



RECOMMENDATION FOR FY2020 BUDGET

Commission for Women

Recommendation Number 20190410-04c: The Commission for Women recommends the following based on the comments received during the community forums related to the City of Austin FY2020 budget.

WHEREAS, Equity is identified as a Strategic Direction 2023 Strategic Anchor as one of the values that support quality of life in Austin across our outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Quality of Life Commissions and Commissions represented within the Joint Inclusion Committee have been asked to work with City departments to serve their community needs; and

WHEREAS, these Commissions have been asked to make recommendations to improve the operational efficiency of departments and programs within the City budget; and

WHEREAS, these Commissions have determined that the current budget process is neither sufficiently equitable nor transparent; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has developed an Equity Assessment Tool created by the Equity Office and the Equity Action Team, and not all City departments have completed an equity assessment; and

WHEREAS, there is no process or requirement for updating and reporting on departmental progress on their benchmarks; and

WHEREAS, there is not sufficient data collection on demographics, including race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, age, ability, sexual orientation, primary language, veteran status; and

WHEREAS, this limits our ability to understand how our communities are being served by the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, this limits the Commissions' ability to make good policy and budget recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Inclusion Committee passed a recommendation (Recommendation Number 20190227-04b) that the Strategic Direction 2023 indicators 'Equity of City programs and resource allocation' and 'Transparency and ethical practices' be added to City Council's top priority indicators;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission for Women recommends the following:

The City Manager require all departments:

1. to capture and analyze comprehensive demographic data when measuring outcomes, personnel (staff, vendors and contractors), service delivery, and community needs, including race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, age, ability, sexual orientation, primary language, veteran status, and
2. to transparently report outcomes annually in a manner easily accessible to the community, consistent across departments, and
3. to complete the Equity Assessment Tool by December 2020, if they have not done so already, and
4. to identify a single point of contact (SPOC) that communicates with all commissions represented in the Joint Inclusion Committee, and
5. to allocate sufficient resources within existing funds to accomplish these recommendations.

Date of Approval: April 10, 2019

Record of the vote: Unanimous on an 8-0 vote, two districts vacant and one member absent

Attest: _____


Vicky Nguyen, Staff Liaison