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**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Fort Bend County Judge KP George Opposes FY2026 Budget Increase, Calls for Fiscal Responsibility

RICHMOND, TEXAS — Fort Bend County Judge KP George has formally **voted against** the adopted Fiscal Year 2026 budget, citing unsustainable growth in county spending and a commitment to protect taxpayers from future financial strain experienced by other counties.

Judge George raised strong concerns over the trajectory of county spending, noting that the budget has **nearly doubled** from **\$382 million in 2019 to \$760 million in 2026**, while expected revenues for the coming fiscal year stand at **only \$721 million**, creating a concerning gap of spending more than the country's revenue.

"The adopted budget includes an increase of nearly \$30 million over last year," Judge George said. "While I recognize our county's rapid growth, **fiscal responsibility** must remain **our top priority**. From the beginning of this year, when this budget process started, I've been clear: we need **a flat budget with no increase** to avoid future layoffs or painful cuts like those our neighbors in Harris County are already facing."

Judge George reaffirmed his stance in support of a budget that maintains essential services, respects taxpayer dollars, and ensures long-term financial stability.

Judge George also voted **against raises for elected officials**, stating that it is inappropriate to approve such increases. At the same time, there is a real risk of financial strain that could impact frontline staff in the future.

"I believe government should operate with the same discipline and responsibility we expect of our residents and businesses," he added. "We cannot continue down a path where spending outpaces revenue."

Media Availability

Judge KP George is available for interviews and welcomes all media inquiries regarding his position on the FY2026 budget.

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COUNTY JUDGE

Fort Bend County, Texas

The Honorable KP George
County Judge

(281) 341-8608
Fax (832) 471-1858

September 25, 2025

On Tuesday, I voted no on the Fort Bend County 2026 Budget. Over the past eight years, the Fort Bend County budget has exploded from \$382 million to a court-approved amount of \$760 million for the fiscal year 2026, while our revenue for this fiscal year is only \$721 million.

The adopted budget on Tuesday's Commissioners Court has an increase of nearly \$30 million compared to the adopted FY2025 budget.

While I recognize the continued growth and development of our county, I believe that fiscal responsibility must remain our top priority. From the beginning of this process, I made my intention very clear: we need to adopt a flat (with no increase) budget to avoid any future layoffs of our employees or other painful cuts that we will be forced to implement. Similar painful cuts are happening to our neighbor, Harris County, right now.

The people of Fort Bend County deserve a government that is as disciplined with taxpayer dollars as families are with their own budgets. That means holding the line when spending trends risk outpacing sustainable growth.

I have always supported a **flat, fiscally responsible budget** that preserves essential services, honors our obligations, and keeps Fort Bend County on a sound financial path without adding further burden to taxpayers.

I want to thank the Budget Office for its hard work in presenting the adopted budget.

KP George
Fort Bend County Judge