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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 28, 2026

JANUARY 31 PROPERTY TAX DEADLINE APPROACHING: Last chance for property owners before 7% penalties and interest

TRAVIS COUNTY, TX – Property owners have until January 31, 2026, to pay their 2025 property taxes without penalty and interest. The Travis County Tax Office encourages property owners to pay their taxes online at www.TravisCountyTax.org to avoid late payment penalties and the risk of lost or stolen checks.

As of today, 70.81% of the \$6.4 billion in property taxes due has been collected, with more than \$2.03 billion outstanding. The collection rate for 2024 property taxes is over 99%.

WHAT: Property Tax Deadline

WHEN: January 31, 2026

WHO: All property owners in Texas

WHERE: Travis County property owners pay online at www.TravisCountyTax.org

WHY: State-mandated penalty and interest charges are 7% on top of the existing delinquent taxes starting after the deadline, and they increase monthly. Pay before the deadline online to avoid unnecessary charges.

“We expect to see an uptick in the final days of the month so property owners should skip the trip to our office if they do not need to speak directly with a tax specialist and instead pay their taxes online,” said Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector Celia Israel. “Our online system is safe and convenient. For just \$1, you can pay using an eCheck and receive an immediate receipt confirming your payment. It’s only a few cents more than a postage stamp, and you don’t have to worry about the recent USPS postmark changes that could delay the date your payment is considered submitted.”

Delinquent taxes penalties and interest can add an additional financial burden on property owners. Property owners who are unable to pay in full can review payment plan options and apply online. Owners with a senior, disabled or disabled veteran homestead exemption can sign up to pay taxes in four installments without penalty and interest charges. “Any payment is better than no payment at all,” said Israel. “If you are unable to pay the full amount, pay as much as you can before the deadline and then contact our office to discuss payment plan options.”



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Extended Tax Office Hours

The Travis County Tax Office has extended office hours Wednesday, Jan. 28 through Friday, Jan. 30 due to accommodate for recent weather closures leading up to the Jan. 31 Property Tax deadline.

The Ridgepoint Drive office will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for property tax and motor vehicle services. All other Tax Office locations and drive-thrus will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to accept property tax payments.

Online payment is encouraged: www.TravisCountyTax.org.

Change in USPS Postmark Dates

In August 2025, the USPS changed its nationwide postmark policy so that envelopes are postmarked when they reach a regional processing center, rather than when the Postal Service first receives them. The Texas Property Tax Code requires the tax office to use the postmark date as the date of payment.

“We’re seeing a three-day lag between the date checks are written and dated by the postal service,” said Tax Assessor-Collector Israel. “ECheck, on the other hand, is immediate.”

For those who must mail a check just before the deadline, Israel recommends hand-delivering it inside the post office to a postal clerk and requesting a hand cancellation to ensure a postmark no later than January 31, 2026.

Mortgage and Escrow Accounts

Most mortgage companies pay property taxes from escrow accounts. Property owners who escrow their taxes through their mortgage company can view their balance and receipts online and should contact their mortgage company with any questions about the timing of their tax payment.

Disaster Relief for Eligible Homeowners

Property owners whose homestead was damaged during the 2025 storms and floods may qualify to pay their property taxes in four equal installments without penalty or interest. Eligible property owners have received an additional mailer outlining this option.

To participate, eligible taxpayers enroll online or submit a letter of intent by mail or email before the January 31 deadline. Property owners who believe they qualify but did not receive a



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mailer or do not see the option available online should contact the Travis County Tax Office at TaxOffice@traviscountytexas.gov or 512-854-9473.

Installment Payment Options for Disabled Persons and Seniors

Qualified homeowners who are disabled or 65 years of age or older are encouraged to consider enrolling in the four-payment installment payment plan. This option allows eligible homeowners to pay their property taxes in four installments through July 2026, without penalty or interest.

Eligible homeowners must sign up for the installment plan before the January 31 deadline to participate.

Enrollment can be completed online or by submitting a written request to the Travis County Tax Office. Once enrolled, payments are spread over time, providing added flexibility for those on fixed incomes.

Important Reminders

Property tax bills are available online at any time, and multiple payment options are offered for convenience and accessibility. Paying online at **TravisCountyTax.org** helps taxpayers avoid long lines, increased call volume, and potential postal delays during the season of severe winter weather. Online services offered through TravisCountyTax.org allow taxpayers to quickly access their bill, submit payment securely, and receive an immediate receipt.

For more information, visit **TravisCountyTax.org** or call 512-854-9473.

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Celia Israel is available for interview Thursday, January 29 and Friday, January 30.