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January 16, 2026

More Access, More Transparency: Gainesville Begins Livestreaming City Council Meetings

Gainesville, Texas— The City of Gainesville continues to meet—and exceed—expectations for open, accessible local government. As a recognized Transparency Trailblazer by the Texas State Comptroller’s Office, the City is expanding its commitment by livestreaming regular City Council meetings while still keeping video archives online. This will give residents another way to stay informed and engaged with City business.

While live-streaming City Council meetings is not required, City leadership and staff view it as a natural extension of Gainesville’s approach to governance. The livestream, which was complicated by technical issues, including internet capabilities and audio issues during the initial livestream, presents a new way for the community to stay informed and engaged in City decision-making.

After addressing technical issues with multiple community partners, City Staff successfully retested the livestream during a recent Planning and Zoning Commission meeting in preparation for the second regular City Council meeting of 2026. City Staff is cautiously optimistic as refinements continue.

“Gainesville is committed to more than just meeting the minimum standards that the law sets for us,” said Paulina Schutt-Swiatkowski, Communication and Outreach Director for the City of Gainesville. “As a state-recognized Transparency Trailblazer, we believe that serving our community means being proactive in making information accessible. This aligns with our mission and values, and we are thankful for the public’s patience as we work through the hiccups that come up and continue to fine-tune the process.”

City Council meeting livestreams will be available on the “City of Gainesville, TX Official” YouTube channel (@TXGainesville). Videos will typically begin a few minutes before the meeting is called to order and will be muted during executive sessions, in accordance with Texas state law.



In addition to livestreaming, video recordings of City Council meetings will continue to be posted in the Media Center on the City Council webpage at Gainesville.TX.US/132/CityCouncil. Residents can also find agendas, minutes, and other Council-related information on the City Council webpage.

While meetings may now be viewed live online and via archived recordings, Citizen Comments must still be made in person at City Hall.

The City of Gainesville remains steadfast in its ongoing commitment to transparency and accessibility. As a recognized Transparency Trailblazer, Gainesville serves with intention, working to make local government more accessible to the community it serves.

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