



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

**COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS  
RECOMMENDATION NUMBER (20240916-006)  
Budget Reporting**

WHEREAS, the City of Austin's Boards and Commissions are tasked with making annual budget recommendations to City Council; and

WHEREAS, there is currently not a central, easily accessible, publicly available repository for board and commission budget recommendations; and

WHEREAS, there is currently not a central, easily accessible, publicly available way to track the status of board and commission recommendations within a fiscal year, or year over year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin's Boards and Commissions serve as a liaison between city government and community members, using community guidance to inform council budget recommendations, and council budget decisions to educate community members on council priorities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin's Boards and Commissions experience term limits, transitions in leadership as well as membership, and changing priorities, all of which lead to a loss in institutional knowledge; and

WHEREAS, Austin is the state capital, home of the state's legislature, many of the legislature's staff, and local as well as state policy advocates; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable that our city has the talent, skills, and resources necessary to develop a board and commission recommendation budget tracker.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission on Immigrant affairs recommends funding and staffing to create a digital, user friendly, publicly available board and commission budget recommendation tracker.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this digital tracker can be as simple as a regularly updated excel spreadsheet on the board and commission's website, or as robust as the Texas Legislature Online Bill Lookup website dependent on available funding and staff capacity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this digital tracker will be a resource for budget recommendations for each fiscal year, starting with the FY2024 budget cycle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this digital tracker will provide a brief summary of each recommendation with a link to the full recommendation, status update of where in the budget processes it is (submitted, under review by council, etc.), and a final outcome (accepted, rejected, modified, etc.), including any revised versions of the original recommendation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this digital tracker will be a tool to increase transparency and engagement in the budget process amongst boards and commissions, city council, and the communities across Austin, furthering a shared goal of government that works for all.

Date of Approval: 9/16/2024

Motioned by: Commissioner Victor Martinez

Seconded By: Commissioner Aditi Joshi

For: Chair Ortega

Vice Chair Dorantes

Commissioner Joshi

Commissioner Martinez

Commissioner De La Rosa

Commissioner Padmanabha

Commissioner Kaba

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioners Luis Osta Lugo and Kevin Countie

Attest: Gunjen Mittal

(Staff Liaison: Gunjen Mittal)

