 7
Mr. James Edmund Reidy	District 8
Ms. Christy Ann Woodward (Vice-Chair)	District 9
Mr. Rodney “Ron” Van Kirk	District 10
(Vacant)	Mayor

Ethics in Public Service



- Integrity
- Independence
- Impartiality
- Transparency
- Accountability



Ethics Code Recommended Updates

Administrative Changes

His/Her, He/She	City Council Contract Personnel	Definitions
They/Their	Employees of the Council Aides Corporation	Move definitions to the beginning of each section, as applicable.

Ethics Code



Section

Proposed Amendment

Sec. 2-41

Statement of purpose

- Clarify “others whose actions affect public faith in City government” includes actions by any individual acting on behalf of the City.

Sec. 2-43

Conflicts of interest

- Clarify recusal(s) related to board(s) in which an employee or official serves.
- Include restriction during first 12 months of service employee / official may not participate in the making or awarding of a contract to a person or entity that the employee / official was employed by during the prior year.

Ethics Code



Section

Proposed Amendment

Sec. 2-45

Gifts

- Include information regarding the restrictions related to honorariums that fall under Texas Penal Code 36.07.

Sec. 2-58

Prohibited interest in
discretionary contracts

- Clarify that timeframe is related to the awarding of the contract versus seeking / submitting proposals.

Sec. 2-59

Disclosure of parties, owners,
& closely related persons

- Clarify that disclosures should be made at the time the request is submitted, but no later than 72 hours prior to action.

Ethics Code



Section

Proposed Amendment

Sec. 2-82

Jurisdiction and powers

- Allow ERB the discretion to accept or decline consideration of any alleged violation that has been resolved through other means.

Sec. 2-92

Other obligations

- Notice of the duty to comply with state and federal law should be provided towards the beginning of the Ethics Code instead of at the end.

Municipal Campaign Finance Code Recommended Updates

Municipal Campaign Finance Code



Administrative Changes

His/Her, He/She

They/Their

**References to
candidates**

Update to provide clarification when the requirement is applicable to both candidates and officeholders.

References to SPACs

Clarify when the requirement applies to all SPACs versus those SPACs formed to support/oppose candidates or officeholders.

Municipal Campaign Finance Code



Section

Proposed Amendment

Section 2-306

Campaign bank account
statements

- Remove requirement to provide copies of bank account statements to the City Clerk's Office.

Section 2-307

Electronic filing of
campaign finance reports

- Change to be consistent with State reporting requirements (Semi-Annually & Pre-Election).

Municipal Campaign Finance Code



Section

Proposed Amendment

Section 2-308

Political action committees

- Require SPACs to file campaign finance reports with the City Clerk's Office.
- Provide option for GPACs to report only municipal activity with City Clerk's office versus full campaign finance report.

Municipal Campaign Finance Code



Section

Proposed Amendment

Section 2-309

Contribution prohibitions.

- Prohibit corporate PACs established or formed by the entity seeking a high-profile contract from providing contributions during the blackout period.
- Prohibit all company board members from contributing during high profile contract prohibition periods (including board members of non-profit entities).

Next Steps

Next Steps



- Consideration by City Council.
- Final revisions to be adopted with an effective date of October 1, 2024, to allow for a comprehensive outreach campaign and ample time for stakeholders to familiarize themselves with the changes.





Thank You



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