



Greater Austin Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce
Expanding Business Culture

October 3, 2011

The Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (GAHCC) is in support of the City of Austin moving its' elections to November. Given the cost savings to the city and the potential for a broader and larger voter turnout – we see no reason to continue holding elections in May. November is a date that more voters are aware of when it comes to the practice of exercising their right to vote.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, "Hispanics made up 7 percent of voters in the 2010 congressional election, the highest percentage for a nonpresidential election since the U.S. Census Bureau began collecting this information in 1974."

November elections will mean increased participation and it will save the city the administrative costs as identified by Travis County election offices. This makes sense for our city now and there is no need to delay this action further given the important issues up for the electorate in 2012. We strongly encourage the city council to make a statement in support of broader civic engagement from as many Austinites as possible.

Sincerely,

Andrew Martinez, President/CEO
Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce