



## **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022**

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### **Public Safety Commission** **(Official Name of Board or Commission)**

**The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:**

- 1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

To serve as an advisory body to the city council on all budgetary and policy matters concerning public safety, including matters related to the Austin Police Department, the Austin Fire Department, and the Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services Department. Make recommendations on matters related to long-range comprehensive planning initiatives, access to and expenditure of state and federal grant funds, and other related public safety matters.

- 2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

The Public Safety Commission of the City of Austin meets the first Monday of each month. The mission of the Commission is to review the needs of the City vis-à-vis public safety through presentations, documents, and data provided by the three public safety departments of the City of Austin: Police, Fire, and Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services and from advocates and citizens. During the previous year, the Public Safety Commission heard concerns from citizens and requested presentations from experts. The Commission made recommendations to City Council

on public safety department budget requests, future planning, and other relevant issues.

The specific recommendations included:

- August 2021 - Recommendation: That the City Council, Mayor, and City Manager Spencer Cronk direct the Austin Police Department cease the citations and arrests set forth by the Responsible Public Space Management Plan unless the diversions being offered to persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness include a housing option; the City invest \$1.2M in funding to support non-profits like Austin Mutual Aid to house at least an addition 450 of our unhoused neighbors in hotels or alternative housing for a month while the HEAL initiative acquires more temporary housing; the Council and the Mayor, direct City Manager Cronk to identify city owned land that can be used as a temporary legal encampment for the remaining sites that do not currently fall into the HEAL Initiative.
- January 2022 - Recommendation: That the proposal that the City create a Marshal Office within the Austin Municipal Court and Downtown Austin Community Court be rejected; and the City of Austin continue to provide for the security of the Austin Municipal Court and Downtown Austin Community Court with Austin Police Officers.
- February 2022 - Recommendation: That the Austin City Council create a policy that requires the reporting of all instances where use of force was prevented or took place; this policy be supported by a strong non-retaliation policy to ensure self- reporting; and this policy also include a training plan for the officer that was stopped by the intervention. This training plan could include further instruction on de-escalation and proper procedure.
- March 2022 - Recommendation: That Austin City Council make the Forensic Science Bureau a budgetarily and structurally independent agency of city government.
- May 2022 - Recommendation: that Austin City Council direct the City Manager's Office to prioritize negotiations with the Austin EMS Association and offer substantial higher compensation, in line with the cost of living in Austin, the compensation of credentialed staff with comparable workloads at EMS agencies for similar municipalities nationwide, and the compensation of sworn staff of the Austin Police Department and Austin Fire Department.
- June 2022 - Recommendations: During the June Public Safety Commission meeting, the three Public Safety organizations presented their initial budget requests. Therefore, The Public Safety Commission recommends that the Austin City Council move forward with the following budget requests:
  - APD
  - 11 Civilian FTEs per Kroll Report Recommendation \$1.2M

## Annual Review and Work Plan

Year

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- Civilianize 6 Sworn FTEs for Real Time Crime Center \$0
- 4 Sworn Detective FTEs for Sex Crimes Unit \$955K
- 6 Civilian FTEs for Compliance with Senate Bill 111 \$491K
  
- Fire
- Prevention Inspectors, Engineers and Admins with equip/ vehicles (9 FTEs General Fund, 12 FTEs funded elsewhere) \$1.2-\$3.6M
- Del Valle Ladder staffing with OT (16 FTEs) \$2.4M
- 3 Pick-up Trucks for Response & PPE Transport \$135K
- Technology & Equipment Service Increase \$195K
  
- EMS
- Staffing (est. \$1M on-going, 9 FTEs , \$1.1M one-time) \$2.1M
- Data Analytics (est. \$344K on-going, 2 FTEs, \$172K one-time) \$366K
- Staying on the Leading Edge of EMS \$1.4M (est. \$50k on-going, \$1.4M one-time)
- Staff Engagement (est. \$397K on-going, 1 FTE) \$397K
  
- Revenue Enhancement \$892K (est. \$52K one-time, 2 FTEs, \$800K on-going) or (est. \$62K one-time, 9 FTEs, \$892K on-going)

### 3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

*(Make sure the goals and objectives fall within the mission statement of the board/commission.)*

- a. Discuss and analyze existing and emerging public safety issues in Austin.
- b. Examine the functioning, long-range planning, budget requests, and needs of the City's public safety departments within an evidence-based context.
- c. Seek the input of citizens and hear presentations from experts.
- d. Respond to requests from City Council related to public safety matters.
- e. Collaborate with and support the Public Safety Council Committee.
- f. Make recommendations that are evidence-based and rely on best practices to help the City of Austin improve public safety outcomes, use resources in a cost effective manner, and improve the quality of life of all of Austin's residents.