City of Denton



City Hall 215 E. McKinney Street Denton, Texas www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

CM: Sara Hensley

DATE: April 15, 2025

SUBJECT

Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton approving a Joint Election Agreement and Contract for election services with Denton County for joint election services for the May 3, 2025 Denton general municipal election being held for the purpose of electing Council Members to Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, a special election for the purpose of submitting proposed Charter Amendments to the registered voters of the City of Denton replacing all instances of gendered language with non-gendered language; resolving conflicts with state law and modifying vague or unclear language, and increasing the term of the municipal judge from two years to four years, at a total estimated cost of \$115,126.96; and providing an effective date.

BACKGROUND

On February 4, 2025, the Denton City Council ordered a general municipal election to be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, to elect council members to District 1, 2, 3, and 4, and a runoff election on Saturday, June 7, 2025, if necessary.

On January 14, 2025, the Denton City Council ordered a special election to be held on Saturday May 3, 2025 for the purpose of submitting proposed charter amendments to the registered voters of the City of Denton replacing all instances of gendered language with non-gendered language; resolving conflicts with state law and modifying vague or unclear language, and increasing the term of Municipal Judge from two years to four years.

Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code provides that the city may enter into an agreement with other jurisdictions that may be conducting elections on the same day in election precincts that can be served by common polling places. Subsection 271.002(d) requires "the terms of a joint election agreement must be stated in an order, resolution, or other official action adopted by the governing body of each participating political subdivision." The City of Denton and other Denton County political jurisdictions will conduct elections on Saturday, May 3, 2025. Section 31.092 of the Texas Election Code allows the county elections administrator to contract with any city within their county to perform election services.

This action authorizes the City to hold the election jointly with jurisdictions that share common polling places and contract with Denton County for election services, including the selection, training, and compensation of precinct election judges.

If adopted, this joint election agreement and contract will be effective upon its adoption; and its terms/conditions shall also apply to a runoff election, if any is needed.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance authorizing the joint election agreement and contract for election services with Denton County.

FISCAL INFORMATION

The estimated cost for the General Election is \$115,126.96. Denton County will perform a post-election audit of the actual expenses incurred to conduct the election and payment shall be rendered at that time. For now, a deposit is not required.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 – Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2 – Draft Ordinance, Contract & Exhibit

Exhibit 3 – Cost Estimate Detail

Exhibit 4 – Ordinances 25-186 and 25-041 Ordering May 2025 General and Special Elections (respectively)

Respectfully submitted:

Lauren Thoden City Secretary