



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023

BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:

The Building and Standards Commission (BSC) was established to hear cases concerning alleged violations of the City's housing and dangerous building regulations.

The Building and Standards Commission shall have the powers and duties and comply with the procedures established by the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 54, Subchapter C (*Quasi-Judicial Enforcement of Health and Safety Ordinances*), and Chapter 25-12, Article 9 (*Property Maintenance Code*) of the *Austin City Code*.

- 1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

(Reference all reports, recommendations, letters or resolutions presented to the City Council on mission-specific issues. If some of the elements of the mission statement were not acted on by the board in the past year, the report should explain why no action was taken.)

- The Commission met on **11** occasions to hear cases involving substandard and unsafe or dangerous properties and appeals.
- The Commission heard a total of **78** new cases.
- The Commission heard a total of **23** returning cases.
- Of the new cases heard by the Commission, **8** cases or approximately **10%** were registered with the Repeat Offender Program.
- Written updates were provided to Staff as required in **1** BSC order. Briefings were provided to the Commission from City Staff on a variety of topics such as the Repeat Offender Program, the BSC Notices of Appeal Hearing which lead to

an amendment to the Commission's Rules and Regulations, and lastly, the managerial accounting estimate for escalated cases to BSC.

- The Commission met as a body on **11** out of **11** regular monthly meeting dates during this period.

2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

- The Commission issued **26** repair orders.
- The Commission issued **26** demolition orders.
- The Commission issued **1** order to secure or reinforce a structure and carry-over a civil penalty.
- The Commission heard **3** appeals regarding a notice of violation or an operating license, one appeal was denied, two were affirmed for the appellant.
- The Commission considered **4** cases order for relief of the civil penalty. The Commission reduced the civil penalty in all **4** cases, resulting in the issuance of two new orders.
- Of the new and returning cases heard by the Commission, **12** cases were resolved within the reporting year.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

- Staff will track the number of cases heard within the reporting period that were resolved successfully.
- Staff will prioritize Repeat Offender (ROP) cases, dangerous cases, and old cases, and will include such cases on the regular BSC agendas.
- Staff will provide regular updates regarding Repeat Offender cases.
- Staff and Commission will collaborate on informational materials to be provided to help the public better understand the BSC process.
- Staff will present an analysis of the city's actual costs relating to a case, as a recommendation for the BSC to consider when Property Owners petition the BSC for a fee reduction.
- Staff will make every effort to consider agenda length when requesting a BSC discussion on committee operational items to allow sufficient time for discussion.

Approved,
EDGAR FARRERA, VICE CHAIR
PRESIDING OFFICER
7/31/23 EFW