City of Austin   Memorandum

P.O. Box 1088, Austin, TX, 78767

AUSTINCODE
DEPARTMENT

To:	Mayor and Council Members
From:	José G. Roig, Director, Austin Code Department
Date:	February 10, 2021
Subject:	Update Regarding Austin Code Department Improvements and Budget Amendments (Resolution 20201012-050)

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to Mayor and Council for Council Item Update Report 2325 related to Resolution 20201015-050, which directed the City Manager to identify and implement improvements to the Austin Code Department (ACD), and to identify relevant budget and fee amendments to reimagine public safety utilizing ACD.

In November 2020, ACD submitted a response to the City Auditor's inquiry, detailing several actions the department has implemented since Fiscal Year 2018 to improve inspection efficiency. This information was included in a Special Report on Code Inspections that was shared on the City Auditor's website in December 2020.

The Resolution also directed the City Manager to develop budget and fee amendments necessary to effectively reimagine eligible and feasible enforcement, community, and dispatchable functions utilizing the Austin Code Department. The City Manager established the City-Community Reimagining Public Safety Task Force which began meeting in August 2020. The Task Force is charged with developing recommendations for policy, cultural and structural changes to improve the quality of the public safety experience for all communities. The Task Force is also considering if certain APD functions, such as nuisance abatement, can be taken over by ACD. The department is closely monitoring the Task Force discussions and will work with the City Manager's Reimagining Public Safety Leadership Team to bring forward recommendations as appropriate. ACD remains flexible to address the changing needs of the Austin community.

Please contact me should you have questions.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
    Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager
    Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager
    Shannon Jones, Interim Assistant City Manager