



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Commission for Women

Recommendation Number: (20160713-003A): The newly created City of Austin's Equity Office

WHEREAS, The Austin Commission for Women serves as an advisory body to the City Council and City Manager concerning the needs and problems of women in the Austin area and shall recommend programs designed to alleviate any inequities that may confront women in social, economic and vocational pursuits; and

WHEREAS, The City of Austin has embarked on an historic effort to establish a new Equity Office that will enhance the City's commitment to equity in the programs and services it provides to its residents, including housing, jobs, health, public safety, and many more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Austin Commission for Women recommends that the Equity Office will actively embrace an intersectional approach towards gender equity and embrace the principles of Undoing Racism Austin, including the recognition that racism is the single most critical barrier to building effective coalitions for social change; and that racism has been consciously and systematically erected; and it can be undone only if people understand what it is, where it comes from, how it functions, and why it is perpetuated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Austin Commission for Women recommends that community engagement be a critical function of the Equity Office and that this new office recognize and build off of the existing work of related social justice grass-roots organizations.

Date of Approval: 7/13/2016

Record of the vote: Unanimous on a 7-0 vote

Attest: _____

(Staff or board member can sign)