



GREATER HOUSTON  
**PARTNERSHIP**

Making Houston Greater.

**CONTACT:**

**Clint Pasche**  
SVP, Marketing & Communications  
(o) 713-844-3645  
[cpasche@houston.org](mailto:cpasche@houston.org)

**Ashley White**  
Senior Manager, Media Relations  
(o) 713-844-3640 (c) 713-652-1173  
[awhite@houston.org](mailto:awhite@houston.org)

# Press Release

---

October 23, 2017

## **Houston Business Groups Announce Support for City Ballot Items**

*Propositions A-E include pension obligation and public improvement bonds*

HOUSTON, TX – Several Houston area business groups this morning announced their support for City of Houston Propositions A-E to appear on the November 7 general election ballot. The Greater Houston Partnership, Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Houston Association of Realtors, and Houston Apartment Association are all in support of Proposition A, related to the issuance of pension obligation bonds and Propositions B-E related to the issuance of public improvement bonds.

“Our number one priority in the 2017 state legislative session was to reform the City’s public employee pension systems,” said Bob Harvey, Greater Houston Partnership’s president and CEO. “Proposition A is a must-pass item as it authorizes the pension obligation bonds that are essential to the reform package. Propositions B-E simply enable the City to finance its long-term capital improvement plan and does so in a manner that fits within the financial capacity of the City to absorb the debt service on the bonds.”

Propositions B-E would authorize the city to fund \$495 million in capital improvement projects. The bond package includes the following:

- Proposition B: \$159 million in public safety improvement bonds
- Proposition C: \$104 million in parks and recreation facilities bonds
- Proposition D: \$109 million in general permanent improvements (general government) bonds
- Proposition E: \$123 million in library facilities bonds

“When I hear that we can make all these improvements to our city with no new taxes, it sounds like a no-brainer to me,” stated Cindy Hamann, HAR Chair of the Board.

“This package of bonds, both related to the pension reforms and public improvements, is critical to keeping Houston on an upward trajectory,” said Laura Murillo, president and CEO of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

“Ensuring that our city is fiscally sound and meeting the needs of all its citizens is essential and these ballot propositions do just that.”

Kyle Brown, president of the Houston Apartment Association added, “The City has a number of critical maintenance issues to take care of to ensure that we remain a welcoming, modern city. The improvement bonds will help fund these necessary improvements.”

The propositions will appear on the November 7, 2017 general election ballot. Early voting begins Monday, October 23.

###