



Town of Highland Park, Texas
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA

8:00 AM
May 13, 2026

4700 Drexel Drive, Highland Park, TX 75205
Town Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the agenda is the public's opportunity to address the Town Council about any item listed on the agenda, except public hearings. Comments related to public hearings will be heard when the specific hearing begins. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, unless otherwise required by law. Per the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Town Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any item not listed on the agenda. Items suggested for action may be placed on a future agenda at the Town Council's sole discretion.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion and vote. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a request by a Council Member is made prior to the time of the Town Council voting on the motion. In such event, the item will be removed, without debate, from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence.

- A. Take action on a resolution amending the Town's Master Fee Schedule, adding transit fees, effective May 14, 2026.

V. CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION

- A. Review, discuss, and consider approval of an ordinance canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the General Municipal Election held on Saturday, May 2, 2026, for the positions of Mayor and five Town Council Members.
- B. Review, discuss, and consider approval of an ordinance canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Special Election held on Saturday, May 2, 2026, for the purpose of determining if the Dallas Area Rapid Transit shall continue in the Town of Highland Park.

VI. RECOGNITION

- A. Recognition of the outgoing and incoming Town Council Members.

VII. ADMINISTERING OATHS OF OFFICE

- A. Administer the Oath of Office to the Mayor and Town Council Members.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Any item on this posted agenda could be discussed in closed session as long as it is within one of the permitted categories under Sections 551.071 through 551.076 and 551.087 of the Texas Government Code.

A member of the public may address the governing body regarding an item on the agenda either before or during the body's consideration of the item, upon being recognized by the presiding officer or the consent of the body.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Please contact the Town of Highland Park Administrative staff at (214) 521-4161 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, if you need special assistance of any kind.



**Town of Highland Park
Town Council
Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

Item Coversheet

Take action on a resolution amending the Town's Master Fee Schedule, adding transit fees, effective May 14, 2026.

PRESENTED BY: Taylor Lough, Assistant Town Administrator

BACKGROUND:

At its May 5 meeting, the Town Council reviewed area transit fees and discussed the appropriate fee amount for the Highland Park On Demand micro transit and Highland Park Access paratransit services over the six-month pilot program.

The proposed adult fare for one-way trips is \$3.00 per rider.
The proposed fee for paratransit riders to or from Highland Park is \$3.50.

The Town manages its various fees for services through the maintenance of the Master Fee Schedule. Some fees within the schedule are established to be sufficient to cover the cost of the respective service for which they are imposed and others are set at levels which are intended to provide a partial offset of the cost. The proposed transit fares are not expected to cover costs. There will be 2.5% and \$0.30 fees per credit and debit card transactions. The Town will receive the remainder of the fare.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends amending the Town's Master Fee Schedule to provide applicable user fees, effective May 14, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for the contract with Via for a microtransit and paratransit pilot program is available, as previously appropriated, in the General Fund in an amount not to exceed \$417,250.40.

ATTACHMENTS

Res. No. 007-26 amending the Master Fee Schedule

RESOLUTION NO. 007-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS AMENDING ITS MASTER FEE SCHEDULE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Highland Park, Texas (the "Town") makes certain services, documents, publications, and facilities available to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to provide microtransit and paratransit transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the new user charges will be incorporated into fares charged beginning May 14, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Highland Park, Texas, that the Master Fee Schedule, as attached, is hereby amended, effective May 13, 2026.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Highland Park Town Council on the 13th day of May 2026.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

Susan Thomas
Town Attorney

Will C. Beecherl
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Mekeal
Town Secretary

TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TX

MASTER FEE SCHEDULE

**APPROVED September 2, 2025 – Resolution 012-25
EFFECTIVE October 1, 2025**

**AMENDED May 14, 2026 – Resolution 007-26
EFFECTIVE May 14, 2026**

**MASTER FEE SCHEDULE
WITH CODE OF ORDINANCE REFERENCE (WHERE APPLICABLE) TABLE OF
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I. Administrative Services

1. Health Permit (Ch. 6, Sec. 6.03.005)

An annual fee listed below will be collected from each food service establishment for a health permit issued by the Town and thereafter for the renewal of such permit.

Annual Health Permit Fee	\$260.00
Additional inspections, if required	\$105.00 each
Partial year	\$105.00/inspection plus
	\$50.00 Administrative fee

2. Facility Rental (subject to conditions included with required application)

Highland Park Room/Court Room	\$750.00/day
Utilities & Maintenance	\$30.00/hour

3. Returned Check Charge

The maximum charge permitted under Texas law will be imposed by the Town for the collection of checks returned by the banks for the lack of funds when such checks are used in payment to the Town for deposits or obligations legally owned by the issuer of the said returned checks. The Director of Fiscal and Human Resources will add the returned check charge to the other obligations owned to the Town by the issuer of the returned checks. The same charge shall be applied to electronic funds transactions in which lack of funds prevents payment from being made.

The Director of Fiscal and Human Resources, with the approval of the Town Administrator, may waive such charge if the Town was negligent in the cashing of the check or if special circumstances deem the waives as appropriate; however, in all cases of a waiver complete records must be made of the reason for the waiver.

4. Photocopy Charges

Article 6252-17a of the Texas Statutes allows the Town to charge a reasonable fee to cover the costs of reproducing public documents for private use. The charge for reproducing such documents will be based on the following guidelines:

(1) Reproduction Charges

Standard size 8.5" x 14"	\$0.10/per page
Non-standard size	\$0.50/per page
Diskette	\$1.00/each
Rewritable CD (CD-RW)	\$1.00/each
Non-rewritable CD (CD-R)	\$1.00/each

Digital video disc (DVD)	\$3.00/each
Body worn camera recording - released	\$10.00 per recording
Body worn camera recording - unreleased	\$1.00 per full minute

(2) Exception:

The charges in section (1) do not apply to official publications normally offered to the public free of charge.

Labor, overhead charge, document retrieval charge and computer resource charge as well as other charges as allowed by §70.3, Texas Administrative Code, as amended.

5. Library Services (Ch. 1, Sec. 10)

(1) Use of Library

Resident	No charge
Non-resident: Unlimited usage	\$250.00/household/year
Limited use card - five (5) items	\$25.00/each

(2) Late Return of Materials

Non-accessioned paperbacks	\$0.10/day to a maximum fine of \$1.00.
Accessioned materials not listed below	\$0.10/day to a maximum fine of \$5.00
Periodicals	\$0.10/day to a maximum fine equal to the current retail price of the periodical
Movies, Playaway Launch pad, Playaway View, and Books with DVD	\$1.00/day to a maximum fine equal to the current retail price of the material.

(3) Other Fees

Processing fee for lost materials	\$10.00/item
Fee for certified letter	\$5.00/letter
Standard Size Copy	\$0.10 per page
Standard Size Copy – Color	\$0.25 per page
11" X "17" Size Copy	\$0.20 per page
11" X "17" Size Copy – Color	\$0.50 per page

6. Miscellaneous Charges

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Certification of any document	\$2.00 per document
Contract preparation for 9-1-1 service providers	\$125.00
Payroll deduction for Child Support	\$5.00/month/deduction

7. **Transit Fees**

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Adult Fare (One-Way)	\$3.00 per ride
Paratransit	\$3.50 per ride

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II. Community Development (Ch. 3)

1. Contractor Registration Fees

Plumbing	No charge
Irrigation	\$125.00
Electrical	No Charge
Mechanical	\$125.00
General Contractor	\$125.00
Concrete	\$125.00
Bonded Concrete	\$125.00
Demolition	\$125.00
Drainage	\$125.00
Bonded Excavation	\$125.00
Landscape (Art. Turf)	\$125.00
Fence	\$125.00
Pool	\$125.00
Roofing	\$125.00
Sign	\$125.00
Certified Backflow Tester	\$125.00
Fire Sprinkler	No charge
Alarm	No charge

2. Plumbing Permit Fees

Permit fees covering the installation, alteration and repair of plumbing, plumbing fixtures, fittings and/or appurtenances shall be paid to the Town as follows:

Plumbing permit fee	\$82.50
Each fixture	\$5.50
Re-inspection	\$55.00
Water service line	\$11.00
Sewer service line	\$11.00
Irrigation systems	\$110.00

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3. Gas Permit Fees

Permit fees covering the installation, alteration and repair of gas piping, gas appliances or gas equipment shall be as follows:

Gas permit fee	\$82.50
Each outlet	\$5.50
Re-inspection	\$55.00
Yard line	\$11.00

4. Electrical Permit Fees

Permit fees for covering the installation, alteration and repair of electric wiring, electric apparatus, and electric equipment shall be as follows:

Electrical permit fee	\$132.00
Each electrical circuit	\$2.20
Electrical service (per ampere)	\$0.11
Light fixtures (each)	\$1.10
Motors (each)	\$2.20
Swimming pool ground	\$11.00
Re-inspection	\$55.00

5. Building Permit Fees

Permit fees covering the erection, construction, enlargement, alteration, repair, movement, demolition, conversion, or equipping of any building or structure or any portion of any building or structure in the Town shall be as follows:

\$500.00-\$4,999.99	55.00
\$5,000.00 or more	1.1% of value to nearest \$1,000
New Residential Dwelling (A/C)	\$2.86 per Square Foot
Addition/Remodel Residential Dwelling	\$1.32 per Square Foot
Residential Dwelling Reroof, Foundation Repair, General Maintenance	\$198.00
Raze a main building	\$550.00
Raze an accessory building	\$110.00

6. Plan Review Fees (non-refundable)

Plan Review fee	\$250.00
Plan Review for residential renovation containing structural,	\$250.00

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egress, and/or kitchen/bathroom modification(s).	
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7. Mechanical Permit Fees

Permit fees covering the installation, alteration, repair, or replacement of mechanical systems, equipment, fixtures, fittings and/or appurtenances, including ventilating, heating, cooling, air conditioning and refrigeration systems or other energy-related systems, shall be as follows:

Residential New/Renov. (A/C area)	\$0.088 per Square Foot (\$55.00 min fee)
Commercial \$500.00 or more	1.1% of value to nearest \$1,000 (\$55.00 min fee)

8. Fire Sprinkler Permit Fees

Permit fees covering the installation, alteration, repair, movement, conversion, or equipping of a fire sprinkler system shall be as follows:

Residential New/Renov.(Sprinkler area)	\$0.022 per Square Foot (\$55.00 min fee)
\$5,000.00 or more	1.1% or value to nearest \$1,000 (\$55.00 min fee)

9. Right-of-Way Fees

Network Node application fee	\$500.00 (1-5 network nodes); \$250.00 (each additional network node); \$1,000.00 per pole
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10. Plat and Replat Fee

Per Application	\$600.00
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11. Amending Plat Fee

Per Application	\$300.00
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III. Utilities (Ch. 13, Sec. 13.02)

1. Service Fees

After hour fee	\$100.00
Service Fee	\$50.00

2. Water Rates (Ch. 13, Sec 13.02.042)

Monthly service charge	\$22.84 per each customer unit served for any portion of a billing period
Unit cost per 1,000 gallons metered:	
0-12,000 gallons	\$7.18
12,001-30,000 gallons	\$8.25
30,001-60,000 gallons	\$9.92
60,001 and greater	\$12.89

3. Sewer Rates (Ch 13, Sec 13.02.043)

For water service that is connected to plumbing which drains into the sanitary sewer.

Monthly service charge	\$17.99 per each customer unit served for any portion of a billing period
Unit cost per 1,000 gallons	\$7.09

4. Grease Trap Inspection Fee (Ch 13, Sec 13.03.002)

For businesses who utilize a grease trap in their daily operations.

Grease Trap Permit Fee	\$150.00 per year
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5. Storm Water Rates (Ch 13, Sec 13.06.006)

For each dwelling unit receiving water or wastewater.

Monthly charge for residential property (property area in square feet):	
Up to 5,000	\$25.20
5,001-10,000	\$40.56
10,001-21,800	\$59.12
21,801-43,600	\$103.24
More than 43,600	\$198.92
Monthly charge for commercial property and unimproved property:	
Per each 100 square feet of land calculated to be the CDA of the commercial or unimproved real property	\$0.76
Maximum for unimproved property	\$198.92

IV. Solid Waste Collection (Ch. 13, Section 13.05.043)

1. Collection Fees

For all bills rendered by the Town on or after October 1, 2023, for the removal of garbage and trash, the Town shall charge for its services in removing garbage and trash as follows:

- (1) The collection of service for a single-family or duplex residence:

Alley service	\$33.99/dwelling unit per month
Pack-out collection service	\$67.50/dwelling unit per month

- (2) The collection service charge for an apartment which receives collection services from the Sanitation Collection Department per dwelling unit: \$30.95/ per month.

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(3) For business and commercial establishments, schools and churches:

No. of Poly Carts	Monthly Charge
1	\$168.98
2	\$318.13
3	\$463.67
5	\$711.08
10	\$1,208.65
11	\$1,308.19

2. Solid Waste, Portable Toilet Service, and/or Grit and Grease Trap Franchise.
The filing fee for the required application for a non-exclusive franchise is \$300.00.

V. Recyclables Collection (Ch. 13, Section 13.05.044)

For all bills rendered by the Town after October 1, 2023, for the collection of recyclables, the Town shall charge for its services in collecting recyclables as follows:

- (1) Collection of service for a single-family, a two-family (duplex) or a multifamily residence: (Ordinance 1762 adopted 09/08/2008)

\$4.36/dwelling unit per month

VI. Public Safety and Judicial

1. Accident Report:

Accident Report fee	\$6.00/report – no charge to other police and fire agencies
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2. Ambulance (MICU) Service (Ch. 6, Sec. 6.05.004)

Transportation to Dallas area hospitals for emergency medical services:

Mileage	\$15.00 / mile
Treatment / No Transport Fee	\$125.00

Additional fees will be charged for each emergency medical aid provided to the

person or persons transported including, but not limited to, drugs, bandaging, oxygen, electrocardiogram (EKG), etc. The cost of these items will be as follows:

Town Provided Drugs & Supplies	Two and one-half times cost
Oxygen & Supplies	\$115.00
BLS – Resident Fee	\$800.00
BLS – Non-Resident Fee	\$900.00
ALS I - Resident Fee	\$900.00
ALS I – Non-Resident Fee	\$1,000.00
ALS II – Resident Fee	\$1,000.00
ALS II – Non-Resident Fee	\$1,100.00

3. Solicitor’s License (Ch. 4, Sec. 4.04.034)

At the time the application is filed with the Department, the applicant shall pay, per each solicitor or peddler, a nonrefundable permit fee to the Town to cover the cost of processing the application and investigating the facts stated therein.

Solicitors’ License	\$50.00
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4. Impoundment Fees for Animals (Ch. 2, Sec. 2.01.010)

Redemption of animal; fees.

Animal pound fee	\$90.00/animal
Animal redeemed after 72 hours	\$10.00/day

5. Alarm Permit/Direct Alarm Monitoring Fees (Ch. 4, Sec. 4.02.007)

A person who desires to install and/or operate an alarm system or a local alarm system in the Town after the effective date hereof shall register said security system with the Department of Public Safety.

(1) Annual fee

Alarm Permit annual fee	\$48.00
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(2) Monthly monitoring fees

Alarm Base Fee with Cellular service	\$38.60
Alarm base Fee	\$31.60

(3) Restoration fee

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Restoration fee	\$100.00
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(4) Alarm Inspection fees

Initial Inspection	No charge
First Re-inspection	\$50.00
Subsequent Re-inspection	\$100.00

(5) Charge for Invalid Alarms

First five (5) invalid alarms per year	No charge
Charge per invalid alarm in excess of five	\$50.00 each

6. Horse-Drawn Carriage Permit Fees (Ch. 12, Sec. 12.11) (Ordinance 1980 adopted 7/27/2015)

Carriage License (Business) - The annual fee for a carriage business registration shall be \$100 per license (business). In addition, the licensed business shall remit to the Town an amount equal to five percent (5%) of all gross revenues from all operations of the licensee within the Town. Said amounts shall be remitted no later than the thirtieth (30th) day after such revenue is earned. The licensee shall submit a monthly report to the Town accounting for its gross revenues under the license for any month in which revenue is earned pursuant to the license. As applied in this section, the term gross revenue shall exclude: 1) cash refunds or credits allowed on returns by customers; and 2) the amount of any city, county, state, or federal sales or excise tax on sales, which is both added to the selling price and paid to the taxing authority by licensee; and 3) the amount of any city, county, state, or federal admission tax or use tax or similar governmental charge which is paid to the relevant taxing authority by licensee.”

Carriage License (Business)	\$100.00
Carriage Registration	\$50.00
Carriage Driver Permit	\$25.00

7. Medical Records Fees

Retrieval fee (paper reports only)	\$30.00 including first ten (10) pages duplicated
Retrieval fee (electronically stored records)	\$45.00 including first ten (10) pages duplicated

Additional Pages	\$1.00 each – pages 11-60 \$0.50 each – pages 61-100 \$0.25 each – over 100
Fee for written responses to a written set of questions	\$25.00

8. Background Check Fee

Background Check Fee	\$40.00 plus actual costs from other agencies
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VII. Parks and Recreation

1. Tennis Permits Fees

All qualified residents of the Town of Highland Park, upon making application with the Utilities Office, may secure an annual Tennis Permit. Such permit shall be numbered and coded as to indicate the time of its validity. The charge shall be as follows:

Individual Permit	\$40.00
Family Permit	\$80.00

2. Swimming Pool Fees

(1) All residents of Highland Park, upon making application, may secure an Annual Swimming Pool Permit. The charge for Annual Swimming Pool Permits shall be:

Regular Open Season Pool Permit - Includes open season lap swim and open swim, and post season open swim and lap swim (May – September)	\$65.00/resident
All-in-One Pool Permit - Includes pre-season lap swim, open season lap swim and open swim, post season open swim and lap swim, and extended season lap swim (April - November)	\$125.00/resident

Family Discount	50% discount given for each additional family member after four (4) resident pool permits are purchased at the same time.
Resident and Guest Day Pass	\$10.00/resident

3. Park Bench Donations

Residents may wish to donate a park bench to the Town as a memorial or recognition at cost plus 10%. Cost includes the price of the bench, custom plaque, and bench pad. A member of the Parks Department will be happy to discuss potential locations and provide a quote prior to installation. Please call or email Town Hall for a referral to the Parks Department.



**Town of Highland Park
Town Council
Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

Item Coversheet

Review, discuss, and consider approval of an ordinance canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the General Municipal Election held on Saturday, May 2, 2026, for the positions of Mayor and five Town Council Members.

PRESENTED BY: Joanna Mekeal, Town Secretary

BACKGROUND:

The Town of Highland Park conducted a General Municipal Election on Saturday, May 2, 2026, for the purpose of electing a Mayor and five Town Council Members for a two-year term of office. Pursuant to the Texas Election Code, the results of the election must be canvassed by the governing body of the Town between the third day and the eleventh day after the election.

CANDIDATE	OFFICE SOUGHT	VOTES
Will C. Beecherl	Mayor	1,344
Don Snell	Town Council Member	948
Mike Tibbals	Town Council Member	699
Margaret S. C. Keliher	Town Council Member	887
Leland B. White	Town Council Member	871
Mark P. Marynick	Town Council Member	690
Aland Friedman	Town Council Member	800

The attached ordinance canvasses the returns and declares the results of the General Municipal Election held on May 2, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the canvass of the election returns.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item has no financial impact.

ATTACHMENTS

Ord. No. 2167 - Canvassing the Results of the 2026 General Municipal Election (002)

ORDINANCE NO. 2167

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS, CANVASSING THE RESULTS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD IN THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK ON SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MAYOR AND FIVE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS; DECLARING THE RESULTS OF SAID ELECTION; PROVIDING A VALIDITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, under and by virtue of Section 7.01 of the Town Charter of the Town of Highland Park, Texas, (“Town”) and in accordance with Ordinance No. 2161 passed by the Highland Park Town Council on the 3rd day of February 2026, a municipal election was ordered in the Town of Highland Park to be held on the 2nd day of May 2026, for the purpose of electing a Mayor and five (5) Town Council Members for the ensuing two (2) years; and

WHEREAS, the General Election was duly and legally held on May 2, 2026, in the Town and in conformity with the Texas Election Code and other applicable laws, and the results of the General Election, including the early voting results, have been certified and returned by the proper judges and clerks thereof; and

WHEREAS, on the 13th day of May 2026, the same being a meeting of the Highland Park Town Council, there came to be considered the returns of said election so held in said Town on the 2nd day of May 2026 (“Election Day”); and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds upon a canvass of the returns of said election that the same in all things was legally held; that due notice thereof was given for the time and in the manner prescribed by the Election Code of the State of Texas, the Town Charter, and the Town’s Ordinance No. 2161; and that the returns thereof were duly and legally made and that there were 1,344 total ballots cast at said election, 676 during early voting and 668 on election day for Mayor as well as 4,895 total ballots cast at said election, 2,515 during early voting and 2,380 on election day for Town Council Members. The following are the names of the candidates voted for and the combined number of early voting votes and Election Day votes cast for each candidate:

CANDIDATE	OFFICE SOUGHT	VOTES
Will C. Beecherl	Mayor	1,344
Don Snell	Town Council Member	948
Mike Tibbals	Town Council Member	699
Margaret S.C. Keliher	Town Council Member	887
Leland B. White	Town Council Member	871
Mark P. Marynick	Town Council Member	690
Alan Friedman	Town Council Member	800

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Premises. The above and foregoing premises are true and correct and are incorporated into the body of this Ordinance and made a part hereof for all purposes.

SECTION 2. Confirmation of Vote Tabulations. The results of the General Election, as canvassed and tabulated above reflect the expressed desires of the resident qualified voters of the Town.

SECTION 3. Issuance of Certificate of Election. That the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver a Certificate of Election to the successful candidates elected at the General Election.

SECTION 4. Issuance of Canvass of General Election. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Canvass of the General Election, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", in accordance with the election laws of the State of Texas, and to take all other action necessary in connection therewith.

SECTION 5. Election Results. That, the Town Council declares the following persons were duly elected as a result of the General Municipal Election held on Saturday, May 2, 2026:

CANDIDATE	OFFICE
Will C. Beecherl	Mayor
Don Snell	Town Council Member
Mike Tibbals	Town Council Member
Margaret S.C. Keliher	Town Council Member
Leland B. White	Town Council Member
Alan Friedman	Town Council Member

SECTION 6. Validity. That, all other ordinances of the Town of Highland Park in conflict with any provision of this ordinance be, and the same are hereby superseded and all other provisions of the ordinances of the Town of Highland Park not in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7: Severability. That, should any paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION 8. Open Meetings. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance was passed was open to the public, and public notice of the time place, and purpose of said meeting was given, all as required by Section 551.041, Texas Government Code.

SECTION 9: Effective Date. That, this ordinance shall take effect immediately following its passage, approval, and publication as provided by law, and it is accordingly so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Highland Park Town Council on the 13th day of May 2026.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Susan Thomas
Town Attorney

ATTEST:

Joanna Mekeal
Town Secretary

APPROVED:

Will C. Beecherl
Mayor

Exhibit A

CANVASS OF GENERAL ELECTION

I, Will C. Beecherl, Mayor of the Town of Highland Park, Texas, met with the Highland Park Town Council, sitting as the canvassing board, to canvass the general election of May 2, 2026, on May 13, 2026, in Highland Park, Texas.

I certify that the figures on the tally sheets correspond with the figures on the returns.

Witness my hand this 13th day of May 2026.

Will C. Beecherl
Presiding Officer of Canvassing Authority



**Town of Highland Park
Town Council
Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

Item Coversheet

Review, discuss, and consider approval of an ordinance canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the Special Election held on Saturday, May 2, 2026, for the purpose of determining if the Dallas Area Rapid Transit shall continue in the Town of Highland Park.

PRESENTED BY: Joanna Mekeal, Town Secretary

BACKGROUND:

The Town of Highland Park conducted a Special Election on Saturday, May 2, 2026, for the purpose of determining if the Dallas Area Rapid Transit shall continue in the Town of Highland Park. Pursuant to the Texas Election Code, the results of the election must be canvassed by the governing body of the Town between the third day and the eleventh day after the election.

Shall the Dallas Area Rapid Transit be continued in the Town of Highland Park?	Votes
Yes	468
No	1,076

The attached ordinance canvasses the returns and declares the results of the Special Election held on May 2, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the canvass of the election returns.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item has no financial impact.

ATTACHMENTS

Ord. No. 2168 - Canvassing the Results of the 2026 DART Election

ORDINANCE NO. 2168

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS, CANVASSING THE RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK ON SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING IF THE DALLAS AREA RAPID TRANSIT SHALL CONTINUE IN THE TOWN; PROVIDING A VALIDITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 452 of the Transportation Code and in accordance with Ordinance No. 2156 passed by the Highland Park Town Council on the 4th day of November 2025, a special election was ordered in the Town of Highland Park to be held on the 2nd day of May 2026, to consider a proposition to determine if the Dallas Area Rapid Transit System shall continue in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Special Election was duly and legally held on May 2, 2026, in the Town and in conformity with the Texas Election Code and other applicable laws, and the results of the Special Election, including the early voting results, have been certified and returned by the proper judges and clerks thereof; and

WHEREAS, on the 13th day of May 2026, the same being a meeting of the Highland Park Town Council, there came to be considered the returns of said election so held in said Town on the 2nd day of May 2026 (“Election Day”); and

WHEREAS, immediately after said election, the Presiding Judge and other officials holding said election made the returns of the results thereof to the Town Council as set forth herein, and said returns being made according to law, and duly authenticated, being shown that written notice of said election was posted and published for the time and in the manner provided by law, and all other proceedings pertaining to said election have been shown to have been done and performed at and within the manner provided by law, and all papers pertaining thereto having been returned and filed with the Town Council and no protest or objection being made to or regarding any manner pertaining to said election; and

WHEREAS, at the special election, the following Proposition was submitted to the qualified voters:

Proposition A: “Shall the Dallas Area Rapid Transit continue in the Town of Highland Park?

Yes: _____

No: _____”

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds upon a canvass of the returns of said election that the same in all things was legally held; that due notice thereof was given for the time and in the manner prescribed by the Election Code of the State of Texas, the Town Charter, and the Town’s Ordinance No. 2156; and that the returns thereof were duly and legally made and that there were 1,544 total ballots cast at said election, 774 during early voting and 770 on election day for said Special Election are as follows:

“Yes” on Proposition A: 468

“No” on Proposition A: 1,076

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Premises. The above and foregoing premises are true and correct and are incorporated into the body of this Ordinance and made a part hereof for all purposes.

SECTION 2. Election Result. The number of voters voting “No” exceeds the number of voters voting “Yes”, and the result of the Special Election is that the Dallas Area Rapid Transit ceases in the Town of Highland Park.

SECTION 3. Confirmation of Vote Tabulations. The results of the Special Election, as canvassed and tabulated above reflect the expressed desires of the resident qualified voters of the Town.

SECTION 4. Issuance of Canvass of Special Election. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Canvass of the Special Election, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”, in accordance with the election laws of the State of Texas, and to take all other action necessary in connection therewith.

SECTION 5. Validity. That, all other ordinances of the Town of Highland Park in conflict with any provision of this ordinance be, and the same are hereby superseded and all other provisions of the ordinances of the Town of Highland Park not in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6: Severability. That, should any paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION 7. Open Meetings. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance was passed was open to the public, and public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given, all as required by Section 551.041, Texas Government Code.

SECTION 8: Effective Date. That, this ordinance shall take effect immediately following its passage, approval, and publication as provided by law, and it is accordingly so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Highland Park Town Council on the 13th day of May 2026.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

Susan Thomas
Town Attorney

Will C. Beecherl
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna Mekeal
Town Secretary

Exhibit A

CANVASS OF SPECIAL ELECTION

I, Will C. Beecherl, Mayor of the Town of Highland Park, Texas, met with the Highland Park Town Council, sitting as the canvassing board, to canvass the special election of May 2, 2026, on May 13, 2026, in Highland Park, Texas.

I certify that the figures on the tally sheets correspond with the figures on the returns.

Witness my hand this 13th day of May 2026.

Will C. Beecherl
Presiding Officer of Canvassing Authority



**Town of Highland Park
Town Council
Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

Item Coversheet

Recognition of the outgoing and incoming Town Council Members.

PRESENTED BY:

BACKGROUND:

Mayor Will C. Beecherl will recognize Council Members Lydia Novakov and Marc Myers for their dedicated six years of service to the Town as members of the Town Council.

Mayor Beecherl will also recognize the incoming and returning members of the Town Council.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

None