



City of Hutto

Agenda

City Council Work Session

Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Executive Conference Room – 500 W. Live Oak Street

1. CALL SESSION TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. OTHER BUSINESS

3.1. Hippos Helping Hippos: Continued discussion of Community Partnerships for City Events and Programs. (Kristi Barnes)

3.2. Discussion and possible action related to Work Session topics

4. ADJOURNMENT

5. CERTIFICATION

I certify that this notice of the February 5, 2026 Hutto City Council meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act on the City of Hutto website (huttotx.gov) and the City Hall bulletin board (500 W. Live Oak Street) on January 30, 2026 before 5:30 P.M.




Laura Hallmark

The City of Hutto is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Hutto City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Requests for reasonable special accommodations must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please email the City Secretary's office at CitySecretary@huttotx.gov or call (512) 759-4839 for assistance.

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

3.1.



To: City Council
Subject: Hippos Helping Hippos: Continued Discussion of Community Partnerships for City Events and Programs. (Kristi Barnes)
Meeting: Thursday, February 5, 2026
Department: Community Services & Culture /
Staff Contact: Kristi Barnes

ITEM SUMMARY:

*During the January 22, 2026 work-session, council directed staff to bring this item back for continued discussion. In addition, staff will present findings from the City of Greenville, SC as it relates to events, volunteers, and funding.

From the January 22, 2026 work-session AIR:

As the City of Hutto continues to grow, City-sponsored special events and community programs have increased in scale and complexity, requiring significant coordination, staffing, and financial resources across multiple departments. These events remain an important tool for community connection and civic engagement, but sustaining them solely through City-led operations presents ongoing capacity challenges and limits the City's ability to expand and diversify programs under current budgetary constraints.

Staff has begun exploring alternative service delivery models that maintain the community value of these events while strengthening long-term sustainability and community ownership. One such concept, referred to as **"Hippos Helping Hippos,"** proposes transitioning select City-led events and programs to local nonprofit, faith-based, and community-serving organizations through a structured partnership approach.

Under this model, community partners would assume responsibility for event planning, fundraising, programming, and volunteer coordination, while the City would continue to provide support related to permitting, logistics, public safety, accessibility, and regulatory oversight. The intent is to shift operational leadership, not eliminate City involvement.

Staff is currently gathering detailed event data, including cost and revenue breakouts, staffing levels, and operational considerations across departments. This information will be presented during the work session to support Council discussion and direction.

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

3.1.



FISCAL NOTES:

There is **no immediate fiscal impact associated with this agenda item**, as it is presented for discussion only.

Event cost and revenue data will be provided at the work session to inform Council's understanding of current expenditures and resource allocation. Any future fiscal impacts related to event transitions, partnership agreements, or changes in City support levels would be brought forward for Council consideration as part of a subsequent agenda item.

At this stage, the proposed concept is intended to explore potential long-term efficiencies, cost-sharing opportunities, and community capacity-building benefits, while maintaining appropriate City oversight and service levels.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

3.2.



To: City Council
Subject: Discussion and possible action related to Work Session topics
Meeting: Thursday, February 5, 2026
Department: City Council /
Staff Contact:

ITEM SUMMARY:

FISCAL NOTES:

ATTACHMENTS:

None