



**LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**RECOMMENDATION 20230313-2A  
BUDGET FOR INCREASED EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin is facing a housing affordability crisis which has garnered national headlines ([How Austin Became One of the Least Affordable Cities in America, The New York 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 [City of Austin's 2021 LGBTQIA+ 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**, in the [City of Austin's 2021 LGBTQIA+ Quality of Life 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](#) (pg. 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 Advisory Commission recommends that the Austin City Council approve additional funding for emergency housing assistance to mitigate the affordability crisis and to accomplish strategic goals related to housing stabilization, economic opportunity, and affordability at an amount to be determined by the Joint Inclusion Committee.



**VOTE**

Date of Approval: March 13, 2023

Motioned By: Commissioner Gonzales

Seconded By: Commissioner Curry

For:

1. Bier
2. Bush
3. Curry
4. Gonzales
5. Jones
6. Neal
7. Vieira
8. Taylor
9. Wollerson

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent:

1. Curette
2. Krueger
3. Martinez
4. Rendon

Attest: *Ryn Gonzales*  
Ryn Gonzales, Chair