



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

Recommendation Number: 20230719-006: RECOMMENDED STUDY TO UNDERSTAND
REAL-WORLD NEEDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY-BASED VETERANS

WHEREAS, Texas has the 2nd largest veteran population in the United States and Travis County has a veteran population of 49,000+/-; and

WHEREAS, veterans are not a monolith and possess a diverse sets of needs, senses of identity, and challenges; and

WHEREAS, there remains a great opportunity to better understand the diversity of current needs and estimate future needs for Travis County-based veterans so to design programs, policies, and budgets that are informed by this real-world understanding of evolving needs of this population; and

WHEREAS, Travis-county does not currently possess a sufficiently deep understanding of its veterans and thus lacks an ability to make data-driven decisions for and with this dynamic and cherished population; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission on Veterans Affairs encourages the Austin City Council to commission a small study (to include surveys and qualitative research) to better understand the nuanced needs, perceptions, challenges, and barriers facing Travis County-based veterans today, across all demographics.

Date of Approval: July 17, 2023

Record of the vote: 8 – 0

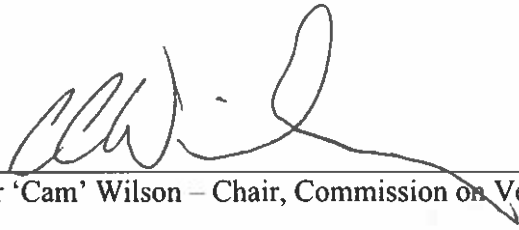
For:

Chair. C. Wilson, Vice Chair K. Lenau, W. Dahlstrom, M. Brown-Spence, C. Wyman, A. Schleuning, P. Bissett, M. Balch

Not Present:

A. Gonzales

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CW', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and extends to the right of the line.

Christopher 'Cam' Wilson – Chair, Commission on Veteran Affairs