



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Human Rights Commission

Recommendation Number: 20230828-008 Austin City Council to take action and make available to the public a comprehensive budget presentation that outlines the allocation of funds aimed address homelessness in Austin

WHEREAS, homelessness is a pressing and multifaceted issue that impacts the lives of numerous individuals and families in Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is committed to fostering an inclusive and compassionate community where the rights and dignity of all residents are protected; and

WHEREAS, our elected councilmembers have demonstrated a deep understanding, concern, and compassion for our unhoused population; and

WHEREAS, a public budget presentation will provide clarity on the financial resources dedicated to addressing homelessness and facilitate informed decision-making among local stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, by conducting a public budget presentation on homelessness alleviation expenditure, the Austin City Council will strengthen public trust, foster community involvement, and demonstrate its commitment to equitable governance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Human Rights Commission calls upon the Austin City Council to take action and make available to the public a comprehensive budget presentation that outlines the allocation of funds aimed at addressing homelessness in Austin with the following elements:

- **Budget Metric Plans:** A comprehensive breakdown of the budget allocation for homelessness alleviation efforts during the past 10 years, highlighting any changes or trends in funding priorities, and providing a current year estimate.
- **Actual Expenditures:** A transparent and detailed account of the actual funds expended over the previous decade, along with a comprehensive breakdown of how these funds were utilized to address various dimensions of homelessness, encompassing emergency shelters, permanent housing solutions, mental health support, employment assistance, and other essential services.
- **Performance Metrics:** An analysis of the impact of homelessness alleviation programs, accompanied by performance metrics such as the number of individuals served, successful housing placements, employment outcomes, and status of existing city-owned housing.

- **Lessons Learned and Future Plans:** An evaluation of challenges encountered during the implementation of homelessness alleviation programs, along with the strategies employed to overcome these challenges. Ex: cooling centers as we experience historic summer heat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Human Rights Commission commends the Austin City Council on its exceptional leaderships and tireless efforts in laying out the foundation for a more compassionate Austin.

Date of Approval: August 29, 2023

Record of the vote: 8 – 0

FOR: Chair I. Griffith, Vice Chair A. Weigel, L. Garcia, G. Zeidan, M. Aslam, M. Davis, M. Kruger, K. Duhon

Absent: M. Steveson

Attest:


Idona Griffith – Chair, Human Rights Commission