

# STATEMENT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER, CHRIS HOLLINS



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

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## Statement from the Office of Houston City Controller Chris Hollins in Response to Claims Regarding Mayor's \$60,000 Podcast

**HOUSTON, TX** — In response to recent claims and media inquiries surrounding Mayor Whitmire's reported \$60,000 podcast, City Controller Chris Hollins issued the following statement:

"Houstonians work hard for every dollar they send to City Hall, and they deserve to know that those dollars are being spent responsibly, transparently, and for their benefit.

"The Controller's Office has received complaints regarding a reported \$60,000 taxpayer-funded podcast contract. We take allegations of this nature seriously and will review the concerns that have been raised. At this time, we have not received the contract in question. Upon receipt, we will review the contract and related documentation, as well as interview relevant parties.

"Transparency and accountability remain guiding principles of the Controller's Office, and Houstonians will receive our conclusions based on the evidence."

**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.

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