

FY 2025 FORT BEND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Commissioners Court Meeting Date: 2025-05-27

Name: Robert Hebert

Address: 602 Hillcrest Dr, Richmond, TX 77469

Email Address: hebertrobert@msn.com

Mobile Phone Number: (281) 460-1011

Please provide the name and address of any group or organization you represent, if applicable:

Fort Bend Business Coalition

MEETING TYPE	AGENDA ITEM#	FOR	AGAINST
Regular Session Agenda	22.B		~
Regular Session Agenda	26.B		~

Signature Box:

Robert Hebert (signed on: Mon May 26 2025 2:18:52 PM)



May 23, 2025

Honorable Judge George and Members of the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court 401 Jackson Street Richmond, Texas 77469

Re: May 27 Agenda Items - Redistricting Matters

Dear Judge and Commissioners:

We write on behalf of the Fort Bend Business Coalition to express our views regarding the agenda items concerning redistricting scheduled for your May 27, 2025, meeting.

We recognize the need to reconfigure <u>voting</u> precincts this month to comply with state law. However, we respectfully request that the Court table any action related to the redrawing of <u>Commissioners</u> precinct boundaries at this time.

In 2021, the Commissioners precincts were radically changed without any advanced notice or meaningful public input. That process was wrong at that time, and this Court should not repeat that mistake now. We believe that all future modifications to Commissioners precinct boundaries should be undertaken with openness, transparency, and ample opportunity for community participation. As representatives of the business community, we firmly believe that voters should choose their elected officials—elected officials should not choose their voters.

We understand that the current precinct map results in population imbalances exceeding 10% among precincts, necessitating changes before the next Commissioners Court election in November 2026. The practical deadline to implement any such changes in time for party primaries is the end of this year—so there is no reason to act on this matter on Tuesday.

Instead, we encourage the Court to consider a process like that used in 2011—one that engaged a citizen committee to guide the redistricting effort. An open, considered, and measured approach to redistricting is what is called for here.

We appreciate your service to Fort Bend County and thank you for considering this request for a more transparent process.

Sincerely,

Robert "Bob" Hebert Chair, County Committee Fort Bend Business Coalition

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