

Clayton Tucker Statement on Nate Sheets' Data Center Plan
Hector Mendez | Clayton Tucker for TX Agriculture Commissioner

(Lampasas, TX) - Clayton Tucker, Texas Agricultural Commissioner candidate, released the following statement in response to “Data Nate” Sheets’ newly announced data center plan:

“Well, it looks like Data Nate finally figured out that the Agriculture Commissioner can do something about data centers.

For months, his puppets and parrots have told Texans that this office can’t do anything about data centers. Data Nate himself was largely quiet while farmers, ranchers, homeowners, and entire communities were fighting to protect their land and water. Now, less than two months before Election Day, he suddenly has a five-point plan for

the Agriculture Commissioner. Thankfully, as the only real farmer in this race, having grown up around cattle, I know what bull smells like. His so-called plan is just that.

Data Nate’s plan is for data centers to bribe the government so they can keep taking our land, water, and resources. While I want a moratorium to protect and preserve Texas from the AI bubble and the harms it threatens, his so-called plan fits the mold of how he treated his personal business: sell it to the highest private equity bidder.

Data Nate’s plan is to continue selling off Texas to Wall Street and Silicon Valley, one piece at a time. As the only rural Texan in this race, we

need to protect and preserve our countryside, our dark skies, our farms, our water, our beautiful Texas vistas, our right to quiet enjoyment, our cultural heritage, and more.

I’ve spent months traveling across Texas and sitting down with the people fighting these projects in their own backyards. We’ve stood with rural communities demanding action, calling for a pause to data center development.

I didn’t need an election around the corner to start listening to these Texans. They’ve been sounding the alarm for months. I’ve been standing beside them in city councils, county commissions, and other places, well before everyone else, because Texas is worth protecting.

TWC Offers Funding to Advance Industry-Recognized Apprenticeships
Texas Workforce Commission

(AUSTIN, TX) – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is awarding Texas Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship (TIRA) grants to help Texas employers rapidly develop and deliver short-term apprenticeship training programs. Funding for the initiative was allocated by the Texas Legislature and approved by Governor Greg Abbott to address immediate industrial workforce needs, offset labor shortages, and support economic resilience after natural disasters.

The TIRA grant program highlights TWC’s continued commitment to increasing the number of skilled workers throughout the state. Unlike traditional Registered Apprenticeship programs, which are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, the TIRA grant program draws on state funding to support short-term (26 weeks or less) earn-while-you-learn training models that

meet urgent industry demands. Eligible applicants include Texas employers, trade and industry groups, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and unions.

TWC will award up to \$1 million per grant—with a cap of up to \$10,000 per participant (excluding wages and benefits)—to `cover training, materials, tools, and credentialing costs. Proposed programs must align with a TWC-recognized occupation, feature progressive wages and benefits at or above median wage levels, and prioritize unemployed Texans (UI claimants), veterans, formerly incarcerated individuals, and underemployed individuals lacking credentials. Programs must combine structured instruction with full-time employment, leading to portable, industry-recognized credentials and a requirement for 12 months of sustained private

sector employment post-completion.

To apply, eligible applicants can visit the TWC website to begin their applications. Completed application packages—including a project summary, training plan, partnership documentation, implementation timeline, and budget detail form— must be submitted to apprenticeshipinitiatives@twc.texas.gov. For more information on the application process and program parameters, visit the TWC website or contact the ApprenticeshipTexas team.

TWC will also be hosting the 10th Annual ApprenticeshipTexas Conference at the Hyatt Regency Houston West Hotel on Sept. 24-25, 2026. The conference will empower attendees to start or expand apprenticeship programs that help develop a more skilled workforce. Register for the 2026 ApprenticeshipTexas Conference today.

Annual Job Growth Exceeds 159,000 in Texas



(AUSTIN, TX) - Texas added 5,600 nonfarm jobs in August to reach a total of 14,469,300 positions. Over the year, the state added 159,400 jobs for an annual growth rate of 1.1 percent, outpacing the national rate by 0.7 percentage points.

Texas’ civilian labor force registered at 15,932,600 after adding 17,100 people over the month. Over the year, Texas’ civilian labor force has added 10,900 people.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Texas registered at 4.4 percent.

“The addition of more than 159,000 jobs over the year reinforces Texas’ status as a premier destination for employers and a source of ample opportunity for Texas workers,” said TWC Chairman Joe Esparza. “The gains we are seeing across service-based and goods-producing industries highlight how Texas is successfully balancing



growth across the entire economic spectrum.”

The Leisure and Hospitality industry had the largest private sector over-the-month increase in August after adding 4,900 jobs. Professional and Business Services added 4,500 jobs over the month while Manufacturing added 2,200.

“Growth across Texas’s major industries means more opportunities for Texans to realize their full potential,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. “Through our Adult Education and Literacy programs, TWC is empowering workers with the foundational skills and credentials necessary to transition into high-demand, high-growth roles.”

The Midland metropolitan statistical area (MSA) had the lowest unemployment rate with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 3.3 percent in August. It was followed by the San Angelo MSA at

3.6 percent and the Abilene and Amarillo MSAs, which registered 3.7 percent.

“Texas’ steady employment growth is a testament to the talent of our workforce and the vitality of our industries,” said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Brent Connett. “By prioritizing career and technical education, we are equipping the next generation of Texans with the specialized, hands-on skills needed to fill critical roles in our state’s evolving economy.”

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics. *All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit TexasLMI.com.

The Texas Labor Market Information Data for September is scheduled to be released on Friday, October 16, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. (CT).

TAKE NOTICE OF A POSTING
FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AND
OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING
THE AUSTIN HOUSING AUTHORITY
PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER (HCV)
ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN AND
THE 2027 PHA ANNUAL PLAN

Public Comment Period and Public Hearings for the Proposed Changes to the HCV Administrative Plan and the Draft 2027 PHA Annual Plan
The Austin Housing Authority (AHA) will have a public comment period for its Proposed Changes to the HCV Administrative Plan and the 2027 PHA Annual Plan. There will be a forty-five day public comment period commencing at 8:00 a.m. on September 18, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2026. All comments should be made in writing and delivered to 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 and made to the attention of Michael Gerber, President/CEO or via electronic mail at executive@austinha.org.

A Public Hearing to present comments regarding the draft annual plan and the proposed Administrative Plan revisions will be conducted as follows:

September 30, 2026 12:00 p.m. AHA Central Office
1124 S. IH-35
Austin, TX 78704

The Austin Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will vote on the adoption of the proposed changes to the HCV Administrative Plan and the 2027 PHA Annual Plan November 19, 2026, at the AHA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35, Austin, Texas 78704. A forum will be available during Citizens Communication to voice your views.

Copies of the proposed changes to the HCV Administrative Plan and the 2027 PHA Annual Plan are available for review and inspection at the AHA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 or electronic versions are available online at www.austinha.org.

AHA is committed to compliance with the American Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call 512-477-7111 for assistance.

PUCT Commissioner Hjaltman Appointed to
National Electric Research Advisory Council
Public Utility Commission of Texas

(AUSTIN, TX) – The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) appointed Commissioner Courtney Hjaltman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to the Advisory Council to the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI).

"As the energy landscape evolves, strong collaboration is critical to

meeting the needs of consumers and communities," said PUCT Commissioner Hjaltman. "Texas is a leader in electric planning and innovation and I am honored to serve on EPRI's Advisory Council where I can share these ideas and contribute to the future of the electric industry."

Through EPRI's Advisory Council, leaders from government, business,

finance, education and other stakeholder groups provide insight into the technological, economic and policy issues affecting the electric sector. The council also helps ensure EPRI's research remains relevant and aligns with the public interest.

For more information on the council and Commissioner Hjaltman’s appointment, visit EPRI's announcement.

HHSC Highlights Healthy Aging
Resources, Seeks Input on Aging Plan

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

(AUSTIN, TX) – The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is observing Healthy Aging Month in September by highlighting resources that support older Texans and encouraging people to help shape the future of aging in the state.

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a proclamation encouraging Texans to recognize the contributions of older adults and support healthy aging across the state.

“Older Texans have helped build and sustain communities as educators, mentors and community leaders,” HHS Executive Commissioner Stephanie Muth said. “Healthy Aging Month honors their contributions and encourages Texans to stay healthy, con-

nected and informed as they age.”

HHSC offers a variety of programs and services to support older Texans:

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) provide nutrition, legal, care coordination and other supportive services to people 60 and older, their family members and caregivers. **Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)** provide referrals and help people access long-term services and specialized supports.

Age Well Live Well is a statewide initiative that promotes easy pathways to resources and encourages healthy changes through three core messages: be healthy, be connected and be informed.

Texercise provides free physical activity and

nutrition resources to educate, motivate and engage adults 45 and older.

Strengthen the Care You Give offers caregivers resources for self-care, peer support and mental health.

Local AAA and ADRC offices can provide benefits counseling services for older Texans as Medicare open enrollment begins in October. For more information, visit the HHSC Resources website.

HHSC is also seeking public input to develop the Aging Texas Well Strategic Plan, which will focus on access to services, healthy aging, caregiver support and age-friendly communities. Complete a short online form to choose your level of participation in creating the plan.

GET REGISTERED!
IT’S TIME TO VOTE!

The Next Election Takes Place on

NOV:3:2026

Last Day to Register	Mail Ballot App Deadline	Early Voting Begins	Early Voting Ends
5 OCT	23 OCT	19 OCT	30 OCT