



President **Allison Heyward**, Councilmember, Schertz
Executive Director **Bennett Sandlin**

September 8, 2025

To: Primary Contacts in TML Region 7

From: Bennett Sandlin, Executive Director, Texas Municipal League

Subject: Region 7 Director Ballot

Attached are the official ballot and candidate biographies for the TML Region 7 Director of the TML Board of Directors. Previously, elections for region directors were held at region meetings. After changes to the TML Constitution were approved in 2023, these elections are now administered by TML centrally.

TML has 15 regions, and each has a seat on the Board. During even-numbered years, the even-numbered regions are up for election. Terms are two years, and new terms will begin on October 31, 2025, upon adjournment of the TML Annual Conference and end on October 15, 2027, upon adjournment of the TML Annual Conference.

The attached ballot includes instructions for filling it out. If you have any questions, please contact Rachael Pitts at rpitts@tml.org or 512-231-7472.

Thank you in advance for your city's participation in the election.



OFFICIAL BALLOT

Texas Municipal League (TML) Region 7 Director Election

This is the official ballot for the election of the Region 7 director of the TML Board of Directors. You received this ballot because you are the city's primary contact person with TML. **Each TML member city is entitled to one vote, which vote must be cast by a majority vote of the city's governing body.** Please record your city's choice by placing an "X" in the square beside the candidate's name or writing in the name of an eligible person in the space provided. You can only vote for one candidate.

The officials listed on this ballot have been nominated to serve a two-year term on the TML Board of Directors. A brief biography for each candidate is included after the ballot.

Ballots must reach the TML office by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on October 23, 2025. Ballots received after this date cannot be counted. **The ballot must be properly signed and mailed to: Rachael Pitts, Texas Municipal League, 1821 Rutherford Lane, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78754, or scanned and emailed to rpitts@tml.org. If the ballot is not signed, it will not be counted.**

Region 7 Director (select one)

Ed Cimics, Councilmember, Live Oak

Certificate

I certify that the vote cast above has been cast in accordance with the will of the majority of the governing body of the city named below.

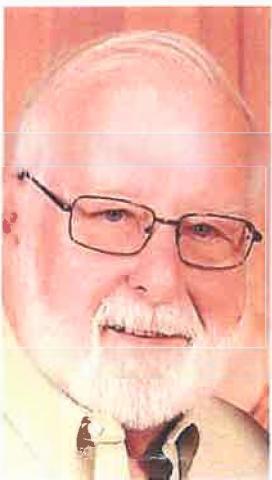
Witness my hand, this 21st day of October, 2025.

Signature of Authorized Official

Mayor
Title

Chris Riley
Printed Name of Authorized Official

Region 7 Director Candidate Biographies



Ed Cimics, Councilmember, Live Oak

Ed Cimics served a distinguished career in the United States Air Force for 20 years. He married in 1979, and he and his wife chose City of Live Oak their forever home in 1982. Cimics served his community after the military by joining the Live Oak Fire Department in 1997 as a volunteer. He touched many lives certifying to become an Emergency Medical Technician until 2010. He also served his community as a proud charter member of the Live Oak Lions Club from 1998 until 2009. He helped enhance Live Oak for its constituents by acquiring a memorial garden, floating fishing pier, and the first gazebo at the city park by the city lake. From 1998 to 2010, Cimics served on various City boards and commissions before deciding to run for City Council in 2010. Cimics has helped better serve his community and its citizens for the past 15 years with his seat on City Council. He also serves on the City's Economic Development Corporation helping to bring beneficial businesses to better serve the community.

He also volunteers in the community as a member of Live Oak Citizens Assisting Police where they support the Live Oak Police Department and the community. Cimics has been an active member of TML for over 20 years and has attended numerous TML workshops, conferences, and trainings to be recognized as an esteemed Certified Municipal Officer for the past 15 years. He accrues a minimum of 72 hours of continuing education annually to maintain this recognition. He also completed the TML Leadership Academy. He devotes significant time to his community and brings knowledge and leadership skills to the City. He has enjoyed watching it grow and develop into a premier community for its constituents to live, learn, work, and play.



Norma Sánchez-Stephens, Councilmember, Cibolo

Norma Sánchez-Stephens is a native Texan and a longtime resident of the City's tri-county area. She graduated locally from Judson High School and earned a bachelor's degree in banking and finance from the University of Incarnate Word in San Antonio. She established a successful career in the mortgage industry for ten years. She resigned as a mortgage loan officer to stay home and care for her family when her husband was deployed to Iraq with the Army National Guard. Having the desire to remain active, Sánchez-Stephens volunteered to serve as a leader for her husband's National Guard Unit's Family Readiness Group to assist fellow service member's families during deployment. She secured her group fitness instructor certification and

has served part-time at the Schertz YMCA since its opening in 2010, forging lasting bonds with Schertz and Cibolo residents that continue through today. Sánchez-Stephens officially moved to Cibolo in 2018 as their family's ideal community environment to raise their family. She and her husband, Michael, have been married 24 years, have five children (9, 11, 16, 17, and 18), and enjoy spending time with parents and siblings residing in the San Antonio area. Their family also enjoys being active within their church, community outreach, and volunteer opportunities. Since taking office, Sánchez-Stephens has actively attended TML Region 7 meetings and participated in TML's 2025 legislative day, where she has witnessed firsthand the incredible value of our cities coming together.