



**ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION < >**

Date: February 19, 2018

Subject: Recommendation to account for the health needs of Asians in hiring a Public Health Director for the City of Austin.

Motioned By: Commissioner Pooja Sethi
Recommendation

Seconded By: Commissioner Kirk Yoshida

Description of Recommendation to Council

Whereas, it is the value of the City of Austin to be an inclusive city for all of its citizens including those of diverse racial, ethnic, religious, and national origin backgrounds;

Whereas, the City of Austin has declared the need for a permanent Austin Public Health Department Director;

Whereas, the City of Austin Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community makes up seven percent of the population and is predicted to double every 10 years;

Whereas, the AAPI Communities across the country are historically not taken into account when assessing the health needs and access to healthcare within this demographic;

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the Austin Public Health Department Director to take into account and make recommendations for research, program development, and policy recommendations of ALL ethnicities in the City of Austin;

Whereas, the Austin Public Health Department Director chosen by City Manager recognize that some of the major barriers to access to healthcare affecting the AAPI Community are (1) limitations in speaking English and cultural barriers; (2) a lack of familial data due to most Asian Americans being first or second generation Immigrants; (3) and the lack of health insurance in the AAPI Community as a large part of the AAPI Community works for small businesses;

Whereas, providing culturally competent and well-researched healthcare to the AAPI Community will address the issues of a lack of equal access to healthcare that is consistently ignored by Legislative bodies in the United States;

Whereas, the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission's purpose is to

advise the City of Austin on Asian American quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE:

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY OF LIFE
ADVISORY COMMISSION:**

Supports Austin Public Health Department Director recommendations that address the issues of data, access, civil rights, community capacity, and the need to recognize ethnic subgroups among the AAPI population;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Asian American Quality of Life Commission strongly encourages and endorses efforts by the City of Austin to pursue a Austin Public Health Department Director that addresses the health needs of the AAPI Community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

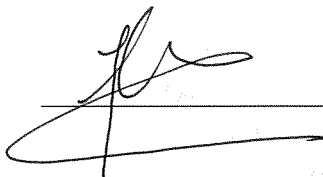
The Asian American Quality of Life Commission upholds the core values of the City of Austin as a diverse community that hires an AAPI Candidate or someone who represents the ideals of the AAPI Community, as Asian Americans are highly underrepresented in the City's executive positions.

Rationale:

Vote 11-0

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Attest:


_____ 2/21/2018