



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS

Recommendation Number: 20150608-004A: Regarding Stakeholder Involvement in the Austin Welcoming City Initiative

WHEREAS, the City of Austin officially launched Austin's Welcoming Cities Initiative on June 27th, 2013

WHEREAS, by launching Austin's Welcoming Cities Initiative, Austin is now one of 19 municipalities across the United States participating in the Welcoming America program to create more immigrant-friendly environments that maximize opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality, and position communities as globally competitive, 21st century leaders.

Whereas Welcoming America and its municipal partners are convening U.S. cities and counties to support locally-driven efforts to create more welcoming, immigrant-friendly environments that maximize opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality and position communities as globally competitive, 21st century leaders.

Whereas all relevant sectors, such as government, business, non-profit, and others are engaged to work together to create a welcoming community climate that supports long-term integration.

WHEREAS, according to Section 2-1-125 of the City Code, the Commission on Immigrant Affairs exists to advise the city council on issues of common concern to immigrants, particularly in the areas of health and human services, education, and the demographic makeup of the Austin immigrant community,

THEREFORE, be it:

RECOMMENDED, That the City of Austin's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Office's Welcoming Program, within which the Welcoming Cities Initiative is housed, undertake an extensive outreach and mobilization effort to engage all stakeholders, and immigrant service providers in particular, in refining and defining Austin's vision for itself as a Welcoming City.

RECOMMENDED, That the City of Austin's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Office, within which the Welcoming Cities Initiative is housed, partner with the Commission on Immigrant Affairs on Austin's First Immigrant Affairs Conference put forth in Commission on Immigrant Affairs Recommendation 20131014-005B as an integral part of the stakeholder engagement process.

PASSED by the Commission on Immigrant Affairs on June 8, 2015.

Unanimously approved by the Commission on Immigrant Affairs on a 4-0 vote with Chair, Angela-Jo Touza-Medina abstaining.

Attest:

Connie H. Gonzalez, Staff Liaison