



**AGENDA
CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING
CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS**

Development Services - San Gabriel Conference Room
201 North Brushy Street - Leander, Texas
Monday, August 31, 2026
Regular Meeting at 5:30 PM



**Genail Marthol
Darald Berger
John Cosgrove, Chair
David Ron Militello**

**Kathryn Pantalion-Parker
Melissa Walsh
Laura Blevins
Staff Liaison – Dara Crabtree**

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING - 5:30 P.M.

1. Open meeting and confirm a quorum is present.
2. Public Comments [All comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes (6 minutes if translation is needed) per individual.]

CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION

3. Approval of the minutes for meeting held on August 17, 2026.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. Review City of Leander Home Rule Charter Articles I through III and consider any recommendations for amendments thereto.
5. As necessary, discuss and consider planned review of Charter for next scheduled meeting
6. Adjournment

CERTIFICATION

The City of Leander is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call the City Secretary at (512) 528-2743 for information. Hearing impaired or speech disabled persons equipped with telecommunication devices for the deaf may call (512) 528-2800. I certify that the above agenda for this meeting of the Charter Review Commission of the City of Leander, Texas, was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall in Leander, Texas, on the 24 day of August, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.



Dara Crabtree, City Secretary, TRMC



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
8/31/2026

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Approval of the minutes for meeting held on August 17, 2026.

BACKGROUND:

Attached are the minutes for the meeting held on August 17, 2026.

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

RECOMMENDATION:

PRESENTER:

Dara Crabtree, City Secretary

Fiscal Impact

Attachments:

1. Draft Minutes 08.17.2026



**MINUTES
CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS**

Development Services - San Gabriel Conference Room
201 North Brushy Street - Leander, Texas
Monday, August 17, 2026
5:30 p.m.



**Genail Marthol
Darald Berger
John Cosgrove
David Ron Militello**

**Kathryn Pantalion-Parker
Melissa Walsh
Laura Blevins
Staff Liaison – Dara Crabtree**

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING - CONVENE AT 5:30 PM

1. Open Meeting.

City Attorney Paige Saenz opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Roll Call reflected all present.

3. Welcome by Mayor Na'Cole Thompson.

4. Overview of Charter Review Process by City Attorney Paige Saenz.

5. Discuss and consider selection of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Motion: Nominate Commissioner John Cosgrove as Chair, following a discussion.

By: Commissioner Militello

Seconded: Commissioner Pantalion-Parker

Vote: 7-0

Motion: Nominate Commissioner Genal Marthol as Vice-Chair.

By: Commissioner Blevins

Seconded: Chair Cosgrove

Vote: 7-0

6. Discuss and consider setting meeting dates, times and schedules for review of Charter sections.

Motion: to meet every other Monday, beginning August 31 at 5:30 p.m. in the San Gabriel Conference Room, 201 N. Brushy Street, Leander, following a discussion.

By: Chair Cosgrove

Seconded: Commissioner Walsh

Vote: 7-0

7. As necessary discuss planned review of Charter next scheduled meeting.

Motion: to review and discuss each Charter article section individually; and at the August 31 meeting, the Commission will review and discuss Articles I - III, and take action on any recommendations, following a discussion.

By: Chair Cosgrove

Seconded: Commissioner Pantalion-Parker

Vote: 7-0

8. Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

APPROVED

CHAIR

ATTEST:

STAFF LIAISON



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
8/31/2026

AGENDA SUBJECT:

Review City of Leander Home Rule Charter Articles I through III and consider any recommendations for amendments thereto.

BACKGROUND:

The Charter Review Commission shall review the City Charter to determine whether it requires revision; propose any recommendations it deems desirable to ensure compliance with charter provision by city departments; propose charter amendments it deems desirable to improve the effective application of the charter to current conditions; make a written report of its findings and recommendations to the City Council.

The City Council shall receive the Charter Review's final report and consider any recommendations presented.

HISTORY/TIMELINE:

APPLICANT/AGENT:

RECOMMENDATION:

PRESENTER:

Paige Saenz, City Attorney

Fiscal Impact

Attachments:

1. Home Rule Charter Articles I - III

ARTICLE I. INCORPORATION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND POWERS OF THE CITY

Section 1.01. Incorporation.

The inhabitants of the City of Leander, Texas, within the corporate limits as now and as hereafter established, extended and modified, shall continue to be and are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate, in perpetuity, under the name of the "City of Leander," hereinafter referred to as the "city," with such powers, privileges, rights, duties, and immunities as herein provided.

Section 1.02. Form of Government.

The municipal government shall be, and shall be known as, the "council-manager" form of government. Pursuant to the provisions of, and subject only to the limitations imposed by, the state constitution, state laws, and this charter, all powers of the city shall be vested in and exercised by an elective governing body, hereinafter referred to as the "city council" or "council". The council shall enact legislation, adopt budgets, determine policies, make appointments to non-elective positions, and appoint the city manager who shall execute the laws and administer the government of the city.

Section 1.03. Rights Reserved.

All suits, taxes, penalties, fines, forfeitures, and all other rights, claims and demands, of every kind and character, which have accrued under the laws in favor of the city, heretofore in force governing the same, shall belong to and vest in the city and shall not abate by reason of the adoption of this charter, and shall be prosecuted and collected for the use and benefit of the city and shall not be in any manner affected by the taking effect of this charter; but as to all of such rights, the laws under which they shall have accrued shall be deemed to be in full force and effect. The budget and all ordinances, rules and regulations of the city shall be and remain in effect, subject to the terms of this charter and the future discretion and vote of the council. All present commissions, boards and officers of the city shall continue in office subject to the provisions of this charter, including, but not limited to, the provisions governing election and removal, and the council's exercise of the authority conferred by this charter.

Section 1.04. General Powers.

The city shall possess and may exercise the full power of local self-government and shall have all powers possible and lawful for a home rule city to have under the constitution and laws of the State of Texas, as fully and completely as though each such power were specifically enumerated in this charter. It is specifically provided that:

- (a) The powers and authority of the city shall include but shall not be limited to any power and authority necessary, useful or desirable to accomplish any public or lawful purpose, or to provide for the advancement of the interest, welfare, health, morals, comfort, safety, economic well being, or convenience of the city and its inhabitants; provided that all such powers, whether expressed or implied, shall be exercised and enforced in the manner prescribed in this charter, and when not prescribed herein, in such manner as is provided by ordinance or resolution adopted by the city council.
- (b) The enumeration of particular powers in this charter shall not be held or deemed to be exclusive, and, in addition to the powers enumerated herein, the city shall have all other powers which, under the

constitution and laws of the State of Texas, it would be proper for this charter to specifically enumerate, including all powers of local government not clearly denied the city by state law. The city shall have and may exercise all the powers conferred upon cities of every class by the Texas Constitution or state and federal law, including all powers of local government that can be conferred on home rule cities pursuant to Art. 11, Sec. 5, Tex. Const., or that are conferred by any existing or future law relating to the powers and authority of cities, together with all the implied powers necessary to carry into execution any such power.

- (c) The city may exercise any of its powers and perform any of its functions by contract with, or in cooperation with, the state government or any agency or any political subdivision thereof, or with the federal government or any agency thereof, and, to the extent not inconsistent with state law or this charter, by contract with any person, firm or legal entity.
- (d) Under the name of the city it shall be known in law and have succession and be capable of contracting and being contracted with; being sued and impleaded as authorized in this charter or by state law; suing and impleading at law or in equity and being answered to in all courts and tribunals; provided that the city shall have sovereign immunity and its officers and employees shall have qualified governmental immunity.

Section 1.05. Particular Powers.

In addition to the foregoing general powers and the other powers and authority set forth in this charter, the city may use a corporate seal; own, acquire, purchase, lease, hold, manage, control, convey and sell any character of property, whether real, personal or mixed, including any charitable or trust fund, situated within, or without, the limits of the city, as the purposes of the city may require for any public purpose in fee simple or in any lesser interest or estate by purchase, gift, devise, lease or condemnation; contract with, own, lease, operate and regulate public utilities and services; assess, levy and collect taxes for general and special purposes; borrow money on the revenues and/or the faith and credit of the city, by the issuance and sale of bonds, certificates of obligation, warrants, notes or any other evidence of indebtedness or obligation of the city; appropriate city funds and monies for any public purpose; regulate and control the use, for whatever purpose, of the streets and other public places; make and enforce regulations to protect the public safety, health and welfare; pass such ordinances as may be expedient for the protection and maintenance of good government, for the peace, safety, welfare, comfort and quality of life of the city and its citizens, for the performance of the functions of the city and for the order and security of the city and its residents; zone and regulate the development and use of land and all other property; provide suitable penalties for the violations of any ordinance; and exercise all municipal powers, functions, rights, privileges and immunities of every name and nature whatsoever.

Section 1.06. Power of Eminent Domain.

The city shall have full power and right to exercise the power of eminent domain for any public purpose or as necessary or desirable to carry out any power conferred by this charter. The city shall have and possess the power of condemnation for any such purpose even though such power of eminent domain is not otherwise specifically enumerated in this charter or in state law. The city may exercise the power of eminent domain in any manner authorized or permitted by state law and, in those instances in which state law does not authorize, permit or establish the procedures, method of establishing value, or other requirements for condemnation and the exercise of the power of eminent domain, the city council shall by ordinance establish the process, rules and procedures for valuing the property and property interests to be condemned. Taking property for any public purpose that requires a fee simple conveyance to a private person or entity, other than to obtain interim financing and ultimate ownership by the city of a city facility, or as part of an urban renewal or similar program, is discouraged.

[Amended November 2005]

Section 1.07. Annexation and Disannexation.

The council may by ordinance unilaterally annex or disannex any land, property or territory upon its own initiative, or upon a petition submitted by a majority of the voters residing within the territory being annexed or disannexed, or upon petition by the owners of the property as authorized by applicable law. The procedure for the establishment, modification or extension of the city boundaries, and the annexation or disannexation of territory, may not be inconsistent with any applicable requirements and limitations established by state law; provided that absent procedures being established by state law the action may be taken by ordinance adopted after one public hearing is held at least ten (10) but not more than twenty (20) days after notice of such public hearing is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city. Upon final passage of an ordinance, fixing, establishing or modifying the boundaries of the city, or annexing or disannexing any property by any method prescribed herein, the boundaries of the city shall be so extended or modified as provided in such ordinance. Upon an ordinance annexing property into the city, the territory described in the ordinance shall become a part of the city, and the said land and its residents and future residents shall be bound by the acts, ordinances, codes, resolutions and regulations of the city.

A good and sufficient legal description of the land area being considered for annexation or disannexation, together with a map or plat prepared at the initiator's expense showing the location of such land area, shall be presented to the council at a public meeting prior to final action on such annexation or disannexation. Land disannexed from the city shall not be relieved from any unpaid lawful assessments or taxes levied by the city against the property while such land or property was a part of the city.

[Amended May 2018]

Section 1.08. Streets and Public Property.

The city shall have exclusive dominion, control, and jurisdiction, in, upon, over, and under the public streets, sidewalks, alleys, highways, public squares, public ways and public property within the corporate limits of the city. With respect to all such facilities and public property, the city shall have the power to establish, maintain, alter, abandon, or vacate the same; to regulate, establish, or change the grade thereof; to control and regulate the use thereof; and to abate and remove in a summary manner any encroachment. The city may develop and improve, or cause to be developed and improved, any and all public streets, sidewalks, alleys, highways, and other public ways within the city by laying out, opening, narrowing, widening, straightening, extending and establishing building lines along the same; by purchasing, condemning, and taking property therefor; by filling, grading, raising, lowering, paving, repaving, and repairing, in a permanent manner, the same; by constructing, reconstructing, altering, repairing, and realigning curbs, gutters, drains, sidewalks, culverts, and other appurtenances and incidentals in connection with such development and improvements; and may make or cause to be made any one or more of the kinds or classes of development and improvement authorized hereinabove, or any combination or parts thereof.

ARTICLE II. BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY

Section 2.01. Boundaries.

The boundaries and limits of the city shall, until changed in the manner herein provided, be the same as have heretofore been established and as exist on the date of the adoption of this charter. The boundaries and territorial limits of the city may from time to time by ordinance be fixed, decreased, modified or extended, and property may be annexed into the city or disannexed from the city, with or without the consent of any voter or of any landowner in the affected area, unless consent is required by applicable law.

[Amended May 2018]

ARTICLE III. THE CITY COUNCIL

Section 3.01. Governing Body.

The governing body of the city shall consist of a city council composed of a mayor and six (6) councilmembers elected from the city at large. The mayor shall be elected for a term of three (3) years to occupy a place on the council designated as mayor. The councilmembers shall be elected for a term of three (3) years to occupy a place on the council, such places being numbered and designated 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. The mayor and councilmembers shall serve until their successors are elected and take office.

[Amended November 2005]

Section 3.02. Qualifications.

The mayor and councilmembers shall, on the day prior to the date of the scheduled election to be held for such office, be citizens of the United States; qualified voters of the city; residents of the city, or an area having been annexed into the city, for at least twelve (12) consecutive months immediately prior to the date of the election; be twenty-one (21) years of age or older; and not be delinquent on any indebtedness to the city. No city employee shall be eligible to file for the office of mayor or councilmember and no member of the city council shall hold any other elective public office. If any member of the council ceases to possess any of the qualifications of office, or shall be finally convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, his/her office shall, upon such fact being determined by the council, immediately become vacant; provided that if the residence of a member of council is disannexed, the member shall serve the remainder of his or her term of office.

Section 3.03. Term Limits.

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (c)
 - (1) No person shall be elected to the office of mayor for more than three consecutive terms;
 - (2) No person shall be elected to the city council in a position other than mayor for more than three consecutive terms; and
 - (3) No person shall be elected to a combination of more than three terms as mayor and more than three terms for a council position other than mayor that occur consecutively, regardless of order.
- (b) For the purposes of this section only, "consecutive" or "consecutively" means terms that occur one after the other without the period of time described in subsection (c) passing between terms. Partially served terms count as a full term if the person was elected to the position. Terms of positions filled by appointment do not count towards term limits.
- (c) After reaching term limits, a person can file for office no earlier than the filing period for the election that occurs after the person has been out of office for one full term.
- (d) Term limits are effective for positions elected in the May 2022 general election and subsequent elections. Terms of office for positions elected before the May 2022 general election do not count towards term limits.

[Amended November 2005; Amended May 2022]

Section 3.04. Vacancies In Office.

- (a) The office of mayor and councilmember shall become vacant upon the incumbent in that office announcing as a candidate for any other elective office at any time when the unexpired term of the office then held exceeds one year and thirty days, or the death, resignation, or removal from office of the incumbent. If a vacancy occurs for an unexpired term of twelve months or less and there are no other places on the council that have been filled by appointment at the time the vacancy occurs, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the city council after holding a public hearing, notice of which is given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and posted on the city's website at least fourteen days before the public hearing. The person appointed to fill the vacancy serves until the earlier to occur of: (1) the appointee vacating the place; (2) the next regular election; or (3) the next special election to fill one or more vacancies on council. In the event that one or more places become vacant when there exists on the council a place filled by appointment, the place filled by appointment shall become vacant, and a special election shall be ordered to fill the vacancies in accordance with Section 3.04(b).
- (b) A vacancy or vacancies on the council for an unexpired term that exceeds twelve months or that occurs when two or more vacancies exist at the same time shall be filled by special election called for such purpose. The date for special elections to fill vacancies shall be the first uniform election date after the vacancy occurs and for which there is sufficient time to call and give notice of the election as required by law; provided that, if a vacancy occurs and no such election date falls within 120 days after the date of the vacancy, the council shall, without regard for the specified uniform election dates, order such election to be held on a Saturday within 120 days from the date of the vacancy. All vacancies shall be filled by election for the remainder of the unexpired term of the office so filled. No special election will be required if the vacated office has a term of 120 days or less remaining as of the date of the first council meeting held after the date of the vacancy.

[Amended November 2005; Amended May 2018; Amended May 2022]

Section 3.05. City Council Judge of its Members.

The council shall be the judge of the election and qualifications of its members, may determine the rules of its proceedings, and shall have power to compel the attendance of absent members and to punish members for disorderly conduct.

After due notice and opportunity to be heard and upon not less than five (5) affirmative votes, the city council shall have the power to remove any elected officer for gross immorality, habitual drunkenness, incompetency, corruption, misconduct or malfeasance in office. Officers or employees of the city appointed directly by the council may be removed by majority vote of the council at any time after notice in compliance with the open meetings laws.

Section 3.06. Quorum and Attendance.

Four (4) members of the council shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business and no action of the council shall be valid or binding unless adopted in an open meeting with a quorum present; provided that less than a quorum may adjourn any meeting. It shall be the duty of each member of the council to attend each regular and special meeting of the council and the failure of any member to attend three (3) successive meetings, without good and sufficient cause, shall constitute misconduct in office.

Section 3.07. Meetings.

The council shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each month on a schedule established from time to time by the council, and as many additional or special meetings, as the council deems necessary to transact the

business of the city. The council shall fix the dates and times of the regular meetings. Special meetings of the council shall be held on the call of the mayor, a majority of the councilmembers, or the city manager, and whenever practicable upon no less than twelve (12) hours notice to each member. Meetings shall be open to the public and public notice shall be given by posting an agenda in accordance with state law. Executive sessions closed to the public shall be permitted in accordance with the state law. The mayor shall approve all meeting agendas; provided that any councilmember may require any item to be placed on any agenda for which timely notice may be given.

Section 3.08. Voting.

All members of the council present shall vote upon every resolution, ordinance, or other action requiring a vote of the council; provided that, if any member of the council has a conflict of interest that fact shall be stated in the minutes and such member shall abstain from consideration of the issue and from voting. No ordinance, resolution, order, action, matter or issue, shall be passed, approved, adopted, taken or consented to except by a majority vote of the members of council present and voting; provided that not less than three (3) affirmative votes shall be required to pass, approve, adopt, take action or consent to any ordinance, resolution, action, matter, issue, or motion.

Section 3.09. Compensation.

The members of the council shall serve without financial compensation provided that, on approval by the council, they shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.