



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Shawn Willett, Deputy Procurement Officer *SW*

**DATE:** January 22, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Response to Resolution No. 20191114-056

The purpose of this memorandum is to respond to Resolution No. 20191114-056 directing the City Manager to “prevent using City funds, support, or resources for the following activities, or providing City funds, support, or resources to individuals or organizations that engage in the following activities: practicing conversion therapy; referring persons to a healthcare provider or other person or organization for conversion therapy; contracting with another entity to conduct conversion therapy; or providing any type of benefits to City employees which include coverage wholly or in part for conversion therapy.”

Purchasing Office staff worked with the Law Department, and the following contract language will be added to all contracts executed by the Purchasing Office.

**Prohibition on LGBTQ+ Conversion Therapy:** The Contractor certifies that it is aware of City Council Resolution No. 20191114-056, which prohibits the City from contracting with entities that engage in certain practices related to conversion therapy. By accepting this Contract, the Contractor agrees that: (1) its firm and its principals are not currently and will not during the term of the Contract engage in practicing LGBTQ+ conversion therapy; referring persons to a healthcare provider or other person or organization for LGBTQ+ conversion therapy; or contracting with another entity to conduct LGBTQ+ conversion therapy; and (2) if the City determines in its sole discretion that Contractor has during the term of this Contract engaged in any such practices, the City may terminate this Contract without penalty to the City.

We will also provide this language to other City departments that issue contracts for inclusion in theirs as well. In addition, Purchasing Office staff will work with the Human Resources Department to ensure that any new contracts issued for the provision of healthcare services or healthcare coverage for City staff include the above language with the addition of a requirement that they not provide any type of benefits supporting conversion therapy for City employees under the contract.

Staff will continue to explore other areas in which the City could further restrict the practice of conversion therapy within the City government and the City overall and report back if any opportunities are identified. This memo will be shared with the LGBTQ+ Quality of Life Commission.

**Purchasing Office**

**Update on Resolution No. 20191114-056, Conversion Therapy**

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Feel free to contact me ([shawn.willett@austintexas.gov](mailto:shawn.willett@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2021) with any questions in this regard.

**cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager**  
**Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager**  
**Elaine Hart, Chief Financial Officer**  
**Greg Canally, Deputy Chief Financial Officer**  
**James Scarboro, Purchasing Officer**