



RECOMMENDATION FOR COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Commission for Women

Recommendation Number: 20190109-04f: The Commission for Women recommends a comprehensive evaluation of sexual assault.

WHEREAS, The City of Austin ("City") Commission for Women ("Commission") serves as an advisory body to the City Council ("Council") and City Manager concerning the hardships and struggles of women in the Austin area, and shall make recommendations designed to alleviate any inequities that may confront women in social, economic, and vocational pursuits; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has passed recommendations on eliminating the rape kit backlog and addressing the DNA lab closure (20160810-003a: APD DNA Lab Closure); the hiring of the City Manager and APD Chief (20161219-003A: Candidate Requirements for the City Manager and Police Chief); and victim services recommendations in the form of Council Committee Agenda Request (20170809-003b: Request by the Commission for Women regarding survivors of sexual assault); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission for Women recommends that the City Manager undertake a comprehensive evaluation of how reported sexual assaults are investigated and processed, including why reported cases do not proceed to prosecution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission for Women recommends the comprehensive evaluation be used by the Austin/Travis County Sexual Assault Response and Resource Team (SARRT) in accordance with national best practices to guide implementation of efforts to improve system responses for survivors of sexual assault.