



LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION

**RECOMMENDATION 20220822-1
BUDGET FOR INCREASED EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE**

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is facing a housing affordability crisis which has garnered national headlines (see [NY Times](#)) and data reports show that the year-over-year increase for one bedroom rent averaged 13.5% from 2021 to 2022 and now costs \$1,680 per month on average; and

WHEREAS, in the LGBTQ Quality of Life Study completed the year prior to this 13.5% average rent increase housing was the highest-ranked domain of priority for participants in the town hall meetings, and

WHEREAS, also in the referenced Study, 10% of respondents indicate they had been homeless in the last 5 year, 65% of respondents spent 30% or more of their income for housing while 9% spent more than 50%, and

WHEREAS increased housing supply has significant lead time associated with pre-development and construction while older adults have immediate needs for rent relief; and

WHEREAS the City of Austin allocated nearly \$40 million in emergency rent assistance during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS budget documents for [FY 2022 – 2023](#) (pps. 136) include only a fraction of previous fiscal year funding at \$6.7 million for emergency housing initiatives aimed at preventing homelessness via supportive services and financial assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the LGBTQ Quality of Life Commissions recommends that the Austin City Council approve additional funding for emergency rental assistance to mitigate the affordability crisis and to accomplish strategic goals related to housing stabilization, economic opportunity, and affordability.

Commented [PA1]: I would add a specific funding amount and a due date when it needs to be dispersed by



VOTE

Date of Approval:

Record of the Vote: Adopted without objection on a X-X vote.

Present:

Attest: Ryn Gonzales, Chair

DRAFT