



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Rey Arellano, Assistant City

Manager DATE: December 15, 2021

SUBJECT: Response to Ordinance 20200814-001 Budget Rider 11 – Austin Police Department Reconstruction of Sworn Staff Responsibilities and Operations

The purpose of this memo is to provide a response to subject FY 2021 budget rider, which directed the City Manager to explore the creation of new departments of public safety with sworn leadership for patrol, investigations, traffic safety, and professional standards.

On August 10, 2020, I issued a [memo](#) that highlighted Resolution [20200611-096](#), which directs the City Manager, in part, to explore “...options for reallocating positions and roles currently assigned to the Austin Police Department that could be managed by other departments.” Staff reviewed areas such as the emergency call center & police dispatch, forensics lab, and administrative & management services to determine reallocation of positions.

As a part of the overall [Reimagining Public Safety Initiative](#), staff worked with the Reimagining Public Safety City-Community Task Force that advanced [recommendations](#) to reimagine public safety, which included exploring new approaches to patrol and surveillance. My October 1, 2021 [memo](#) highlighted Task Force efforts, described the work of staff Review Teams to evaluate the Task Force recommendations and make recommendations to the City Manager for items to be considered in the FY22 Proposed Budget. I also tasked the Police Chief to continue staff analysis of the recommendations provided by the Patrol & Surveillance/Patrol & Criminal Investigation work group, and to collaborate with community stakeholders to implement change in these areas. City staff will continue to explore innovative strategies for implementing additional RPS Task Force recommendations beyond the FY 2022 budget.

Action regarding Budget Rider 11 is considered complete. Staff will separately provide updates related to Reimagining Public Safety initiatives.

Please contact me should you have questions or require additional information.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
CMO Executive Team
Chief Joseph Chacon, Austin Police Chief