



AUSTINCODE
DEPARTMENT

AUSTIN CODE DEPARTMENT
Housing and Planning Presentation
April 2021

Impact of Winter Storm Uri

On February 15, 2021, the City Manager announced that the City of Austin would suspend normal operations due to the **hazardous weather conditions**.

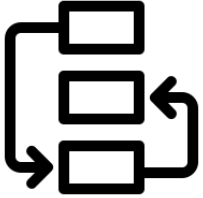
The Austin Code Department (ACD) temporarily halted its business operations, including routine code inspections, from February 16 through February 19, 2021.

ACD mobilized an initial emergency response team of field personnel to remain on standby, ready to address any urgent complaints reported to Austin 3-1-1 during this timeframe that would require immediate attention.





Procedural Outlines



- **Responded to Priority 2** (non-imminent/dangerous conditions) and COVID-19 cases as **the top priorities**.
- **Responded and inspected properties** in accordance with the department's ACD-103 Case Management Standards policy.
- For **tenant-occupied** properties, tenants were advised to reach out to their landlord to request a service repair order.
- **Inspections were prioritized for properties in the City's Repeat Offender Program (ROP)** to quickly assess living conditions and protect Austin's vulnerable tenant populations.



Cases

773

Deficiencies

312

NOVs

272

Citations

1

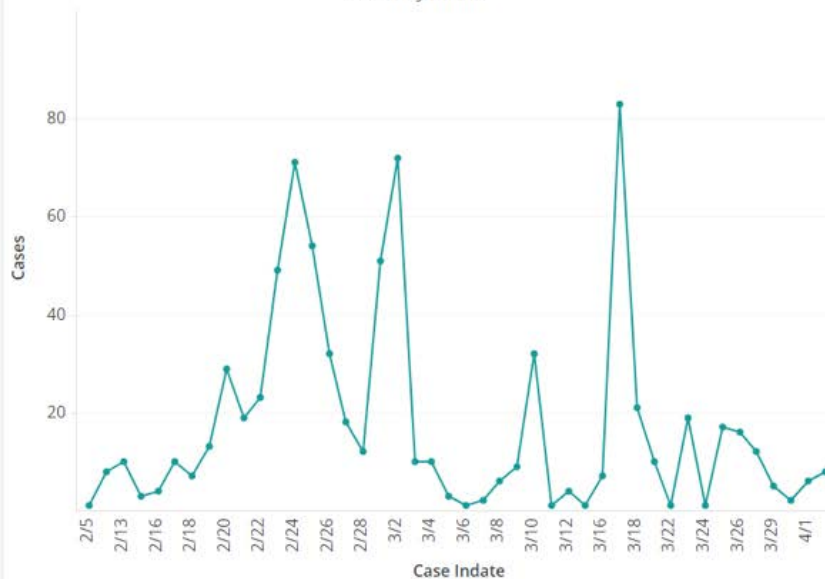
Case by Status

Case Status	Cases	% of Total
Active	157	20%
Closed	616	80%
Total	773	100%

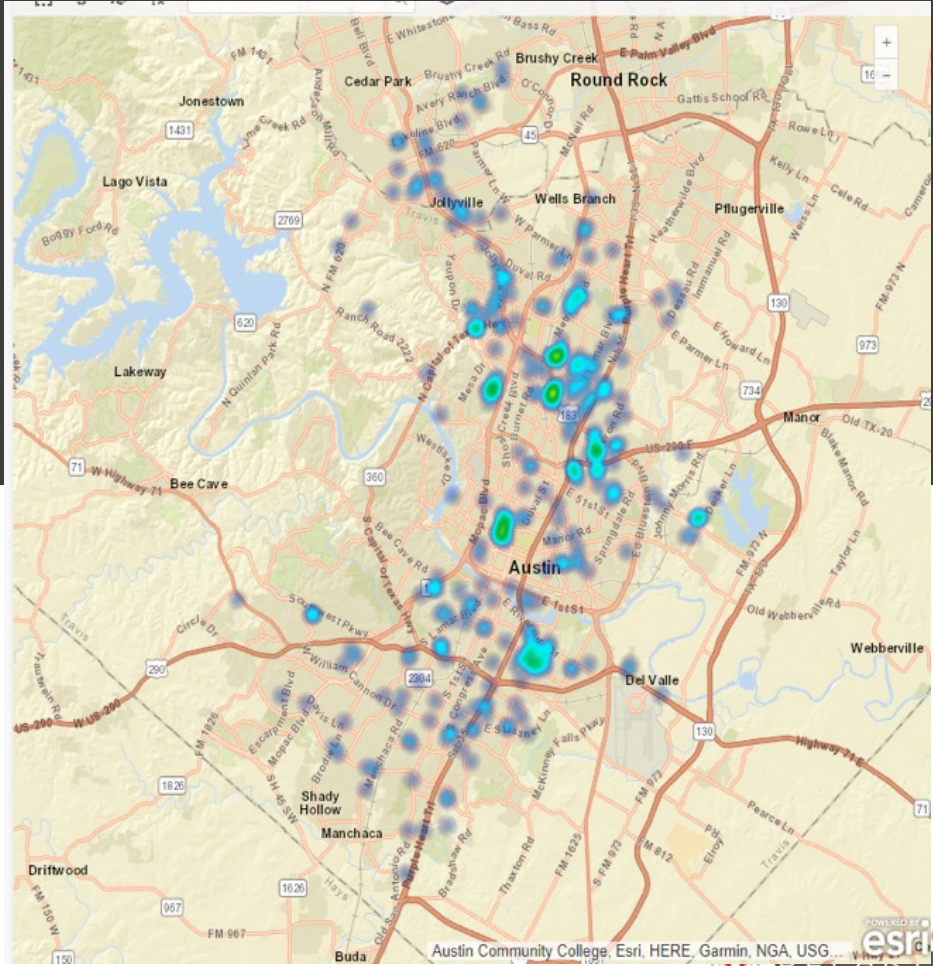
Case by Creator

Created by	Cases	% of Total
ACD Users	267	35%
311	506	65%
Total	773	100%

Cases by Indate



Maps





Interior surfaces (§305.3) 70	Water heating facilities (§505.4) 60	General (§504.1) 28	Construction performed without required permit(s) 25	Supply (§505.3) 14
			General (§305.1) 22	Stairs and walking surfaces (§305.4) 8
		General (§505.1) 26	Mechanical appliances (§603.1) 21	Smoke alarms (§704.2) 8
				Heat supply (§602.3) 8
				Installation (§605.1) 7
				Obtain Permit (§301.4)

Deficiencytext

All interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood and other defective surface conditions shall be corrected.

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There is cracks and holes in the ceilings in the bathroom that is causing water to leak inside bathroom area that needs to be repaired.

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All interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Surfaces exposed to recent interior flood require repair, including: swollen and split facings in millwork, stained ceilings that are showing signs of damp and cracking.

Cracked wall at the living room area shall be corrected.

Holes in the Bathroom ceiling and wall where the toilet bowl is located.

Holes in the Master Bedroom ceiling due to a water leak from upstairs.

Observed damaged/ missing sheetrock and insulation at the living room ceiling.

The interior walls of the laundry room mold-like substance on them.

The kitchen cabinets and base boards have deterioration.

The walls by the sliding glass door in the dining area has deterioration.

Unit 235, unit 2817, and other units need repair from water damage.



Data Breakdown



Here is an overall summary of the case statuses for all zoning types (SF, MF, other).

Status	Zoning	Total
Active	MF	40
	OTHER	105
Closed	MF	299
	OTHER	280
	SF	54
Pending	MF	1
Grand Total		779

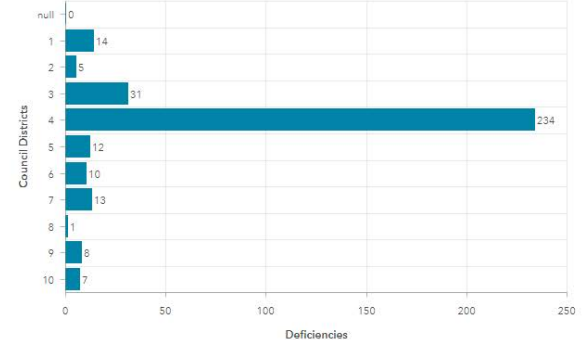
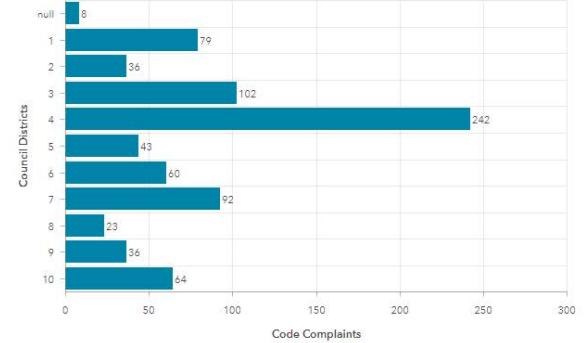
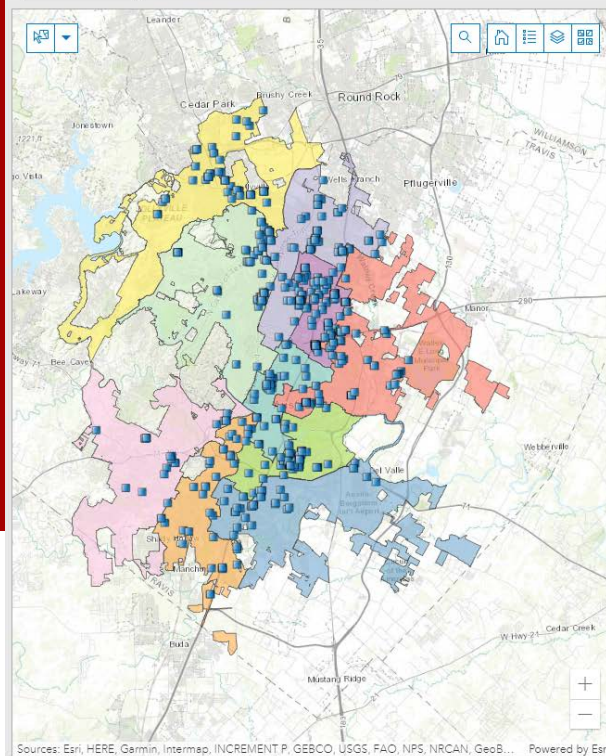
Council Districts

Austin Code Cases Related Winter Storm Uri

A Story Map [f](#) [t](#) [l](#) 

Case Summary

Case Breakdown by Council District





Response to Unsafe Housing Complaints



- **Resumed inspections on a priority basis** to maintain a consistent response and in consideration of the challenges faced by homeowners and property managers in correcting the problems.
- **Increased request of response from the affected property owners** and landlords to include:
 - An Action Plan for repairs within 48 hours.
 - Action Plans were to include repair plans, alternative accommodations for the tenants, and any resources that would be provided to tenants such as food, vouchers, or water.
- **Non cooperative Managers/property owners** will receive a notice of Violation upon confirmation of the violations
- **All cases will be expedited** through the legal process if no actions are taken
- **Initiated Virtual Inspections** as part of the policy and procedures as an option for tenants
- **IT working on a public dashboard** to include status updates



Response to ROP Unsafe Housing Complaints



- **Repeat Offender Properties** are reviewed for Eligibility of the suspension every 30 days this review consists of the deficiency status and compliance timeline
- **Improvements to the 2 5 2 query criteria** to improve the criteria of property qualification for the program
- **Included a formal review of those properties on a quarterly basis.**
- **Notification of periodic inspections on ROP** is communicated to the occupants of the properties through the ACD website.
- **Increased request of response from the affected property owners** and landlords to include:
 - An Action Plan for repairs within 48 hours.
- **Non cooperative Managers/property owners** receive a notice of Violation upon confirmation of the violations
- **Stakeholder input and assistance** with communication when conducting follow up inspections



ACD Emergency Response Phase 3: Legal Escalation-

Once an NOV compliance timeframe has expired and a property owner has failed to make progress toward compliance, ACD may escalate non-compliant cases through the following quasi-judicial avenues of legal enforcement:

1. Administrative hearing process under City Code Chapter 2-13 (Administrative Adjudication of Violations)
2. Building and Standards Commission (BSC)
3. Municipal Court

Special Called Building and Standards Commission –

Request and presentation of specialty requests



Next Steps in Response to Unsafe Housing Complaints



- **Working with APH** to discuss next steps related to the public health of tenants while corrections and repairs are being completed
- **City legal meeting** for consultation

Any Questions?



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