



Staff Report

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE:	February 9, 2026
SUBMITTED BY:	Kaylee Koudela, Administration
ITEM TYPE:	Ordinances
AGENDA SECTION:	CONSENT AGENDA
SUBJECT:	Ordinance 2026-05 Amending the Early Voting Dates as Stated and Established in Ordinance 2026-03 to exclude Tuesday, April 21, 2026, San Jacinto Day, an Official State of Texas Holiday; Ordenanza 2026-05 que modifica las fechas de votación anticipada establecidas en la Ordenanza 2026-03 para excluir el martes 21 de abril de 2026, Día de San Jacinto, día festivo oficial del Estado de Texas.
BACKGROUND:	On January 26, 2026, City Council adopted Ordinance 2026-03, calling the General City Election to be held on May 2, 2026, which included establishing the early voting schedule (April 20 - 24, April 27 & 28). Subsequently, staff, in coordination with the Wharton County Elections Department (WCED), identified that April 21, 2026, is San Jacinto Day, which is a recognized state holiday under Texas law. Pursuant to Section 85.005(a) of the Texas Election Code (TEC), early voting by personal appearance may not be conducted on an official state holiday, unless specifically authorized by law. To be in compliance with TEC, it is necessary to amend the early voting days established in Ordinance 2026-03. This amendment affects only one day of early voting (April 21, 2026); All remaining early voting dates, times, and locations remain unchanged. The Joint Election Agreement and Election Services Contract with WCED, approved by City Council on January 9, 2026, and amended on February 9, 2026, also reflects this statutory requirement.
SUGGESTED ACTION:	Approval of Ordinance 2026-05 to formally amend the early voting schedule adopted in Ordinance 2026-03 to exclude Tuesday, April 21, 2026 (San Jacinto Day), ensuring legal compliance and operational consistency.
ATTACHMENTS:	Ordinance 2026-05 Amending Early Voting Dates May 2 2026 Election.pdf Ordinance 2026-05 SPANISH Amending Early Voting Dates May 2 2026 Election.pdf