



Downtown Commission Meeting

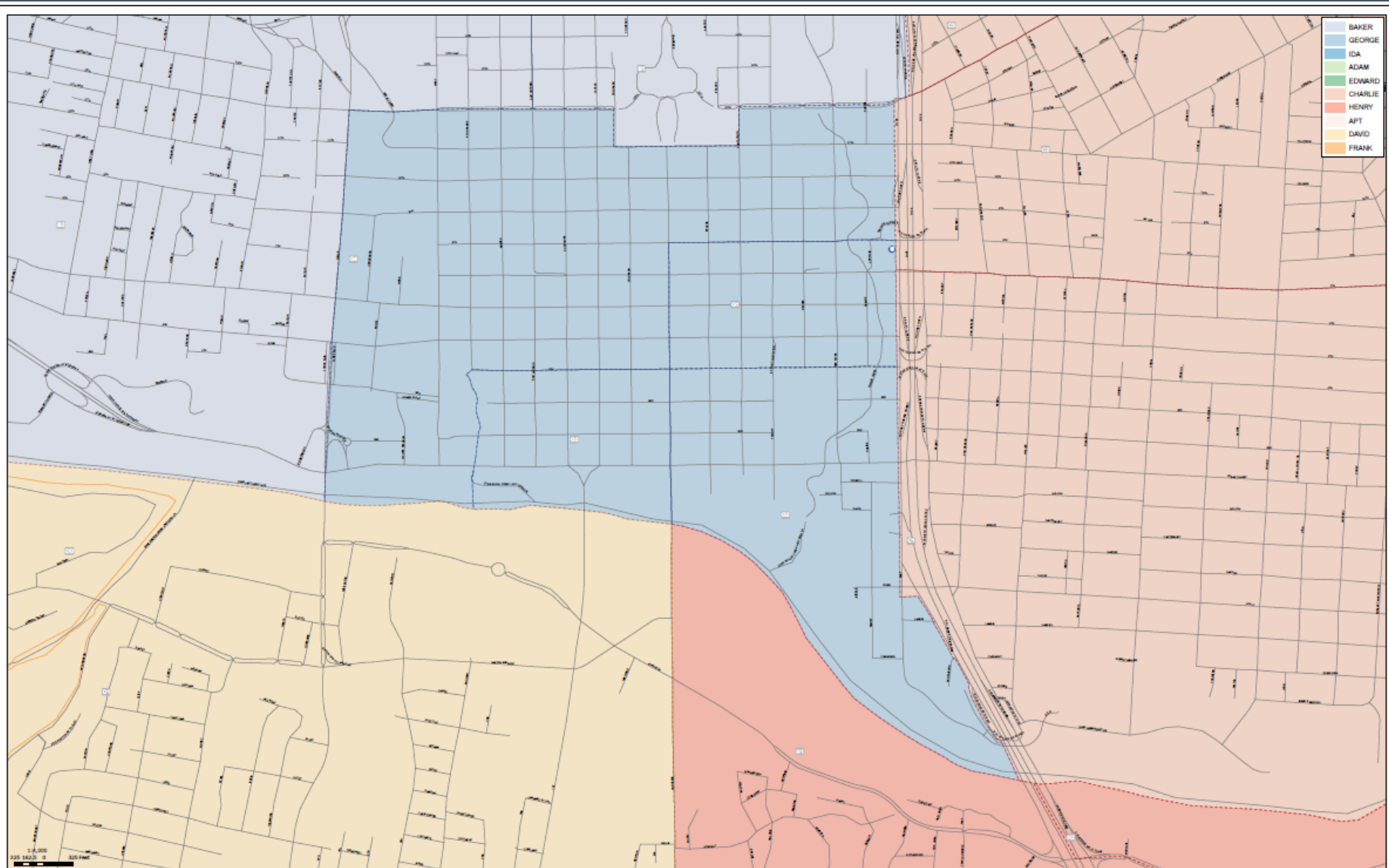
Austin Police Department – Update
Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Eric Fitzgerald, Commander - Downtown Area Command
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Topics

- Overall Safety in the Downtown Area Command
- Homelessness in the Downtown Area and APD's role
- Alternative Transportation (Scooter) Incidents
- 911 vs. 311



2020 Austin Police Department George



INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Date Saved: 3/6/2020
Created by: AP 7657



This map was created by the Info Systems -
Business Technology Unit of the Austin Police
Department for the sole purpose of the geographic
display of crime.
No warranty is made with regards to its accuracy
or completeness.
Map was created using ESRI ArcGIS Pro 2.3.
Data is projected using North American Datum 1983,
Texas State Plane Central. Units are measured in
U.S. Feet. Data sources: Austin Police Department,
City of Austin Corporate GIS.



Overall Safety

Actual Safety – Protecting people's physical welfare.

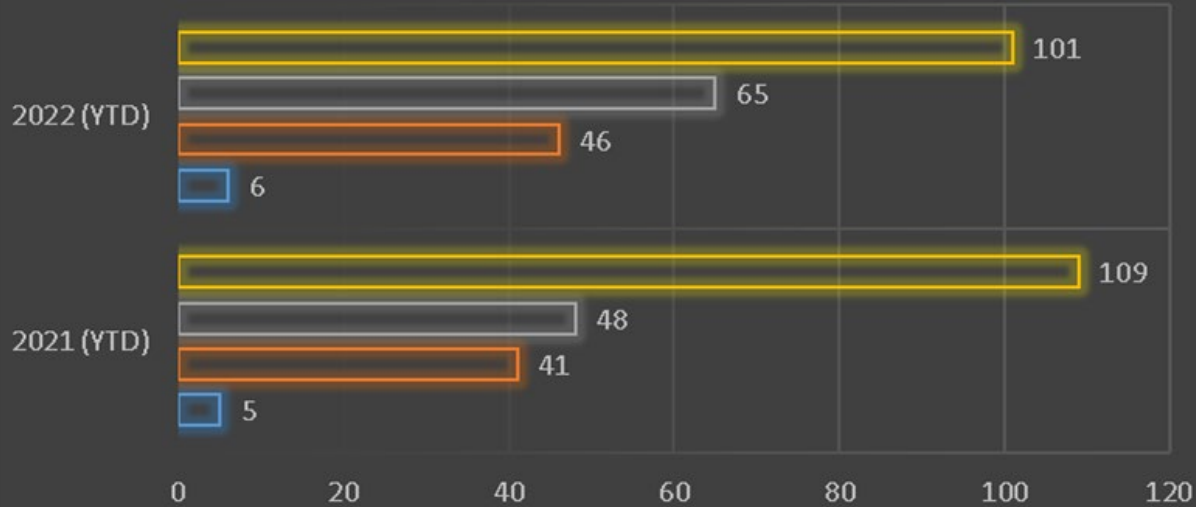
Perceived Safety – The community might be safe, but a history of unsafe incidents and personal experiences might make them feel otherwise.

*Maintaining both is critical in maintaining trust and credibility with the community.



Part 1 Violent Crime Comparison

■ Agg. Assault
 ■ Robbery
 ■ Sexual Assault
 ■ Homicide



Violent Crime Data

DTAC Part 1 Violent Crime 1/1/2021- 9/19/2022

	2021 (YTD)	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021-2022 (YTD) Total
Homicide	5	6	20%	6	6	0%	12
Sexual Assault	41	46	12%	54	46	-15%	100
Robbery	48	65	35%	66	65	-2%	131
Agg. Assault	109	101	-7%	158	101	-36%	259
Part 1 Violent Crime Total	203	218	7%	284	218	-23%	502

Property Crime Data



DTAC Part 1 Property Crime

1/1/2021- 9/19/2022

	2021 (YTD)	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021-2022 Total
Burglary of Residence/Non-Residence	89	94	6%	135	94	-30%	229
Auto Theft	121	147	21%	177	147	-17%	324
Burglary of Vehicle	303	266	-12%	440	266	-40%	706
Theft	687	708	3%	952	708	-26%	1660
Simple Assault	615	601	-2%	833	601	-28%	1434
Part 1 Property Crime Total	1815	1816	0%	2537	1816	-28%	4353

Highlights



- Aggravated Assaults are down -7% YTD from 2021
- Burglary of Vehicles are down -12% YTD from 2021



- Robbery is up 35% YTD from 2021
- Auto Theft is up 21% YTD from 2021
- Sexual Assault is up 12% YTD from 2021



Shots Fired Data

DTAC Shots Fired Calls for Service

	2021 (YTD)	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021-2022 Total
Shots Fired Calls	42	32	-24%	55	32	-42%	87

*Shots fired calls, officer-involved shootings, shooting urgent calls, etc.



In 2021-2022, 24%(21/87) of DTAC Shots Fired Calls occurred in the area of 5th to 8th St. between Red River St and Brazos St.

Gun Arrest Data



DTAC Gun Arrests by Possession Offense

1/1/2021- 9/19/2022

	2021 (YTD)	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021	2022 (YTD)	Change	2021-2022 Total
Possession of Firearm by Felon	18	24	33%	30	24	-20%	54
Unlawful Carrying Weapon	68	89	31%	106	89	-16%	195
Total	86	113	31%	136	113	-17%	249



Downtown Austin Alliance Unsheltered Homeless Count

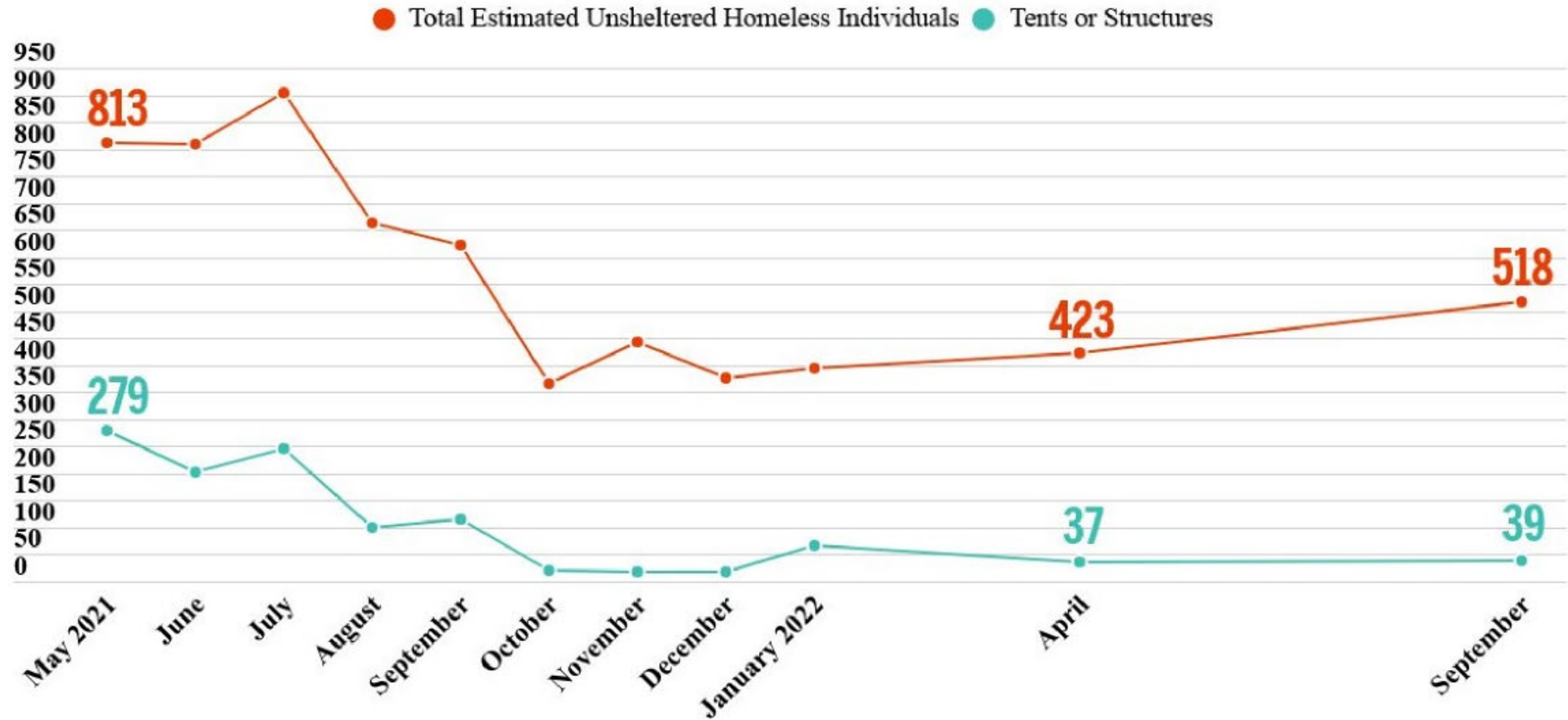
- Count of all unsheltered persons, tents or makeshift structures, and inhabited vehicles within the Public Improvement District (PID),
- Conducted between 3AM and 6AM on **September 14th, 2022.**
- 10 teams to survey predetermined sub districts within the larger boundary.
- The count is limited to **observation only** and as a result a multiplier*, used nationally and locally verified, is used to produce an estimated total number of individuals experiencing homelessness.

Downtown Austin Alliance Unsheltered Homeless Count

September 14th, 2022



Total Downtown Estimated Unsheltered Homeless Individuals and Tents or Structures

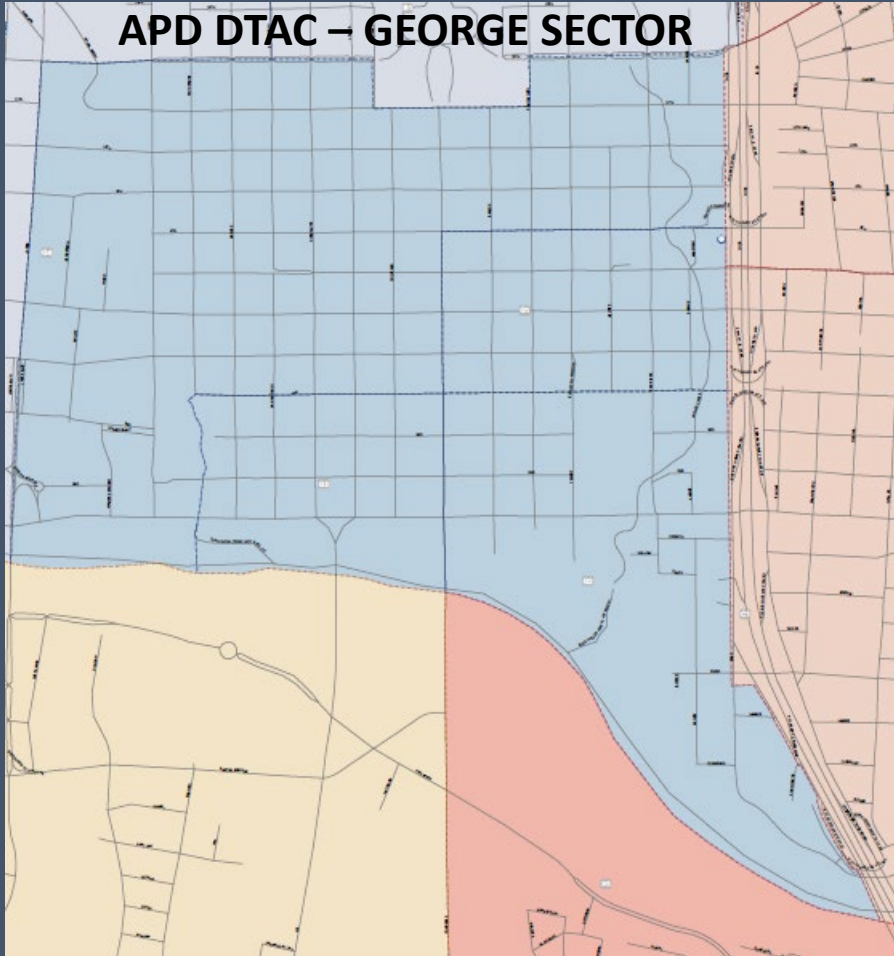


Source: Downtown Austin Alliance

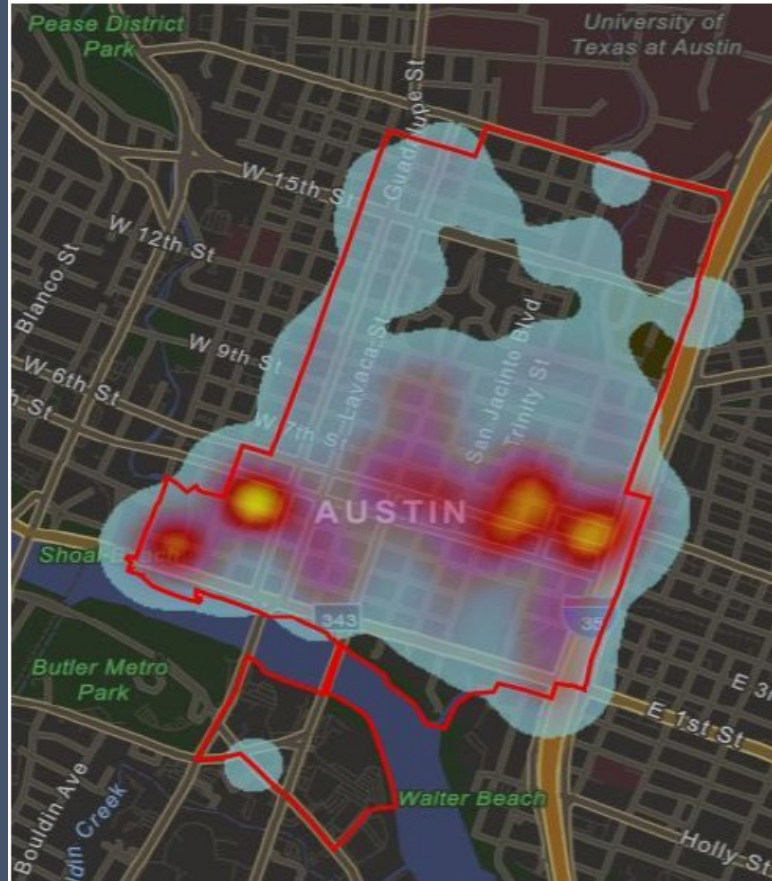
Downtown Austin Alliance Unsheltered Homeless Count



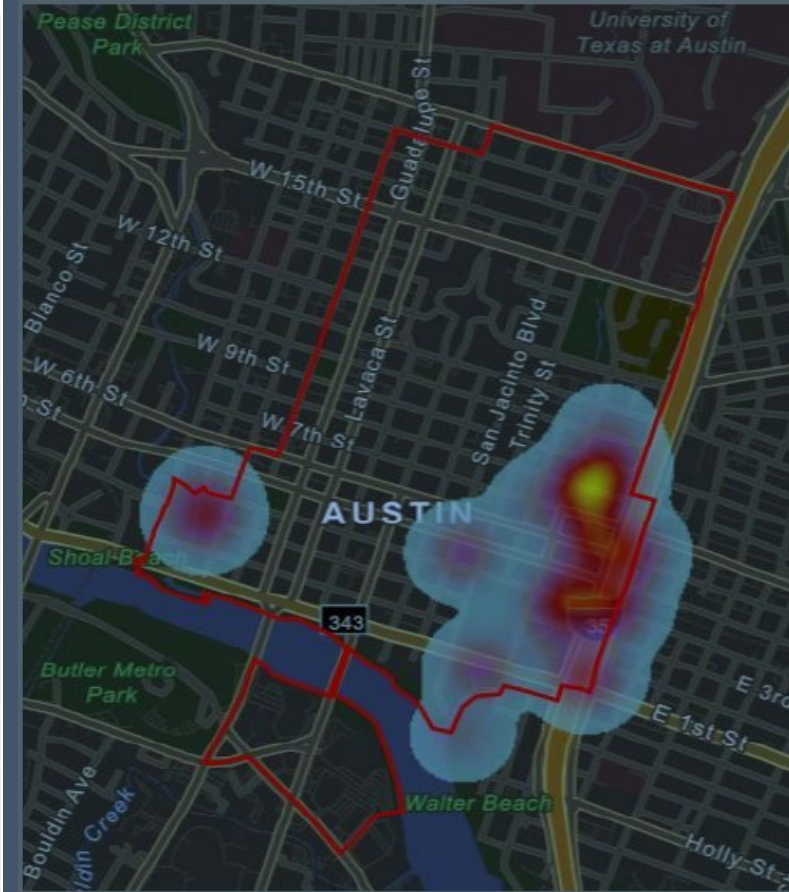
APD DTAC – GEORGE SECTOR



Heat Map of Unsheltered Individuals



Heat Map of Tents or Structures





APD's Role Related to Homelessness

APD is strategically working in coordination with all of our community partners to ensure that each enforcement operation is prioritized and has meaningful impact.

Why are some camps allowed to continue and others abated?

With limited resources available , APD alongside its community partners have created a prioritization matrix that takes into consideration many factors such as:

- Size and scope of encampment
- Human trafficking
- Criminal activity
- Pregnant women or children
- Fire hazard/risk



APD's Role Related to Homelessness

When will an officer arrest for camping?

- It is important to note that camping in a public space is a class C misdemeanor.
- Voluntary compliance is always preferable to a custody arrest.
- When an officer is compelled to take an individual into custody it is with an emphasis on service connection utilizing the mechanism of jail diversion (community court).

Also important to note that while any officer can cite for camping: state law has a couple provisions:

- The individual is notified of a place where camping is permitted or a resource.
- The individual Is given a reasonable opportunity for voluntary compliance.



APD's Role Related to Homelessness

What is meant by progressive enforcement?

1. Education and outreach - HOST
2. Warning (verbal, written)
3. Citation
4. Custody arrest (emphasis on service connection)



APD's Role Related to Homelessness

What resources are available for community?

- District Representatives are the primary response team to enforce camping.
- 311 report will be routed to the District Representatives.

Alternative Transportation



ATCEMS Data – January 1, 2019 – September 19, 2022

890 incidents downtown out of a total of 2,185 scooter incidents citywide. **40.7%**

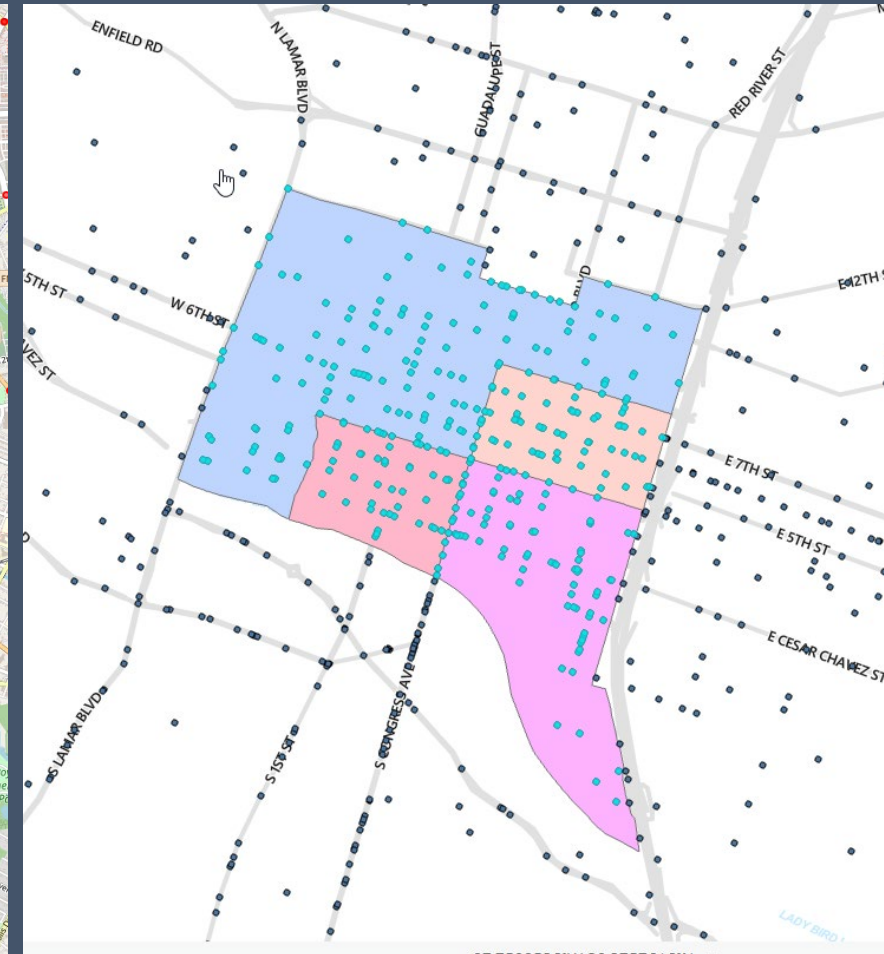
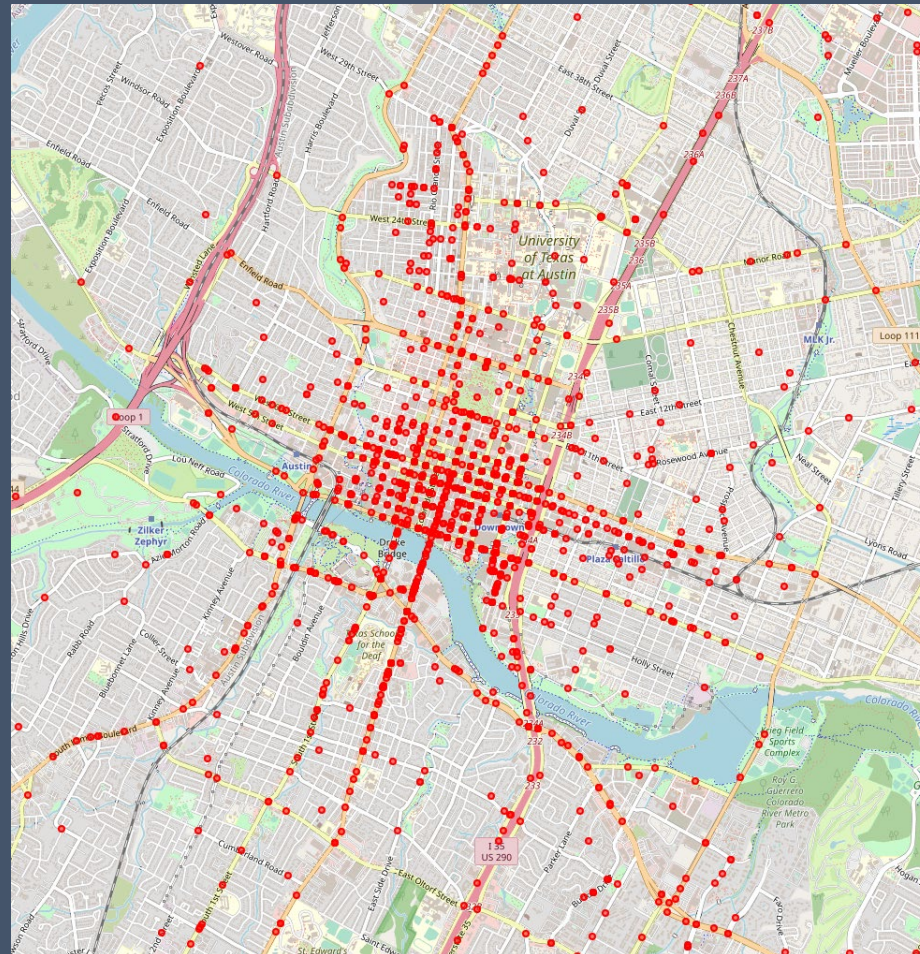
*Data is pulled from CAD where the word “scooter” is used in the comments

DTAC Scooter Incidents 1/1/2021- 9/19/2022

	2021	2022 (YTD)	2021-2022 Total
Collision	4	1	5
Recovered Vehicle	2		2
Auto Theft	5	2	7
Total	11	3	14

PD Response:

- Fatality/Serious Injury
- Reported/Recovered Stolen
- Disturbance Involved



911 vs. 311



When should someone call 911?

- When there is an imminent threat to life or property.
- When there is an injury that requires immediate medical attention or there is an injury stemming from an assault, regardless of the timeframe.
- When a suspect involved in a crime is on scene of the incident or within sight

***Important:** If you are unsure whether to call 911 or 311, you should call 911 and let a trained operator route the call appropriately.

<https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/police>



Austin Police Department

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P.O. Box 689001, Austin, Texas 78768-9001 Telephone (512) 974-5000
www.cityofaustin.org/police

Austin Police Department Response Guide

The Austin Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety of our community. Recent changes in policy and procedures have left some members of the public, downtown businesses and others with questions about how we respond. The intent of this document is to answer those questions.

- **When should someone call 911?**
 - When there is an imminent threat to life or property
 - When there is an injury that requires immediate medical attention or there is an injury stemming from an assault, regardless of the timeframe
 - When a suspect involved in a crime is on scene of the incident or within sight

Important: If you are unsure whether to call 911 or 311, you should call 911 and let a trained operator route the call appropriately.
- **What should community members expect from APD?**
 - Patrol officer response to all calls involving an imminent threat to life or property
 - Patrol officer response to all calls involving domestic/family disturbances (verbal or physical), regardless of timeframe including Violations of Protective Orders
 - Community members may submit offense reports via Austin 311 or online via iReportAustin.com
 - Detectives review all crime reports for investigative leads, and investigate cases with viable leads. If the reports do not have viable investigative leads, detectives will notify the complainant that there are no leads and will suspend the report.
 - Each report will be reviewed with attention given to:
 - The nature and seriousness of the behavior or offense;
 - The reliable and objective evidence available to the responding officer; and
 - Other factors including:



Keeping you, your family and our community safe.



Questions?

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