

# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER

CHRIS HOLLINS, CITY CONTROLLER



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2026

## MEDIA CONTACT

Erin Gaddis, Director of Communications and Community Engagement  
Erin.Gaddis@houstontx.gov

## CITY CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS LAUNCHES “REALITY CHECK” TOWN HALL SERIES FOCUSED ON HOUSTON’S BUDGET

**HOUSTON, TX** — City Controller Chris Hollins announced the launch of “Reality Check,” a citywide budget town hall series designed to bring transparency, clarity, and real public engagement to Houston’s financial future.

The series will invite residents across Houston to take a seat at the table for an interactive conversation about the city’s finances—breaking down how taxpayer dollars are being spent and what it means for neighborhoods across the city. Each event will include a live Q&A, giving Houstonians the opportunity to share their priorities, ask questions, and directly engage in the budget process.

“As we look ahead to Houston’s next budget, I remain committed to grounding the numbers and the process in reality for Houstonians,” said Controller Hollins. “I often say City Hall belongs to the people, but sometimes you have to bring City Hall to where people already are. This series is about creating an open forum where residents can react, ask tough questions, and help shape a budget that reflects what Houstonians actually experience day to day.”

The “Reality Check” series will be held at multiple locations across the city:

- **May 12, 6:30 PM** - HCC North Forest Campus
- **May 14, 6:30 PM** - Acres Homes Multiservice Center
- **May 17, 1:00 PM** - Axelrad
- **May 18, 6:30 PM** - BakerRipley | Gulfton Sharpstown
- **May 21, 6:30 PM** – Kirby Ice House: Memorial
- **May 23, 1:00 PM** - La Escondida (Spanish translation available)

Through these conversations, the Controller’s Office aims to bridge the gap between City Hall and Houston communities—ensuring that budget decisions are informed by real experiences on the ground. All events are free and open to the public, and interested participants can register [here](#).

###

**ABOUT CITY OF HOUSTON CONTROLLER’S OFFICE:** Established in 1903, the City of Houston Controller’s Office is the cornerstone of financial oversight and accountability for America’s fourth-largest city. With a mission to uphold

Houston's fiscal integrity and protect residents' tax dollars, the office oversees a broad spectrum of the City's financial operations, including its budget, investments, and debts. Committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility, the Controller's Office is key to maintaining the economic vitality of Houston, contributing to its status as a thriving metropolis for its diverse community.

**ABOUT CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS:** Chris Hollins, serving as Houston's City Controller since January 2024, brings a dynamic approach to City governance and financial management. With a rich background in legal practice and management consulting, coupled with innovative leadership as Harris County Clerk, Hollins is dedicated to enhancing the city's fiscal practices and community engagement. Educated at Morehouse College, Yale Law School, and Harvard Business School, Hollins's commitment to accountability and service excellence drives his mission to build a financially resilient Houston. Residing in the Third Ward with his family, his work is deeply informed by his strong community ties.