

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, April 30, 2024

## Fort Bend County residents participate in The People's Budget

Input from the community collected ahead of 2025 preliminary budget hearings

**FORT BEND COUNTY, TX** – Fort Bend County residents voiced their priorities for the 2025 fiscal year budget at The People's Budget Town Hall hosted by County Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy's Office on April 30, 2024. The comments from this meeting, along with over 200 surveys completed online and in person over the last three weeks, will be used to guide Commissioner McCoy in prioritizing investments for the county budget.

In the initial survey, attendees were given \$100 to allocate however they wanted across five key categories; carceral system, community resources, court system support, health, and infrastructure. After they wrote down or submitted their answers, they were showed how the county actually budgeted that \$100 for the 2024 fiscal year.

In-person attendees were separated into two groups of 16 and \$100 (represented by wooden tokens) were distributed among every group member. Members received 5 or 6 tokens to spend on the five key categories again and took time to tell their group why they made the decisions they did. Members were allowed to change their allocations after they heard the reasoning of the peers.

Thirty-two attendees from across Fort Bend County attended in person, and 12 attended online as the meeting was livestreamed across the office's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Fort Bend County residents have until the end of the day tomorrow (May 1) to submit a survey. <u>Here's the link to</u> the survey in English. <u>Here's the link to the survey in Spanish</u>.

The findings from the survey will be compiled into a report and shared by the end of next week.

Click here to access the digital folder with photos and videos from The People's Budget Town Hall Meeting.

Fort Bend County is home to nearly 900,000 people and is one of the fastest growing counties and most ethnically diverse counties in the United States. Commissioner McCoy took office in 2023 to serve Fort Bend Precinct 4's nearly 250,000 residents. For more information on what's happening in Commissioner Precinct 4 visit our website (FBCTX.gov/Precinct4) or follow our socials @FBCprecinct4.

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