



## **LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

### **RECOMMENDATION 20240708-06 Feasibility Study for an LGBTQIA+ Cultural Center**

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 LGBTQIA+ Quality of Life Study estimated that 5.9% of the Austin metro population identifies as LGBT,

**WHEREAS**, the LGBTQIA+ community in Austin significantly contributes to the cultural, social, and economic vitality of the city,

**WHEREAS**, LGBTQIA+ individuals often face unique challenges and disparities in areas such as healthcare, housing, and employment,

**WHEREAS**, creating dedicated spaces for the LGBTQIA+ community can enhance visibility, foster a sense of belonging, and provide essential services,

**WHEREAS**, similar cultural centers in other cities have successfully provided safe havens, community resources, and cultural enrichment for LGBTQIA+ populations,

**WHEREAS**, community feedback has consistently highlighted the need for a central, accessible location for LGBTQIA+ events, support services, and advocacy,

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of an LGBTQIA+ Cultural Center aligns with the City of Austin's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion,

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Legislature has and continues to target members of the LGBTQIA+ community, increasing the need for a safe space for LGBTQIA+ individuals to assemble and access resources,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission recommends that the Austin City Council establish a task force charged with conducting a feasibility study for building an LGBTQIA+ Cultural Center.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Manager is directed to include all relevant community stakeholders in the Cultural Center task force, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: community organizations, local businesses, healthcare providers, and representatives from the LGBTQIA+ community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the task force should consider and identify opportunities for funding, including but not limited to federal grants and public-private partnerships.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Manager shall report back to the City Council and the LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission with the task force's findings January 2024.



**Date of Approval:**

July 8, 2024

**Record of the Vote:**

**Motion by:**

Commissioner  
Andersen

**Second by:**

Commissioner  
Davis

**For: Commissioners**

Barragan  
Bandit, Benson,  
Garza, Neal,  
Krueger, Davis, and  
Andersen (8-0)

**Against:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:**

Commissioners  
Sims, Taylor, and  
Wollerson

Attest: *Ryan Sperling*

(LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission Staff Liaison)