

RIVER RIDGE PETITION TO JOIN TRAVIS COUNTY WCID 17 FACT SHEET

The following provides a summary of the steps for the **River Ridge Subdivision** to be annexed into the **Travis County Water Control & Improvement District No. 17** and a proposed timeline of the annexation process in accordance with Chapters 49 & 51 of the Texas Water Code.

I. Petition for Annexation & Creation of Defined Area

- **A majority in value** of River Ridge property owners according to the Travis County Appraisal District's tax rolls must sign a **petition requesting annexation and creation of a defined area** and file it with the Secretary of the District's Board of Directors.
- Once the Board has received the petition, the Board must call an initial **hearing** on the annexation of the River Ridge Subdivision.
- If the Board finds at the hearing that: (1) the proposed annexation of the Subdivision to the District is **feasible, practicable, and to the advantage of the District**, and (2) if the District's system and other improvements of the District are or will be sufficient to supply the Subdivision **without injuring land already in the District**, then the Board may receive the Subdivision as an addition to and to become a part of the District. The District must record a copy of the order annexing the Subdivision in the Travis County Public Records. After the order is recorded, the Subdivision will be a part of the District, **contingent upon favorable election results and City of Austin consent**.
- The Board will then call a separate **hearing** to address the creation of the defined area for the Subdivision and to call the election. At the Board meeting where the hearing is held, the Board will determine whether to **adopt the proposed capital improvements plan and tax plan, define the River Ridge Defined Area, and call the election**.

II. City of Austin Consent

- Annexation of the Subdivision will be conditioned upon the **City of Austin consenting to the annexation** because a portion of the Subdivision falls within the City's Limited Purpose City Limits. This process will generally take up to **90 days**.

III. Election

- The District will hold a **District-wide election** (including the Subdivision property owners) on (1) the Subdivision's assumption of outstanding District bonds, notes, or obligations, (2) the District's ability to issue bonds to serve the area, and (3) creation of the defined area.
- The Subdivision will be required to bear its **pro rata share** of all bonds, notes, obligations, or taxes that may be owed, contracted, or authorized by the District. The Subdivision will

be subject to a **separate defined area tax** for improvements to serve the defined area and the **District's operations and maintenance tax**.

UPDATED TIMELINE FOR ANNEXATION & DEFINED AREA CREATION

- **October 15, 2026 Board Meeting:** The Board passes an order fixing a time and place for a hearing on the petition for annexation (held at least 30 days from the day of the order calling the hearing).
- **Following the October Board Meeting:** The Secretary of the Board places copies of the notice at three public places in the District and in one public place in the Subdivision for at least 14 days before the hearing and publishes the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in Travis County at least 14 days before the hearing.
- **November 19, 2026 Board Meeting:**
 - The Board holds the hearing and finds that the proposed annexation is feasible, practicable, and to the advantage of the District and the District's system is sufficient to supply the Subdivision without injuring land already in the District;
 - The Board adopts an order annexing the Subdivision, contingent upon favorable election results and the City's consent to the annexation;
 - The Board grants authority to the District General Manager to apply to the City for consent to the annexation;
 - The Board calls a hearing on the defined area creation, tax plan, and capital improvements plan to be held on December 17, 2026; and
 - The District records a copy of the order annexing the Subdivision to the District, attested by the Secretary of the Board, in the Travis County Public Records.
- **Following the November Board Meeting:** Notice of the time and place of the hearing and the proposition to be determined shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in one or more newspapers with general circulation in the District. The first publication shall be made not less than 10 days before the day of the hearing.
- **Application for City of Austin Consent:** The District submits application to City of Austin consent as soon as possible after the November Board meeting.
- **December 17, 2026 Board Meeting:**
 - The Board holds the hearing on the defined area creation, tax plan, and capital improvements plan;

- The Board adopts an order creating a defined area, contingent upon favorable election results and the City's consent to the annexation;
- The Board approves the Plan of Improvements for the River Ridge Defined Area; and
- The Board calls an election to be held in May 2027.
- **Election Preparation:** The District shall contract with Travis County to administer the election; provide notice of the election to the Travis County Clerk; publish/post notice of election; and conduct ballot proofing at Travis County.
- **City of Austin Consent Obtained or Denied:** The City of Austin will act on the District's application for consent of annexation of the Subdivision ahead of the deadline to cancel the election.
- **May 1, 2026:** The District holds an election with the following propositions:
 - The Subdivision's assumption of all or any part of the bonds, notes, obligations, or taxes created before the annexation;
 - The creation of a defined area and the Subdivision's assumption of its part of the District's bonds payable in whole or in part from taxes that have been voted previously but not yet issued or sold and the levy of an ad valorem tax on all taxable property within the Subdivision along with a tax on the rest of the District for the payment of the bonds;
 - Whether the District may issue bonds payable in whole or in part from taxes to provide service to the area annexed; and
 - Whether the District may assess a separate operations and maintenance tax for the defined area.
- **May 20, 2027 Board Meeting:**
 - The Board canvasses election results;
 - The Board adopts an order annexing land and establishing the defined area based on the favorable election results and City of Austin consent; and

The District records said order in the Travis County Public Records.