



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL RETREAT MEETING
CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS**

SouthStar Bank
10737 E Crystal Falls Parkway, Suite 100, Leander, TX 78641
Thursday, April 23, 2026
Meeting at 9:00 AM



Mayor - Na'Cole Thompson
Place 1 - Stephen Chang
Place 2 - Michael Herrera
Place 3 - Natomi Blair

Place 4 - Annette Sponseller
Place 5 - Andrew Naudin
Place 6 - Becki Ross, Mayor Pro Tem
City Manager - Todd Parton

The City Council of the City of Leander, Texas will convene on April 23, 2026, at the time stated above to hold a retreat regarding the items listed in this agenda. The items listed below are for discussion purposes only and no formal action or votes will be taken. As a quorum of members of the city council will be present, this agenda is being posted in compliance with *Chapter 551, Texas Government Code* and the Texas Open Meeting Act. A working lunch is anticipated around noon, along with a 15-minute break mid-morning and mid-afternoon.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Confirm a Quorum is Present.

Mayor Thompson called to order at 9:01 a.m. and confirmed a quorum was present with Councilmember Herrera absent.

2. Welcome/Orientation.

Mayor Thompson welcomed all in attendance followed by introductions of all in attendance; discussed the purpose of the retreat: better communication; work through appropriate steps and channels; more effective body; work together toward solid foundation; align priorities, and move forward, not look back.

3. Team Building Activity.

Council and Staff broke into teams for team building activity, "Common Ground".

4. Review City Council Policies and Procedures.

Discussion included: what's new, what's important; operate in alignment; community involvement and workshops to enhance communication with citizens; not send mixed signals to staff; drive people to the website and City for information; let public know direction of City; understand what regional, state and county levels are doing; everyone needs a voice; and best messengers.

5. Receive Presentations and Discuss Community Interagency Partnerships with Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CapMetro), Brushy Creek Regional Utility Authority (BCRUA), Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), and other Agencies.

Received presentations from CapMetro, BCRUA and CAMPO.

Dottie Watkins, CEO of CapMetro, gave a presentation, including: services provided; service area, bike share program, regional transit, CapMetro Express; Pickup Leander app based service; strong ridership; Leander On Demand, Routes 985 and 550; Park & Ride since 2007; ridership pre- and post-pandemic; how counted as a rider; Pickup Leander top destinations, event ridership; annual rail boarding; Build Central Texas Program; infrastructure fund projects funded by BCT; sales tax collected; ways CapMetro engages in the community; "TOD (Transit Oriented Development) Guidebook" and "Transit Development Guidelines"; site assessment; Park & Ride built 2007; development around Park & Ride; Transit Plan 2035; Exiting Condition Report; Strategic Plan 2030 and its critical results; Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) IH-35 construction and disruption; federal grant received for double tracking-safety improvement; Public Safety Program; Tap-to-Pay; and replacing fare boxes. Discussion followed.

Mayor Pro Tem Ross commented on her role with CapMetro.

[City Council took a brief break at 11:02 a.m.; reconvened at 11:11 a.m.]

Doice Myers of CAMPO, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, gave the presentation, including: what a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is; the CAMPO region; how people are traveling; long-range plan; what affects future transportation; regional incident center; work with local jurisdictions; planning process including local and regional plans, 2027-2030 transportation improvement program; 2050 transportation plan; regional long-range plan; project selection and funding; project implementation; makeup of local project sponsors; evaluation of projects for funding; project readiness program; and corridors and roadways in study.

Aaron Archer, PE, with Walker Partners gave the Brushy Creek Regional Utility Authority (BCRUA) presentation, including: BCRUA partners; supply of raw water and treated water to the City; Leander's water capacity allocations; Phase 2 Raw Water delivery system; droughts and drought vulnerability; annual inflows; 2022 worse than 2011 in flows; contract status; major work of the plant completed including underground work of main shaft; marine intakes; tie-ins to Phase 1 line and Leander Water Treatment Plant; pump fabrication; ongoing work; Phase 2 schedule status; what's being done; six (6) executive meetings with contractor and followed up with legal letter highlighting expectations; earliest competition fall of 2027; next critical date summer of 2028; where water is treated; floating intakes will go away after completion; Phase 2A Water Treatment Plant Expansion; largest to date; substantial competition June 2028; drought update current and forecast predictions of lake levels; and 200 pieces of property for this project. Discussion followed.

[City Council took a brief break at 12:23 p.m.; reconvened at 12:43 p.m.]

Additional agencies that were presented and their respective topics included:

Williamson County - partnered services and social services; Williamson County Water Group - composition; regional water evaluation; regional supply options; infrastructure maps, data, and options for water providers; Travis County - partnered services and social services; LCRA - area manages; six (6) reservoirs and six (6) dams; Leander's water from Sandy Creek arm; contract with Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA); total volume available; Leander has access to 27.7 MGD; Water and Wastewater Partners include Brushy Creek Regional Utility Authority (BCRUA) and Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater Systems (BCRWWS); Sandy Creek Water Treatment Plant (SCWTP) - operated by Brazo River Authority (BRA); City will take over operations in FY 2026; and production; Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) - Executive Committee comprised of 29 city/county officials; counties serves; and its five (5) program divisions; TxDOT - governor appointed commission; counties included in the state transportation system; roads in Leander maintained by TxDOT; Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) - Board of directors composition; toll roads; projects begin as recommendations in CAMPO's Transportation Plan; and 183A Toll and Frontage maintained by CTRMA; Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM - coordinates the State's Emergency

Management Program and what's included; TDEM Region 8 partners with Leander; other community social services including: food pantries, utilities assistance, healthcare, addiction support groups, mental health, veterans resources, transportation; and Leander Fire Department's Community Risk Reduction coordinates for social services. Discussion followed.

6. Review and Discuss the City Council Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Guiding Principles.

Discussion included: scoring of guiding principles; staff and council's perspectives; scoring summaries for staff and council; and aligned and non-aligned priorities.

[City Council took a brief break at 1:40 p.m.; reconvened at 2:26 p.m.]

Discussions continue: updated scoring summary; affordable housing to support job growth; being more corporate; prioritization and purpose of guiding principles survey; developing strategies; principles still relevant; council and staff aligned; need vision to explain who we are; purposes of vision and mission statements; objectives; importance of value statement; and build bridges of trust.

[City Council took a brief break at 2:59 p.m.; reconvened at 3:06 p.m.]

7. Department Reviews including Overview, Programs, Services and Resource Allocations for Each Department.

Discussion included: City's organizational chart; composition of operating budget; composition of general government consistent with surrounding Cities; City department's programs; aligning resources; department directors gave brief on respective departments' duties and programs, developments, projects; programs, needs, and opportunities for citizens.

8. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

APPROVED


MAYOR

ATTEST:


SR. DEPUTY CITY SECRETARY