



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20230517-006

Date:

Subject:

Motioned By: Rachel Scott

Seconded By: TBD

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission is required to advise the City Council and City Manager on any matters that impact the health, safety, welfare, and quality of life of all residents within the City's incorporated boundaries; and severe weather events may impact the residents of the City of Austin and the economic vitality of the City of Austin.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin recommends that City residents have a family plan in place in the event of extreme weather emergencies, including tornadoes; and the City has identified State and Federal sources for funding for improving the integrity of existing and new structures.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) is responsible for emergency planning, grant funding, and public safety capabilities and works with partner organizations to accomplish its goals.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Hazard Mitigation Plan Update of 2021 (originally dated August 4, 2016) references a FEMA letter dated September 15, 2021, approving the updated plan; and Sections 12 and 18 of the Plan define the scope and risk of a tornado in the Austin metropolitan area; Section 23, 24 and, 25 of the Plan references the City's Mitigation Strategy and recommended actions.

THEREFORE, the Environmental Commission requests the City of Austin Homeland Security and Emergency Management present to the Environmental Commission its progress on achieving its goals as outlined in the 2021 Updated Austin Hazard Mitigation Plan where it was identified as the lead department and public education programs; the Environmental Commission recommends that all new City-owned, leased, or financed facilities have a designated tornado shelter; and the Environmental Commission recommends that all public parking garages capable of withstanding an EF5 tornado have signage directing the public to designated "safe" areas within the garage.

Vote

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Absent:

Attest:

Kevin Ramberg, Environmental Commission Chair

DRAFT