



City Administrator's Update

HIGHLAND HAVEN

September 12, 2025



Shaping Our Future Together Town Hall, Bond Election, and Community Dialogue

Dear Highland Haven Residents,

As we navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead, I want to share some important updates and invite your participation in shaping our community's future.

First, I'm excited to announce our Town Hall event on Thursday, September 25, at 6 p.m. at the Community Center. This is the first in a series of in-person events to gather your feedback as we update our Comprehensive Plan. Comprehensive plans are state-mandated blueprints that guide a city's long-term growth and development, as required by state law for certain municipalities. These plans are critical for aligning community priorities with decision-making on land use, infrastructure, housing, and services to ensure sustainable and cohesive progress.

Building on the community survey we've already conducted, this Town Hall will focus on Community Vision and Values, Community Involvement and Communication, Growth and Development, and Housing. Your input is vital to shaping Highland Haven's future. We'll provide food and a welcoming environment, so please join us to share your thoughts and ideas.

Next, a reminder about the upcoming bond election on November 4, 2025. Voters will consider a \$1,000,000 General Obligation (GO) Bond to fund property acquisition and infrastructure updates for our water system. The bond will be repaid using water system revenues, with no debt service tax or water rate increases. Key projects include purchasing property adjacent to the water plant, which includes two leased wells, and potential upgrades like replacing the water system generator, building out well #6, and adding variable frequency drives to pump motors. The annual payments for this bond are estimated to be around \$13,000 less than our current bond, which will be paid off when principal payments begin. We've also included a flyer for this bond in this update. For more details, visit www.highlandhaventx.com or contact me at cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com.

In the wake of this week's tragic events, let's come together through open dialogue and a shared commitment to our community's strength and unity. Since arriving in Highland Haven, I've worked to foster transparency in city operations and encourage conversations about our city's needs. I'm always available to answer questions, learn from what I don't know, and listen to feedback from our wonderful residents. Your voice matters, and together, we can ensure Highland Haven remains a sustainably great place to live.

As always, stay informed, stay involved, and thank you for being an engaged part of our community!

City Administrator
Highland Haven, TX
cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com



Next BOA Meeting

The Board of Aldermen will have their next regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday September 16, in the community center.

A copy of the agendas will be available online, as well as the packets.

Next P&Z Meeting

The next regular Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday October 9, at the Community Center.

A copy of the agenda will be available online, as well as the packet.

Facts About the Water Investment Bond

1. The proposed bond is a **General Obligation (GO) Bond in the amount of \$1,000,000.**
2. Bond proceeds will be used to **purchase property for the water system** and to **fund some system repairs and/or upgrades.**
3. Once the bond is approved, the Board will **repay the bond using water system revenues (enterprise fund); no debt service tax will be created** and **water rates will not be raised** due to the bond.
4. The first two payments on the bond will be **interest-only** and funded from **General Fund reserves**, as outlined in the City's adopted budget.
5. When the full principal and interest payments begin for the new bond, the City's **current bond will be paid off**, and **principal and interest for the new bond** will be **paid from water fund revenues.**
6. The **annual bond payments** for the **new bond** are estimated to be approximately **\$13,000 less than the current bond payments.**
7. The property intended for purchase is **adjacent to the City's water plant** and contains **two water wells** for which the City currently holds historical lease agreements and pays royalties.
8. The City has planned to purchase this property **since 2004 as part of the Comprehensive Plan**, to ensure full control over its water infrastructure.
9. Acquiring the property will **allow for future water system development if needed** and eliminate royalty payments.
10. Possible **water system upgrades or repairs** potentially funded with this bond include:
 - a. **Replacing the current water system generator** (required by TCEQ)
 - b. **Building out well #6** and connecting it to the system
 - c. **Adding variable frequency drives to distribution pump motors**
(Not all upgrades may be completed with this bond)

Stay in the Loop & Reach Out!

We appreciate you taking the time to stay informed about what's happening in Highland Haven. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat about city matters, we're always happy to hear from you! Feel free to reach out, and we'll do our best to provide answers and keep you in the know.

📞 Phone: (830) 265-4366

✉ Email: cityadministrator@highlandhaventx.com

🏢 City Hall Address: 510-A Highland Dr., Highland Haven, TX 78654

Stay engaged, stay involved, and thank you for being a part of what makes Highland Haven a great place to live!



VOTER INFORMATION

EXPLAINING THE BALLOT



REQUIRED BALLOT LANGUAGE

In 2025, **a new law for Cities** was imposed in Election Code §52.072(e), which **requires city ballot propositions to include the following statement:**

“THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE”

The Texas Attorney General said this statement cannot be modified. The Highland Haven current tax rate **will NOT be increased** by the proposed 2025 bond proposition, **nor will it raise water rates.**



BALLOT EXAMPLE

Highland Haven Proposition A

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE. The issuance of general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the purpose of purchasing property for the city's water system and constructing improvements and upgrades to the water infrastructure and the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds.

☐ For
☐ Against

*Texas **state law requires** cities to place “THIS IS A TAX INCREASE” in ballot propositions. The Highland Haven current tax rate **will NOT be increased** by the proposed 2025 bond proposition, **nor will it raise water rates.**

ELECTION INFORMATION



IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

- **Monday, October 6, 2025** - Last day to **register** to vote
- **Monday, October 20, 2025** - **First day** of **early voting**
- **Friday, October 24, 2025** - Last day to apply for a Ballot by Mail
- **Friday, October 31, 2025** - **Last day** of **early voting**
- **Tuesday, November 4, 2025** - **Election day**

*For information on polling sites, operating hours, registering to vote, or other general election information, please contact the Burnet County elections office at 512-715-5288 or visit their website at www.burnetcountyelections.com.

QUESTIONS?

EMAIL:

CITYADMINISTRATOR@HIGHLANDHAVENTX.COM

WATCH A SHORT VIDEO ABOUT THE BOND BY
SCANNING THE QR CODE TO THE RIGHT





HIGHLAND HAVEN WATER INVESTMENT BOND

BOND QUESTIONS

Q1

WHAT IS THE BOND?

The proposed bond is a **General Obligation (GO) Bond** in the amount of **\$1,000,000**. Bond proceeds will be used to **purchase property for the water system** and to **fund some water system repairs and upgrades**.

Q2

HOW WILL THE BOND BE PAID FOR?

Once the bond is approved, the City will **repay the bond using water system revenues; no debt service tax will be created** and **water rates will not be raised due to the bond**. The first two payments on the bond will be **interest-only** and funded from **General Fund Reserves**, as outlined in the City Budget.

Q3

WHAT DO PAYMENTS LOOK LIKE?

When the full principal and interest payments begin for the new bond, the City's **current bond will be paid off**. Principal and interest for the new bond will be paid from water sales revenues. The **annual bond payments** for the **new bond** are estimated to be about **\$13,000 less** per year than the current bond payments.

Q4

WHAT IS THE PROPERTY?

The property intended for purchase is **adjacent to the City's water plant** and contains **two of the City's water wells**. The City pays royalties for water pumped from these wells. Since **2004 the City's Comprehensive Plan** has directed the City to **purchase this property** if it becomes available.

Q5

WHAT ARE SYSTEM UPGRADES?

As part of the bond, the City may be able to **invest in the following upgrades**:

- **Replacing the current water system generator** (required by TCEQ)
 - **Build out well #6 and connect it to the water system**
 - **Add variable frequency drives to distribution pump motors**
- (Not all upgrades may be completed with the bond)

EARLY VOTING

October 20 through October 31, 2025

ELECTION DAY

November 4, 2025

