



## COMMISSION ON SENIORS RECOMMENDATION 2016-0810-03B

Date: August 10, 2016

Subject:

Motioned By: Van Sickle

Seconded By: Gray

### **Recommendation**

The Commission on Seniors recommends that the City Council allocate funding for projects that reflect the goals identified in the Age Friendly Community Action Plan in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 City of Austin budget.

### **Description of Recommendation to Council**

See Attachment.

### **Rationale:**

These recommendations will enhance service to older people in Austin, particularly those with low and moderate incomes, and fixed incomes. These recommendations are also consistent with the Age Friendly Action plan recently approved by the Commission.

### **Vote**

For: Briesemeister, Varteressian, Cagle, Garcia-Pittman, Gray, Lauck, Lugo, Van Sickle

Against: None

Abstain: Pruett, Kareithi

Absent: McDowell

Attest: Janee Briesemeister, Chair

Item #	Domain	Request (Type)	Description/Justification
1	Outdoor Spaces & Buildings	PARD	Assess number of parking spaces in relation to the number of spaces compliant with the ADA, i.e., those reserved for persons with handicap parking permits. Wherever viable, convert pre-existing parking spaces into parking spaces compliant with the ADA.
2	Outdoor Spaces & Buildings	PARD	Provide multigenerational programs such as yoga, Tai Chi, art in the park, etc. in neighborhood parks. (Consider classes taught by volunteers.)
3	Outdoor Spaces & Buildings	PARD	Assess number and location of benches and other seating at City of Austin parks and where possible ensure there is sufficient seating to allow persons with physical limitations to enjoy the amenity.
4	Transportation	Public Works 2016 Sidewalk Master Plan	Remove vegetation adjacent to sidewalks to increase pedestrian infrastructure and safety.
5	Transportation	CapMetro	Promote existing public transportation discounts to older adults and encourage more.
6	Transportation	PARD	Review City of Austin PARD's Senior Transportation program and explore ways to expand capacity with additional vehicles, drivers and a larger service area.
7	Transportation	HHS	Remove barriers to social service contracts to permit agencies providing transportation services to older adults to better access social service city funded contracts.
8	Transportation	Public Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require that when replacing missing street sign/traffic signage, it is easily readable, well-lit at night, and addresses the access and functional needs of older adults.</li> </ul>
9	Housing	Neighborhood Housing and Comm.Dev	Promote existing home repair, rental assistance and property tax discounts for senior homeowners. Promote the work of and expand support for the Austin Housing Repair Coalition.

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10	Housing	Neighborhood Housing and Comm.Dev	Promote the work of and expand support for the Village concept (e.g., Capital City Village), which engages volunteers and neighbors to help older adults with simple, preventative maintenance.
11	Social Participation	Communication & Public Information Office	Develop an asset map to identify existing opportunities for senior social engagement at public libraries, PARD facilities, HHS facilities and schools.
12	Social Participation	PARD	Identify opportunities for co-located services, e.g., after-school programs held at senior centers, community centers with multi-generational programs, etc.
13	Civic Participation & Employment	Communication & Public Information Office	Publicize volunteer opportunities as well as opportunities for civic engagement for older adults.
14	Civic Participation & Employment	HHS Workforce Development	include seniors in workforce programs; Encourage local businesses to hire older adults.
15	Communication & Information	Communication & Public Information Office	Include information for older adults about city and state services, community organizations and other resources on all appropriate City communication channels.
16	Communication & Information	Communication & Public Information Office	Broadcast Austin's Commission on Seniors meetings at convenient times for older viewers.
17	Community Support & Health Services	HHS Health Equity	Promote and publicize public, private and nonprofit low- or no-cost senior health services availability in citywide promotional materials.
18	Community Support & Health Services	HHS community realtions	Create partnerships to provide educational materials related to identifying and reporting senior financial exploitation targeting banking and financial institutions.
19	Community Support & Health Services		Provide emergency response, preparedness strategies on the CoA website specific to the needs of the senior population.

Item #	Domain	Request (Type)	Description/Justification
20	Community Support & Health Services	Austin 311 (Austin Energy)	Add emergency preparedness script with guidance for talking to seniors for 311 operators.
21	Community Support & Health Services	Austin 311 (Austin Energy)	Add elder abuse, neglect, and fraud script with guidance for 311 operators.
22	Community Support & Health Services	Health and Human Services Social service contracts	Fund the remaining \$500,000 for the Social Service Agreement FY 17 shortfall, as requested by HHS.
23	Community Support & Health Services	Health and Human Services Health Equity	Increase the capacity of the Health Equity/Quality of Life program by adding a 2nd outreach team of 4 staff, including a Nurse and Social work; include any infrastructure and support services necessary to fulfill this need.
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