



MOLD REPORT UPDATE

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel Word, Assistant Director, Austin Code Department February 8, 2022



MISSION AND BACKGROUND

MOLD REPORT UPDATE | AUSTIN CODE DEPARTMENT January 11, 2022

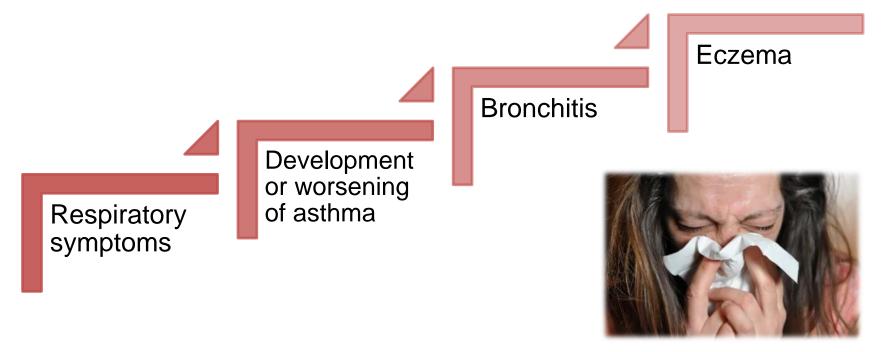
Austin Code Department Mission:

To build a safer and greater Austin together through code education, collaboration, and enforcement.

Background:

On May 5th, 2021, the Austin City Council passed Resolution No. 20210506-040, asking the city manager to improve the City's response to health and safety issues related to mold in rental housing.

Mold Report Update Health Effects of Mold





Mold Report Update Current Practices and Regulations

Austin Code Department (ACD) responds to all complaints received regarding mold growth in rental housing. On July 26, 2020, a memo was issued to all code inspectors to improve consistency in response to these complaints.

Code Inspector is expected to look for source of water intrusion



Inspector cannot explicitly determine whether mold is present ("mold-like substance")



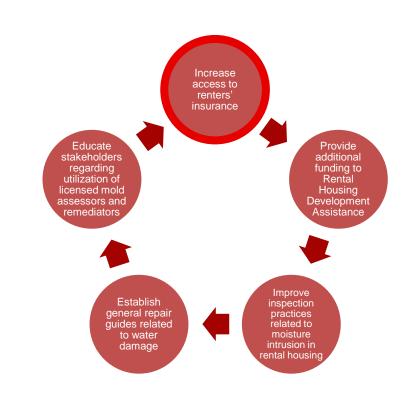
Inspector looks for structural openings or gaps allowing water to penetrate interior of structure (siding, windows, doors, plumbing, equipment)





Based on the findings, City staff provides five recommendations to improve the City of Austin's response to mold in rental housing:

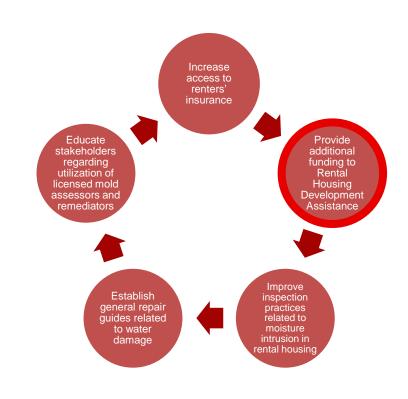
➤ Increase access to renters' insurance





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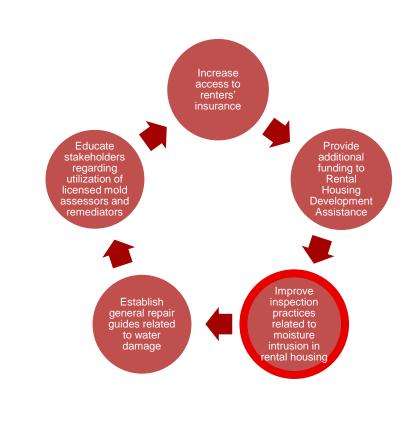
 Additional funding could be provided to the Rental Housing Development Assistance program





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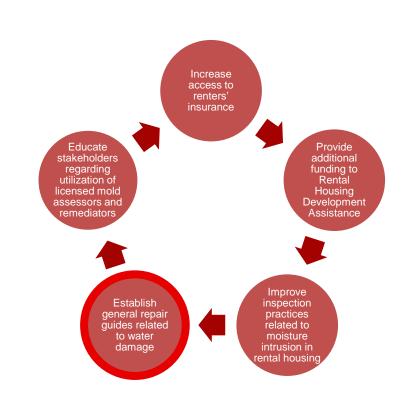
➤ Improve inspection practices related to moisture intrusion in rental housing





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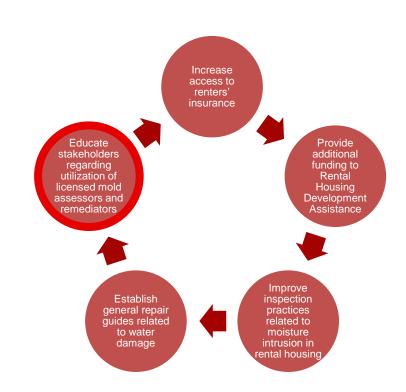
Establish general repair guides related to water damage





Based on the findings, City staff provides five recommendations to improve the City of Austin's response to mold in rental housing:

Educate stakeholders regarding utilization of licensed mold assessors and remediators





RESOURCES

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Existing Resources

GO Repair! Program

Minor Home Repair

The Emergency Home Repair Program Needed Resources

Moisture Meters

Training