

**ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Austin City Hall, Boards & Commissions Room, # 1101  
301 W 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Some members of the Ethics Review Commission may be participating by videoconference.

The meeting may be viewed online at:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>



**CURRENT COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Chair Luis Soberon  
Debra Danburg  
Raafia Lari  
Nguyen Stanton

Vice-Chair J. Michael Ohueri  
Betsy Greenberg  
Michael Lovins  
Mikki Teneyuca

Secretary Robin Lerner  
Mary Kahle  
Donna Beth McCormick

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

There is no limit on the number of speakers who may speak on agenda items. A maximum of ten persons will be allowed to speak during general citizen communications on non-agenda items. Each person must register to speak prior to the call to order of the meeting. Each speaker who registers to speak will be allowed three minutes to speak. Please also see the **“NOTICE Regarding Citizen Communication and Public Testimony”** at the end of this agenda.

**1. NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion and possible action regarding the following:

- a. Election of a Commission vice chair due to Vice Chair J. Michael Ohueri’s resignation from the Commission.
- b. Parliamentarian training available to Chair and Vice Chair and option of electing a parliamentarian.
- c. A working group to review, evaluate, and make recommendations on dollar limits established in Chapter 2-2 (Campaign Finance) in accordance with City Code subsection (A)(5) of Section 2-7-30 (Duties) and to review and make recommendations related to the Campaign Finance Brochure for the 2022 elections.

- d. The Candidate Forum Working Group for candidate forums for the 2022 city council elections.

## **2. OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion and possible action regarding the following:

- a. Draft Op-Ed by the Working Group on Race, Identity, and Equity
- b. Draft Commission Statement on Equity, Access, and the Need for Reform by the Working Group on Race, Identity, and Equity
- c. Working group status reports and/or recommendations on the following.
  - i. Working Group on Sanctions, Procedures, and other Issues (Chair Soberon, Vice-Chair Ohueri, and Commissioners Greenberg, Lerner, and Stanton) on the following subjects:
    - Commission sanctions including effectiveness, past cases, and recommendations.
    - Potential amendments to City Code, Chapter 2-7 (Ethics and Financial Disclosure).
    - Commission procedures including effectiveness, past cases, and recommendations.
    - Scope of work of the Commission (powers, duties, and obligations), including effectiveness, past cases, and recommendations.
    - Potential amendments to the Rules of the Ethics Review Commission.
    - Best practices for city attorney opinions including effectiveness, past cases, and recommendations.
  - ii. Working Group on Race, Identity, and Equity (Commissioners Kahle, Lari, and Soberon) status report and/or recommendations on: addressing issues of race, identity, and equity including: (i) planning for presentations or trainings by the Equity Office; (ii) helping focus the Commission's evaluation of racial injustice and how the Commission can operate more fairly and effectively in light of racial injustice.

## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 14, 2021, JUNE 9, 2021, and JULY 14, 2021 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Discussion and possible action regarding the minutes for:

- (a) the April 14, 2021 regular commission meeting;
- (b) the June 9, 2021 regular commission meeting; and
- (c) the July 14, 2021 regular commission meeting.

## **4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least two (2) days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Sue Palmer at the Law Department, at (512) 974-2915 for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Ethics Review Commission, please contact Lynn Carter at (512) 974-2171.

## **ERC STANDARD CITIZEN COMMUNICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### **NOTICE Regarding Citizen Communication and Public Testimony:**

Sign-in required: Please sign in to speak with the staff liaison prior to the meeting being called to order. Please indicate the item or items on the agenda on which you are speaking, if you are speaking on an agenda item. A speaker who fails to indicate an agenda item on which the speaker desires to speak will be called to speak during General Citizen Communication.

Time Limits: Speakers are limited to a maximum time limit of three minutes per speaker. A time period of six minutes will be allowed for a speaker who addresses the Commission through a translator or a speaker who needs an accommodation of a disability.

General Citizen Communication Speakers: A maximum of ten persons may speak during general citizen communications at the beginning of the meeting on any topic. Speakers will be called in the order in which the speaker signed up.

Citizen Communication or Public Testimony on a Numbered Agenda Item: A speaker who signs up to speak on a numbered agenda item will be called to speak at the beginning of the meeting, or secondly, at the beginning of the agenda item and will be called in the order in which the speaker(s) signed up. Speaker comments must be relevant to the agenda item.