



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION
LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission

Recommendation Number: 20170815-3A: Support for an LGBTQ Quality of Life Study

Whereas, the Austin Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer Quality of Life Commission was established by the Austin City Council to advance knowledge of and equitable services to a historically underrepresented constituency of the City.

Whereas, In 2014, the City of Austin commissioned a Minority-Owned, Women-Owned, and Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise Disparity Study. This study examined the participation of businesses owned by Minorities, Women, and Veterans in the public sector contracting over the last several years in a wide variety of areas including construction, consulting services, and other goods and services.

Whereas, the Minority-Owned, Women-Owned, and Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise Disparity Study did not include evaluation of LGBTQ-Owned businesses.

Whereas, LGBTQ communities are believed to experience violence at disproportionately high rates compared to other local populations, but data to inform policy and interventions is collected inconsistently.

Whereas, LGBTQ communities face job discrimination due to sexual orientation and gender identity, and discrimination on this basis is still legal throughout much of the State of Texas.

Whereas, Employment discrimination of LGBTQ people results in high rates of unemployment, homelessness, and food insecurity.

Whereas, social stigmas endured by LGBTQ residents contribute to health care access challenges and individual health disparities.

Whereas, individual health disparities manifest in the broader community as communicable disease and substance abuse epidemics that require modern and targeted public health interventions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Austin Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Quality of Life Commission recommends to the Austin City Council to:

Create a budget line item to fully fund a study to evaluate the Quality of Life of Austin's LGBTQ communities and residents.