

**LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION 20200608-2C**

**Date** June 8, 2020

**Subject** BLACK LIVES MATTER:  
Urgent Steps to Reforming the Austin Police Department, Protecting the Rights of Peaceful Protestors, and Demilitarizing Public Safety

**Recommendation to Council**

*A. Commit to the Austin Justice Coalition's Six Requests of Austin City Council*

1. Demand the resignations of the failed public safety leadership: Chief Brian Manley, his Chief of Staff Troy Gay and the civilian management lead Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano.
2. Direct the city manager to decrease the APD budget by \$100 million in the fiscal year that starts on October 1, 2020.
3. Pledge to continue to significantly decrease the police department's budget in subsequent years as Austin builds out robust and well funded alternatives to policing.
4. Protect and expand current investments in non-police public health and safety strategies and direct assistance to those most in need due to the pandemic.
5. Pursue investments in community-led initiatives to prevent violence, instead of police.
6. Do everything in your power to compel APD and all law enforcement agencies to immediately cease enacting violence on community members and hold those that have engaged in violence accountable.

*B. Direct the City Manager to Immediately Revise APD's Policies to Enact the #8CantWait*

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds
2. Require de-escalation
3. Require warning before shooting
4. Require exhaust all alternatives before shooting
5. Duty to intervene
6. Ban shooting at moving vehicles
7. Require use of force continuum
8. Require comprehensive reporting

### *C. Additional Recommendations*

1. Declare police brutality and policing disparities a public health crisis in Austin.
2. Issue a unanimously co-sponsored proclamation that Black Lives Matter.
3. Direct the city manager to send 120-days notice of renegotiation of the Agreement Between the City of Austin and the Austin Police Association per Article 21, Section 3. Require that the Austin Police Association appoint a negotiation team that reflects the racial, gender, and sexual orientation makeup of the Austin Police Department.
4. Direct the city manager Inventory and destroy all military equipment obtained by Austin Police Department through the 1033 Program .
5. Immediately stop using the term “less lethal” to describe weapons and ammunition that have been proven to be lethal. Rubber bullets are still bullets.
6. Direct the city manager to create a Civil Rights Office to oversee all complaints about civil rights violations in Austin including, but not limited to, limits on free speech, free assembly, police brutality, housing discrimination, and employment discrimination.
7. Commit to the four actions of the My Brother’s Keeper Alliance to introduce common-sense limits on police use of force.
8. Delay all new APD cadet classes until the major shortcomings revealed by former police cadets of the Austin Police Academy and its training can be addressed.
9. Mandate an alternative to criminalization and incarceration of minors arrested during the protests.

### **Rationale**

Black Lives Matter. Black Trans Lives Matter. Black LGBTQIA+ Lives Matter.

Chief Brian Manley, Chief of Staff Troy Gay, and Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano have a demonstrated history of failing to serve and protect every member of the Austin community.

Racism, anti-blackness, and white supremacy is deeply embedded in the culture of Austin, much as we like to pride ourselves as a welcoming and progressive city.

[Additional rationale being added by Commissioner Curette]

**Vote**

Date of Approval:

Record of the vote:

Present:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Gonzales, Vice Chair