

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Houston Controller Chris Hollins Invites Residents to Budget Town Hall

HOUSTON — City Controller Chris Hollins will host a community town hall meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, to discuss Houston's upcoming Fiscal Year 2026 Budget process and current financial challenges.

The "Your Dollars, Your Voice" interactive session begins at 7 p.m. at BakerRipley's Gulfton Sharpstown Campus, 6500 Rookin Street.

"Given the importance of Houston's FY2026 Budget, the timing has never been better for our residents to understand the essential details of the budget process and how they can get involved," Hollins said.

All Houstonians interested in the city's finances are welcome to attend the one-hour event in southwest Houston. It will include presentations from Hollins and key Controller's Office staff, followed by a question-and-answer session where residents can provide feedback on budget priorities affecting their neighborhoods.

Residents will gain valuable insights into how their tax dollars are allocated and learn how they can directly influence budget decisions that impact their communities.

"We're creating this space where people can really talk about how the city spends their hard-earned tax dollars," Hollins stated. "The more you understand the city budget, the more empowered you are to speak up for your neighborhood. That's what this is about—making sure everyone has a voice and a real say in the decisions that shape our communities."

For directions to the southwest Houston venue, visit BakerRipley's website.

ABOUT BAKER RIPLEY:

BakerRipley is a non-profit organization based in Houston, Texas, dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in the community. Founded in 1907, BakerRipley aims to empower people through various programs and services that focus on education, workforce development, health and wellness, and community engagement. One of the services that they are best known for is their annual tax preparation assistance. Since 2009, BakerRipley's tax centers have prepared more than half a million tax returns and allowed hardworking Houston families to save more than \$724 million in tax return preparation costs.

ABOUT CITY OF HOUSTON CONTROLLER'S OFFICE:

Established in 1903, the <u>City of Houston Controller's Office</u> is the cornerstone of financial oversight and accountability for America's fourth-largest city. With a mission to uphold Houston's fiscal integrity and protect resident's tax dollars, the office oversees a broad spectrum of the City's financial operations, including its budget, investments, and debts. Committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility, the Controller's Office is key to maintaining the economic vitality of Houston, contributing to its status as a thriving metropolis for its diverse community.

ABOUT CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS:

Chris Hollins, serving as Houston's City Controller since January 2024, brings a dynamic approach to City governance and financial management. With a rich background in legal practice and management consulting, coupled with innovative leadership as Harris County Clerk, Hollins is dedicated to enhancing the city's fiscal practices and community engagement. Educated at Morehouse College, Yale Law School, and Harvard Business School, Hollins's commitment to accountability and service excellence drives his mission to build a financially resilient Houston. Residing in the Third Ward with his family, his work is deeply informed by his strong community ties.