

STATEMENT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER, CHRIS HOLLINS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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POST COUNCIL VOTE STATEMENT ON STORM WATER FUND MISALLOCATION FROM CITY CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS

"Today's vote to misappropriate \$30 million from Houston's Storm Water Fund was deeply disappointing. But let me be clear: seven Council Members chose public trust over political convenience, and that matters.

Flooding is not a theoretical problem in Houston. It's a lived reality. Every dollar in the Storm Water Fund was promised to one purpose: keeping our streets from turning into rivers when it rains. Diverting those funds breaks that promise.

As the watchdog for Houston taxpayers' hard-earned money, I won't stop calling this out. Accountability doesn't end with a vote, and neither does my responsibility. I will continue fighting to protect this fund, protect Houstonians, and protect the future of our city—even when it's uncomfortable.

The only way to solve our very serious financial challenges is through principled leadership, transparency, and, as we discussed during the Council Meeting, teamwork. We clearly have a long way to go. But these are fights worth having."

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ABOUT CITY OF HOUSTON CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Established in 1903, the City of Houston Controller's Office is the cornerstone of financial oversight and accountability for America's fourth-largest city. With a mission to uphold Houston's fiscal integrity and protect residents' tax dollars, the office oversees a broad spectrum of the City's financial operations, including its budget, investments, and debts. Committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility, the Controller's Office is key to maintaining the economic vitality of Houston, contributing to its status as a thriving metropolis for its diverse community.

ABOUT CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS

Chris Hollins, serving as Houston's City Controller since January 2024, brings a dynamic approach to City governance and financial management. With a rich background in legal practice and management consulting, coupled with innovative leadership as Harris County Clerk, Hollins is dedicated to enhancing the city's fiscal practices and community engagement. Educated at Morehouse College, Yale Law School, and Harvard Business School, Hollins's commitment to accountability and service excellence drives his mission to build a financially resilient Houston. Residing in the Third Ward with his family, his work is deeply informed by his strong community ties.