

Possible Goals for EPC 2024-2025

These are some potential goals for the Economic Prosperity Commission for May 2024 to April 2025 timeframe.

Economic Report

- An overview of Austin's economy, and/or
- Highlights of important topics in Austin's economy

For either/both, I believe a good perspective to take would be from the household. Household income comes from wages, benefits, retirement income, and other investment income. Household expenditures go to housing, transportation, food, retirement savings, healthcare, entertainment, transfers (child support, alimony, donations), clothing, education, etc.. The household perspective provides both an economic context and a easy personal connection.

Happiness Index

- A formula that summarizes all of Austin's desires into a single number, which city government is trying to maximize.

The benefit of a single number is that it is easy to track over time and measure progress. The difficulty is putting every tradeoff of happiness into a single number.

Economic Development Department

- Focus on the 3 departments of EDD that are not associated with a commission:
 - Global Business Expansion
 - Redevelopment
 - Small Business

EDD has 6 departments, but 3 already have commissions tightly associated with them. The Cultural Arts Department has the Arts Commission. The Music & Entertainment Department has the Music Commission. The Heritage Tourism Department has the Tourism Commission. The other 3 do not have commission associated with them. (Although the Small Business Department often interfaces with the MBEWBE/Small Business Enterprise Procurement Program Advisory Committee.)