

# Late Backup



**ROUND ROCK TEXAS**  
ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

**Mayor**  
Alan McGraw

**Mayor Pro-Tem**  
George White

**Councilmembers**  
Craig Morgan  
Frank Leffingwell  
Will Peckham  
John Moman  
Kris Whitfield

**City Manager**  
Laurie Hadley

**City Attorney**  
Stephan L. Sheets

May 22, 2015

Honorable Mayor Adler and City Council Members  
City of Austin  
301 W. Second Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

Please let this letter serve as our express request that the Austin City Council not approve a resolution directing the City Manager to file a challenge petition with the Appraisal Review Board for the Travis Central Appraisal District. This action will disrupt other independent governing bodies' ability to set tax rates and collect tax revenues necessary to provide essential city services. Austin's filing of a challenge petition will have a negative impact on the City of Round Rock and as many as one hundred other local political subdivisions.

Concerns about limitations in Texas law inhibiting the ability of appraisal districts to precisely determine the taxable value of commercial property is understandable. However, we disagree with the method and timing of the proposed challenge petition because it has not been conducted with the involvement of Austin's regional city partners and will be detrimental to the operations of many entities.

The central Texas area has a proud record of solid regional partnerships on issues that affect our joint interests and citizens. We respectfully request that you continue that partnership in good faith by delaying this action and instead move forward with open discussion, reasonable timing, and in partnership with the City of Round Rock and other impacted local governing entities.

Respectfully,

*George White*  
George White  
Mayor Pro-Tem  
City of Round Rock