



## **Austin Landline Report July 2020**

### **Elections**

As a reminder, none of the state elected officials in our immediate area are on the July 14th run-off ballot. The main run-off event in South Texas is Senator Eddie Lucio from Brownsville, who faces a serious run-off challenge. There is also a contested race in the Republican primary to challenge incumbent Congressman Vicente Gonzalez. State-wide, there is a run-off in the Democratic Party for the right to challenge incumbent U.S. Senator John Cornyn in November.

Early voting is available until Friday, July 10th. July 2nd was the deadline for requesting a mail ballot. (I voted by mail in Travis County.)

### **Interim Charges**

Things are still up in the air about when, if, and how hearings will be held on interim charges given to the legislature by the Lt. Governor and Speaker. Inhabitants of the Capitol building, itself, recently experienced an outbreak of COVID-19. Nevertheless, perhaps there will be some movement on this front after the run-off elections.

As we prepare for the next Legislative Session, we are meeting with key Legislators, still with a focus on Eminent domain reform. There is also a need to assist Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board in their efforts to control the invasive Carrizo cane on the Rio Grande. The cane control program also has Border Security implications.