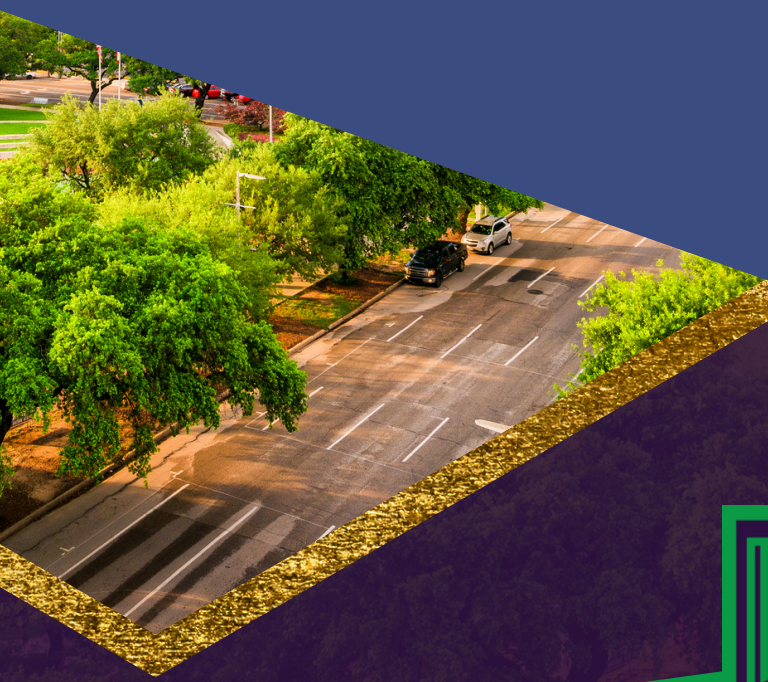
OFFICE OF THE
CITY CONTROLLER

9th
ANNUAL



CITY OF HOUSTON
INVESTOR CONFERENCE



HILTON AMERICAS DOWNTOWN
OCTOBER 22, 2024

Welcome to the Investor Conference

Dear Attendees,

Welcome to the 9th Annual City of Houston Investor Conference! We are thrilled to have you join us today and truly appreciate your continued interest and support of our city.

As we gather here, we recognize Houston and its surrounding region status as a leader in diverse sectors, including energy, public finance, pension, and infrastructure. Our commitment to sustainable growth and community development makes us a prime destination for investment.



This year's conference promises a dynamic lineup of discussions and presentations, offering valuable insights into different Texas' cities, school districts, and counties financial outlook, budget management, and major capital projects on the horizon. We will also cover our sustainability initiatives, economic development plans, and our approach to managing long-term pension liabilities—all vital topics for the city and its region's future growth and stability.

Your participation today is crucial as we explore these key areas and identify opportunities for collaboration and investment. While attending this conference, I encourage you to experience and learn about our vibrant culture and dynamic opportunities that Houston has to offer. Houston is not only recognized as the energy capital of the world but has also evolved into a thriving metropolis shaped by diverse sectors, including energy, logistic, healthcare, technology, aerospace, and manufacturing.

The partnerships between public and private sectors have been instrumental in positioning Houston as a leader in various industries, a prominent international port, a strategic trade hub, where railroads converged with coastal access, including the largest medical center globally, which stands as a testament to this collaboration, offering leading-edge healthcare services and groundbreaking research opportunities. Such institutions attract talent and investment from around the globe and showcases how Houston has harnessed its connections to foster growth, further solidifying Houston's role as a pivotal player on the world stage. These strategic investments have positioned our city as a pivotal center for international commerce, fostering bilateral relations and enabling businesses across various sectors to engage in global markets, making us a prime destination for investment.

As partners, stakeholders, and investors, your contributions play a significant role in shaping the future in Texas!Thank you once again for being here. We look forward to engaging discussions and an exciting day ahead, confident that today's conference will foster valuable connections and ideas.

Warm regards,

Chris Hollins

City Controller
City of Houston

AGENDA

October 22, 2024 | Ballroom A-C

9:30am - 10:15am	Opening Remarks and Welcome	Ballroom B

Vernon Middleton Lewis, City Treasurer, City of Houston, Texas
Hon. Chris Hollins, City Controller, City of Houston, Texas

10:30am - 11:30am	Panel 1A: Counties	Ballroom A

Christopher L. Breaux, Fiscal Compliance Officer, Fort Bend County, Texas
Melanie Bush, Treasurer, Montgomery County, Texas
Bhumit Shah, Deputy Director of Expenditures, Harris County, Texas
Derrick Mitchell, Partner, Holland and Knight LLP *(Moderator)*

10:30am - 11:30am	Panel 1B: Pension Systems	Ballroom C

David Brand, Chairman, Atlanta Pension Board
Jarvis Hollingsworth, Vice Chairman, Irradiant Partners LP
Felix Chevalier, Founding Partner, The Chevalier Law Firm *(Moderator)*

11:45am - 1:00pm	Lunch: Keynote	Ballroom B

Steve Kean, President & CEO, Greater Houston Partnership

1:15pm - 2:15pm	Panel 2A: School Districts	Ballroom A

Stan Osborne, Chief Financial Officer, Aldine ISD
James Terry, Chief Financial Officer, Houston ISD
Kristy Vienne, Chief Financial Officer, Lone Star College
Ann Westbrooks, Chief Financial Officer, Spring ISD
Dr. Martha Salazar Zamora, Superintendent, Tomball ISD *(Moderator)*

AGENDA

October 22, 2024 | Ballroom A-C

1:15pm - 2:15pm	Panel 2B: Energy Transition	Ballroom C

Ge'Juan Cole, Director of Projects, Williams Companies
Olamide Dada, Director of Finance, Carbonvert, Inc.
Jeff Alvarez, President and General Manager, 1PointFive (Oxy)
Telisa Toliver, General Manager, Chevron *(Moderator)*

2:30pm - 3:00pm	Panel 3: City Perspectives	Ballroom B

Jenny Kerzman, Assistant Director of Treasury, City of Dallas, Texas
Ethan Klos, Treasurer, City of Arlington, Texas
Hon. Joe Zimmerman, Mayor, City of Sugar Land, Texas
Hon. Ron Green, Of Counsel, Foley & Lardner LLP *(Moderator)*

3:45pm - 4:45pm	Program Conclusion	Ballroom B

Vernon Middleton Lewis, City Treasurer, City of Houston, Texas
Hon. Chris Hollins, City Controller, City of Houston, Texas



Hon. Chris Hollins
City Controller, City of Houston

Chris Hollins is a native Houstonian who has served as Houston City Controller since January 2024. As the independently elected Chief Financial Officer of the nation's fourth-largest city, Controller Hollins provides oversight of a budget exceeding $6 billion and manages the City's $6 billion investment and $14 billion debt portfolios. Hollins is deeply committed to transparency, fiscal responsibility, and results-driven operations, using his office's auditing authority to bring new ideas and best practices to City departments that result in cost savings and a higher standard of service to Houston residents. Prior to his service as City Controller, Hollins led the 2020 elections effort in Harris County as County Clerk, gaining national acclaim for protecting and expanding voting rights for 2.5 million Houston-area voters during the most important election of our lifetime.

Hollins's innovations – which included drive-thru voting, 24-hour voting, online mail ballot tracking, and tripling the number of early voting centers – led to eye-popping record voter turnout despite the ongoing global pandemic. Hollins holds a Bachelor of Arts with Phi Beta Kappa honors from Morehouse College and completed a joint program with Yale Law School and Harvard Business School, earning both his Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration degrees.

Hollins previously was the Principal Attorney at Hollins Law Group PLLC. Hollins spent the bulk of his career as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company, where he was dedicated to helping large government agencies transform their operations to better achieve their missions and meet the needs of those they were entrusted to serve. Hollins and his wife, Morgan, live in Houston's Third Ward with their daughter, Vivian, and their son, George.



Vernon Middleton Lewis
City Treasurer, City of Houston

Vernon Lewis serves as the Treasurer for the City of Houston, a role that places him at the helm of the city's financial stewardship. With a keen focus on cash management, investments, debt programs, and depository services, Mr. Lewis is entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing the city's overall financial health. His expertise ensures that public funds are utilized efficiently, striking a delicate balance between maximizing returns and maintaining the necessary liquidity and safety that the city requires. Under his guidance, the financial operations of Houston are not only secure but also strategically positioned for sustainable growth.

In addition to his core responsibilities, Vernon Lewis has taken on a pivotal role in advancing the City of Houston's ESG (Environment, Social, and Governance) nvestment Initiative.

IAs both the designer and implementor of this initiative, he is at the forefront of integrating sustainable practices into the city's investment strategy, reflecting a commitment to responsible fiscal management that aligns with contemporary values. This initiative aims to ensure that the city's investments are not only profitable but also socially conscious and environmentally responsible, reinforcing Houston's dedication to a sustainable future.

Vernon's contributions to the field have not gone unnoticed; he was recently recognized as a Rising Star by The Bond Buyer Magazine, a testament to his significant impact and potential within public finance. His expertise extends beyond day-to-day operations, as he plays a crucial advisory role to the Controller on fiscal policy matters. Through his efforts, Vernon Lewis helps Houston maintain its strong credit rating while managing the city's debt obligations with a focus on fiscal responsibility. His leadership and vision are instrumental in navigating the complexities of municipal finance, ensuring that Houston thrives in a challenging economic landscape.

Master of Ceremony



Will Jones

Deputy City Controller & Director of Finacial Reporting

Will Jones is the Deputy City Controller and Director of Financial Reporting for the City Controller's Office responsible for financial analysis and long-range forecasting. Previously, he served as Director of Finance for the City of Houston under former Mayor Sylvester Turner.

He has served the City of Houston since 2004, prior to serving as Director he served as Deputy Director for the Financial Planning and Analysis Division with the City's Finance Department where he oversaw the development of the City's annual operating budget totaling $5.7 billion.

As deputy director, Jones was also responsible for the City's long-range financial outlook and oversight of the City's energy contracts including electricity and natural gas.

He has held various finance positions within the City of Houston's Finance Department and has also worked in the Information Technology Department, Administration and Regulatory Affairs Department and the Houston Airports System.

Jones graduated from Sam Houston State University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus on management information systems and finance.

Keynote Speaker



Steve Kean

President & CEO
Greater Houston Partnership

Steve Kean serves as the CEO of the Greater Houston Partnership, an organization focused on promoting economic development and business growth in the Houston area. Previously, Steve was the CEO of Kinder Morgan, one of the largest energy infrastructure companies in North America. In his current role, Steve leads initiatives that foster collaboration between business leaders, policymakers, and community organizations to drive economic growth in the region. His leadership at the Greater Houston Partnership is focused on advancing the city's position as a global business hub.

Counties Perspectives Panelists



Christopher L. Breaux

Fiscal Compliance Officer, Fort Bend County

As the Fiscal Compliance Officer for Fort Bend County, Christopher L. Breaux ensures that the county's financial practices adhere to state and federal regulations. His role includes overseeing audits, ensuring compliance with financial reporting standards, and mitigating financial risks. Christopher's work is critical for maintaining the fiscal integrity of the county, ensuring that public funds are managed responsibly and transparently. His background in financial management helps Fort Bend County remain compliant with regulations while maximizing the efficiency of its fiscal operations.



Melanie Bush

Treasurer, Montgomery County

Melanie Bush is the Treasurer for Montgomery County, Texas, a role that entrusts her with the safekeeping and investment of public funds. In her position, Melanie manages the county's cash flow, investment portfolios, and ensures the efficient and legal distribution of public resources. Known for her strong fiscal discipline, Melanie has introduced various financial policies to streamline operations, cut costs, and increase the transparency of county finances. Her leadership also includes working with various county departments to oversee and approve budgets that support public safety, education, and infrastructure projects.



Bhumit Shah

Deputy Director of Expenditures, Harris County

As the Deputy Director for Harris County, Bhumit Shah plays a significant role in overseeing the operational aspects of one of the largest counties in Texas. His responsibilities include managing key county functions, facilitating large-scale infrastructure and public works projects, and ensuring efficient public service delivery. Harris County, being a hub of economic activity, requires adept management of its resources, and Bhumit's role is crucial in maintaining fiscal discipline and driving organizational improvements. Shah's experience in public sector management and strategic planning enables him to optimize Harris County's operations and improve services for its millions of residents.

Counties Perspectives Moderator



Derrick Mitchell

Partner, Holland and Knight LLP

Derrick Mitchell is an attorney in Holland & Knight's Houston office and leads the Tax-Advantaged Project Finance Team in Texas. Mr. Mitchell has nearly two decades of legal experience serving as bond counsel and disclosure counsel for tax-exempt financings for cities, counties, state agencies and independent school districts.

Mr. Mitchell represents national and regional investment banking firms as underwriter's counsel in bond and interest rate swap transactions. His practice emphasis includes general obligation and revenue bonds, including transportation revenue, industrial revenue, higher education, mortgage revenue, pollution control and nonprofit hospital bonds. He also serves as counsel to boards of independent school districts and community colleges.

Pension Systems and How it Works Panelists



David Brand

Chairman, Atlanta Investment Pension Board

With over 25 years' experience in the public affairs industry, MSG Founding Partner David P. Brand has an established history aiding clients in the areas of strategic planning, business development, public affairs, and crisis management. Brand has spent years working within the issues of public policy and advocacy on the state, local, and federal levels, from city halls to Washington D.C. He founded MSG Public Affairs in 2001 to implement tailored, client-centric business and brand strategies that deliver meaningful results.



Jarvis V. Hollingsworth

Vice Chairman Irradiant Partners LP

Jarvis V. Hollingsworth is the Vice Chair at Irradiant Partners, LP, an alternative investment firm managing over $12 billion in capital. He serves as an Independent Director at Vital Energy, Inc. and a member of the Financial Sector Advisory Council for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, providing insight on financial industry risks. He has chaired the Board of Trustees for the Teacher Retirement System of Texas and held senior roles at Core Scientific, Kayne Anderson Capital Advisors, and Memorial Hermann Health System. A former Senior Partner at Bracewell LLP, Hollingsworth also served as a Captain in the U.S. Army and holds degrees from West Point and the University of Houston Law Center.

Pension Systems and How it Works Moderator



Felix Chevalier

Founding Partner, The Chevalier Law Firm

Felix Chevalier is an attorney and government affairs professional with over 20 years of experience developing and implementing effective procurement and policy strategies. He's skillful at identifying and facilitating public-private partnerships. Felix joined Cornerstone's Houston office as a senior consultant in June 2022.

Felix provides expertise and client support at the local, state and federal levels. He also has an extensive national and international network, specifically in Central America, South America and the Caribbean. Felix has worked with companies in various industries including energy, manufacturing, transportation, agriculture, engineering, and technology. By leveraging his business, political, and legal experience, Felix has built a successful track record of working with clients to advance their strategic business objectives. He has strong relationships with the international diplomatic community and government officials. He has facilitated official delegations and international trade missions, representing companies, local governments and national associations.

• Texas School Districts Perspectives Panelists •



Stan Osborne
Chief Financial Officer, Aldine ISD

Stan Osborne serves as Chief Financial Officer of Aldine Independent School District, where he oversees the district's financial operations. His responsibilities include budget planning, financial reporting, and ensuring that the district's resources are allocated effectively to support educational programs and infrastructure. Stan plays a critical role in ensuring that Aldine ISD remains financially stable while addressing the needs of its students and staff through careful fiscal management.



James Terry
Chief Financial Officer, Houston ISD

James Terry is the Chief Financial Officer of Houston ISD, the largest school district in Texas. In this role, he oversees the district's multi-billion-dollar budget, including the allocation of funds for educational programs, infrastructure, and operational costs. James is responsible for ensuring that the district maintains financial transparency and uses its resources to enhance student outcomes. His expertise in school finance is crucial for managing Houston ISD's complex financial operations and supporting its educational mission.



Ann Westbrooks
Chief Financial Officer, Spring ISD

Ann Wesbrooks serves as CFO of Spring ISD, where she manages the financial planning, budgeting, and fiscal policies of the district. Her leadership helps ensure that Spring ISD uses its financial resources efficiently to support its educational goals. Ann's role also involves overseeing the financial aspects of capital improvement projects and ensuring that the district's fiscal practices comply with state and federal regulations.



Kristy Vienne
Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration/CFO, Lone Star College

Kristy Vienne is the Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration and Chief Financial Officer at Lone Star College, one of the largest community college systems in Texas. Kristy oversees the college's financial strategy, budgeting, and administrative operations, ensuring that resources are effectively allocated to support the college's academic and operational needs. Her leadership is key to maintaining Lone Star College's financial health while supporting its mission to provide accessible education to thousands of students.

• Texas School Districts Perspectives Moderator •



Dr. Martha Salazar-Zamora

Superintendent, Tomball ISD

Martha Salazar-Zamora serves as the Superintendent of Tomball Independent School District (Tomball ISD), a growing suburban district located in the Greater Houston area. With over 30 years of experience in education, Martha has held various leadership roles in Texas school districts, including Assistant Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer. As Superintendent, she is responsible for overseeing the district's academic programs, budget, and staff, ensuring that Tomball ISD meets the educational needs of its diverse student population. Under her leadership, Tomball ISD has experienced significant growth and earned recognition for academic excellence. Martha is deeply committed to student success, innovation in education, and preparing students for college and career readiness.

• Energy Transition Panelists •



Ge'Juan Cole

Director of Projects, Williams Companies

As Director of Projects at Williams Companies, Ge'Juan Cole oversees major infrastructure and energy projects. Williams Companies is a leader in natural gas processing and transportation, and Ge'Juan's role is vital in managing multi-million-dollar projects that are essential to the company's growth and operations. His responsibilities include project planning, execution, and ensuring projects meet safety, environmental, and regulatory standards. Ge'Juan's leadership is critical in driving projects that expand Williams' pipeline infrastructure and ensure the reliable delivery of natural gas across the U.S.



Olamide Dada

Chief Financial Officer, Carbonvert, Inc.

Olamide Dada, CFA is the Director of Finance & Planning for Carbonvert. He has over ten years of experience in asset valuation, technical risk analysis and financial modeling. Dada started his career at BHP Billiton ("BHP") where he worked on different projects, including Asset Valuation, Reserve estimation and Reservoir modeling. Dada was a part of BHP's unconventional asset divestment team, involving the $10 billion US Lower 48 asset sale to BP. Most recently, Dada worked for a private equity-backed natural gas company in a business development and project valuation capacity. Dada holds a BS in Geology from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Science in Petroleum Geology from the University of Louisiana. He is a CFA charter holder and an active member of CFA society of Houston.



Jeff Alvarez

President and General Manager of 1PointFive Sequestration and TerraLithium

Jeff Alvarez is President and General Manager of 1PointFive Sequestration and TerraLithium, both wholly owned subsidiaries of Occidental.1PointFive Sequestration is responsible for the development and operation of Oxy's carbon capture and sequestration business. TerraLithium is commercializing proprietary technology developed for an environmentally friendly method of ultra-pure lithium production by extracting lithium salts from subterranean brine and economically processing it into intermediate and battery grade products. Most recently, he served as Vice President of Investor Relations for Oxy where he led Oxy's engagement with the investor community and industry analysts. Prior to IR, he served as President and General Manager – Permian Resources, Texas Delaware Basin where he was responsible for the development and production of unconventional shale assets in the Permian Basin.

Jeff has more than 30 years of industry experience and has held management positions in numerous Oxy domestic business units, as well as internationally. Prior to joining Oxy in 2000, he worked for Altura Energy and Amoco where his roles were primarily in enhanced oil recovery (CO2) asset leadership and subsurface engineering. Jeff holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology (Rolla) and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Houston.

• Energy Transition Moderator •



Telisa Toliver

General Manager, Chevron

Telisa Toliver is the General Manager of Renewable Power at Chevron Pipeline and Power, where she leads the development and implementation of Chevron's renewable power strategy globally. She oversees the integration of renewable energy projects with Chevron's operations and manages assets that include gas-fired and renewable power generation. With over 30 years in the energy industry, Toliver's career also includes significant roles in business development and strategy at Chevron. She is a board member at Atmos Energy and chairs the American Association of Blacks in Energy. Additionally, she is actively involved with the Executive Leadership Council, focusing on advancing diversity within corporate leadership.

• City Perspectives Panelist •



Jenny Kerzman
Assistant Director of Treasury, City of Dallas Controller's Office

She is the Assistant Director of Treasury in the City Controller's Office for the City of Dallas. She joined the City in 2021 and is responsible for overseeing the areas of cash management and banking services, the administration of the City's $4 billion investment portfolio, and the $5 billion debt management program with over 30 years' experience.

She is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan University and a Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) since 1999. As a treasury professional of over 30 years, she is currently a member of several organizations, including the Government Finance Officers Association ("GFOA"), the Government Treasurers' Organization of Texas ("GTOT"), and is currently serving in the Advisory Board of Texas Connect. She has served as President and Treasurer of the Fort Worth Association for Financial Professionals (FWAFP). A long-time supporter of Texpo, a financial management conference sponsored by the Alliance of Texas Treasury Associations, she served as Chairman of the 2011 Texpo, Treasurer in 2021, and most recently as moderator for the Government Roundtable in 2023 and speaker for multiple sessions in 2024.

Kerzman is the newest member of the DFW Hispanic 100 organization and is currently serving in the Executive Board of the TX Women in Public Finance (WPF). She has served as President and Treasurer of the Fort Worth Association for Financial Professionals (FWAFP). A long-time supporter of Texpo, a financial management conference sponsored by the Alliance of Texas Treasury Associations, she served as Chairman of the 2011 Texpo, Treasurer in 2021, and most recently as moderator for the Government Roundtable in 2023 and speaker for multiple sessions in 2024.



Ethan Klos
Treasurer, City of Arlington

Ethan Klos is the Treasurer for the City of Arlington. He has been with the City since Aug 2009. As Treasurer, Ethan is responsible for the Cash management, Debt financing, and Investments of the City's portfolio. Other responsibilities include managing the banking relationships, credit card acceptance, capital budget, hotel occupancy tax program, and working closely with economic development. Prior to joining the City, Ethan had worked for a number of Fortune 500 companies in their Treasury departments beginning at Dell Computer in 1995. Ethan holds an MBA in Finance from Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University – San Marcos) and a BS in Radio-TV-Film from the University of Texas, Austin.



Hon. Joe Zimmerman
Mayor, City of Sugarland

Mayor Joe Zimmerman has served as the 10th Mayor of Sugar Land, Texas, since June 2016, following a four-year term as an At-Large City Councilman. With a strong commitment to his community, Mayor Zimmerman serves on various key committees, including the Economic Development Committee, Intergovernmental Relations Committee, and the Sugar Land Development Corporation Board. He is also Sugar Land's representative on the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Board and the Transportation Policy Council. Prior to his City Council role, he spent eight years on the Planning and Zoning Commission, including six years as Chairman. Professionally, Mayor Zimmerman is a Senior Consultant for Halff Associates, Inc., a civil engineering firm, bringing extensive business and management experience. He is also active in civic organizations, having served on the boards of the Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council and Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce. He holds a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Houston and an MBA from Houston Baptist University.

• City Perspectives Moderator •



Hon. Ron Green
Of Counsel, Foley & Lardner LLP

Ron Green is the former Controller for the City of Houston, serving from 2010 to 2016. As Controller, he was responsible for managing the city's financial operations, including oversight of the city's $5 billion budget, auditing city departments, and providing financial reporting. Before his tenure as Controller, Ron served on the Houston City Council, representing District K, where he focused on improving public safety, enhancing city services, and fostering economic development. His leadership in fiscal management and public policy helped shape the city's financial strategy during his time in office. Ron Green is also known for his work in law and finance, contributing to various civic initiatives in the Houston area.

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