

BECOMING AN EMERGENCY SERVICE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

What is an Emergency Service District?

An ESD is a special purpose district similar to a library district or a health-care district, but rather than fund books, we fund fire trucks, ambulances and public safety responders.

- An ESD collects taxes that are solely dedicated to providing those services.
 - An ESD is managed by a five-person Board of Commissioners

Who are Emergency Service District Commissioners?

ESD Commissioners are civic-minded community leaders who work to ensure their neighborhoods receive the best possible emergency services, fire protection and emergency medical response.

- ESD Commissioners are appointed to two-year terms by their TC County Commissioner.
- ESD Commissioners must live or own property within the District.

What do ESD Commissioners do?

Commissioners meet regularly to discuss and take action on the business of the District.

- Commissioners approve budgets and set property tax rates as needed to fund the budget.
- Commissioners select vendors and approve contracts to provide services.
- Commissioners oversee the continued maintenance and operation of fire stations and other real properties.
- Commissioners strategically plan for future challenges in a very fluid Austin market.

Requirements of an ESD Commissioner:

Participate in the meetings; three of the five must be present for a quorum.

- Regular meetings, once a month typically on a mid-week evening.
- Special called meetings. (3 special meetings in FY 2020).
- Ad hoc Committee Work (Facilities, Wildfire, etc) for specific projects.
- Initial Training within the first 90 days of appointment. (2 hours, online)
- Continue Education: 6 hours over the two-year period.
- Frequent communication updates with staff via Emails, Phone or Text.
- This is not a paid position; however, TC ESD 4 does reimburse for personal expenses incurred by Commissioners when conducting ESD businesses.