

by mkanin a few seconds ago

# #ATXCouncil and the rail bond vote

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...and [#atxcouncil](#) heads to [#atxrail](#) bond item. [#atgov](#)

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Roger Baker up first. neutral. [#atxcouncil](#) [#atxgov](#)

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Baker suggests \$1b in bonds would limit bonding in out years for future  
[#atxcouncil](#) s [#atxgov](#)

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Baker questions mobility strategy implied w bond approval; suggests bond  
language priorities dictated by private development [#atxcouncil](#)

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Baker says bond "would actually set back" rail efforts by tying  
[tatxcouncilatatxgovil](#) [#atxgov](#)

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[@Aloha\\_Analytics](#) up now. questions [#atxgov](#) legality of road, rail bonding language. [#atxcouncil](#)

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[@Aloha\\_Analytics](#) suggests that voters should "vote down" rail bonds, allow city to come back for \$400m in road [Gatxcouncilatxcouncil](#)

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David King also sounds against bond language, wants "plain language...simple and clear" what&aposatxcouncilotatxgovcouncil [#atxgov](#)

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longtime rail opponent Jim Skaggs up. still hates rail. questions operations costs and planning of current proposal [#atxcouncil](#)

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Skaggs brings up specter of disproportionate cost burden on lower income residents, w.r.t. GO bonds. [#atxcouncil](#)

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Skaggs also employs lack of ridership argument, adds that new tracks will force I35 commuters to a crossing. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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Engineer Bill Warsham up. Opposes rail ballot language as written. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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**Wells Dunbar**  
@WellsDunbar

Watching the bloodletting as #atxcouncil sets the ballot for Nov., including rail: [austintexas.gov/department/atxn](http://austintexas.gov/department/atxn) [pic.twitter.com/36pG382xnl](https://pic.twitter.com/36pG382xnl)

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**Lilly Rockwell**  
@LillyRockwell

District 10 candidate Bill Worsham: Tells Council he opposes urban rail. Says it will increase property tax rates. #atxcouncil

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Jeff Howard, real estate attorney, here on his own behalf. sounding very much like a supporter of the bond. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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DAA's Charlie Betts up. Strong supporter. "most well vetted...publicly wide-open process" in [hisatxgovheratxcouncilov](#). #atxcouncil

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Mueller resident Kathy Sekulik (sp?) up w conciliatory offering: "close 2 mueller...not quite there, yet" happy[atxcouncilatxcouncil](#)

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D4 candidate Laura Pressley up against rail bond proposal. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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Pressley more direct w AG concerns, cites Wear [@statesman](#) report noting conflict w language. calls language deceptive #atxcouncil #atxgov

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.[@kathietovo](#) asking for clarification about what current language is. looking for a paper copies of the latest. #atxcouncil

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missed the name, but w hispanic chamber. supports proposed bond. [#atxcouncil](#)  
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Deann Desjardines, repping Catellus (Mueller developers). supporter. "austin needs this transportation proj[eatxcouncilatxgov](#)il [#atxgov](#)

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Desjardines calling for patience, support for rail bonds. "it is time to move forwa[atxcouncilatxgov](#)il [#atxgov](#)

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longtime transit watcher Martha Smiley up. served on, among others, CCAG--group that set route, mode. [#atxcouncil](#) [#atxgov](#)

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Smiley continuing the theme: good process, data-driven decision. project most likely to get Fed money. [#atxcouncil](#) [#atxgov](#)

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Pamela Power up on behalf of DANA. more strong words in support.  
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**Jeff Stensland TWCN**  
@JeffStensland

The [#ATXCouncil](#) posted revised [#atxrail](#) bond language yesterday. Here's a [linkfb.me/6PLSaQLsid2KbO](https://linkfb.me/6PLSaQLsid2KbO)

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Planning Commissioner, Mueller resident, attorney James Nortey up now.  
echoes other comp comments about need for [#atxrail](#) [#atxcouncil](#)

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Rob Parsons of Austin Gets Around. calls [#atxrail](#) proposal "game changing"  
[oppoatxgovy.atxcouncilatxcouncil](#)

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[#atxrail](#) supporters continue. latest notes series of major downtown building  
projects since 2000, current congestion [#atxcouncil](#) [#atxgov](#)

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**Mike Dahmus**  
@mdahmus

.@LillyRockwell The rest of us gave up after the debacle at the last meeting. This council did not want to hear input. #atxcouncil

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.@mdahmus @lizpagno were just wondering where y'all are.

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Activist Anjelica Noyola up now. questions how #atxrail will serve Montopolis region and/or working poor. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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**Brian Kelsey**  
@civicanalytics

@MKanin "game changing" seems overused these days. Right up there w/ "frankly."

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.@TheLeeTeam delivering statement on #atxrail calls this "a chance to fight back...make a historic decisiatxcouncilatatxgovil #atxgov

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.@TheLeeTeam notes his deep #atxgov roots, notes critical need for traffic congestion relief. #atxcouncil

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.@TheLeeTeam moves approval of bond language. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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CM Spelman makes semantic amendment. #atxcouncil #atxgov #atxrail

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.@CouncilManMike calls moment "a small small start,&quot;atxgovys #atxgov has to start satxcouncilatxcouncil

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.@CouncilManMike "debate will continue" 85 days for cases to atxcouncilatxgovil #atxgov

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.@CouncilManMike takes a minute to look forward to airport #atxrail extension, won't move for that natxcouncilunatxgovtxgov

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.@SherylColeATX echoes @TheLeeTeam and @CouncilManMike, then pivots to let the voters decide language. #atxcouncil #atxgov

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.@SherylColeATX asking bond counsel and #atxgov staff to go over meaning of bonds, language. #atxcouncil

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.@SherylColeATX into the meat of this issue: what's up with the AG  
issatxcouncilunatxgovtxgov

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bond counsel casts AG as "conversation," implatxgovat #atxgov in  
thatxcouncilatxcouncil

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.@SherylColeATX getting into questions over what debt from #atxrail will do to bonding, bond ratings. #atxcouncil

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#atxgov staff says agencies will review annually. non-answer there. #atxcouncil

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**Ben Wear**  
@bwear

Canally with city: Even with added debt, "we fully expect" city's debt rating would stay at a top level.

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.@TheLeeTeam into thank yous. vote on #atxrail bond coming #atxcouncil #atxgov

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\$1b transit ballot question makes it to november ballot. vote is unanimous #atxcouncil #atxgov

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