

**August 2, 2025 Library Commission/Title VI Testimony Zenobia C. Joseph**  
*FY 2025-26 COA Budget: "Blacks are over 6 times more likely to be homeless" (ECHO, 2023)*

**HOMELESS STRATEGY OFFICE**  
STAFF RESPONSE TO RESOLUTION NO. 20250130-083



**Save Recycled Reads (\$107K): Against Decentralization ☹️**  
**Against: \$11.5M (Cut 12 New FTEs = Encampment Management)**



**Item 5: FY 2026 Proposed Budget (p. 35)**



**BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT: \$100.45M**  
PLUS CAPITAL AND SERVICE COSTS, AND \$23M ANNUAL PSH INCREASE

April 28, 2025

**S.M.A.R.T. vs. Permanent Segregated Housing**



HOMELESS STRATEGY OFFICE

**Joint Audit and Public Health Committee Meeting**

**July 31, 2025**

**Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

**Zenobia C. Joseph**

*FY 2025-26 COA Budget: "Blacks are over 6 times more likely to be homeless" (ECHO, 2023)*

**Against: \$11.5M Mayor Watson's Marshalling Yard/8th St. shelter; 12 FTEs (p. 34)**

**APL/PARD: Industrial microwaves**

**YMCA: \$8.9M 2006 Bond**

**PARD ILA vs. \$10 Showers; Chargers**

**APL: Phone Booths; Recycled Reads**

**\$4.7M Samsung-Apple Transit**

**Savings: Use Pickup = job access**



**392-Braker**

**Urbana I, II**

**558 Units**

**Ghetto 😞**

*Graham ES*

**Bus  
45 min  
6-8 UT**

*Homeless Strategies and Operations*

- \$8 million in one-time funding, provided through the Housing Trust Fund, for emergency shelter operations at the Marshalling Yard.
- \$3.5 million for a contract to continue operations at the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Shelter.
- \$925,000 for twelve new positions to expand outreach and improve encampment management.

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**Goodwill-Norwood Encampment: 13 baskets**



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# Language Access & Community Need

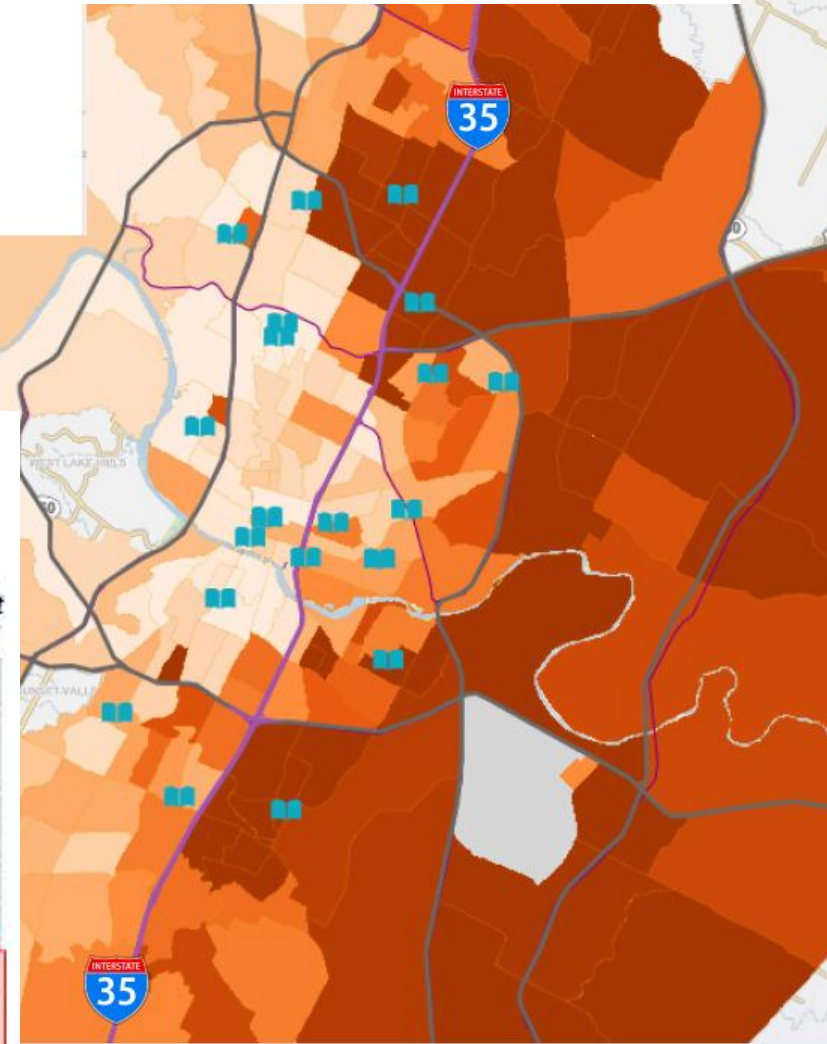
## What is "Linguistic Isolation"?

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, a household is considered linguistically isolated if:

"No person age 14 or older speaks English at least 'very well.'"

**We found that (you know) a 1-seat ride is what's most beneficial for folks as well as a high-frequency service."**

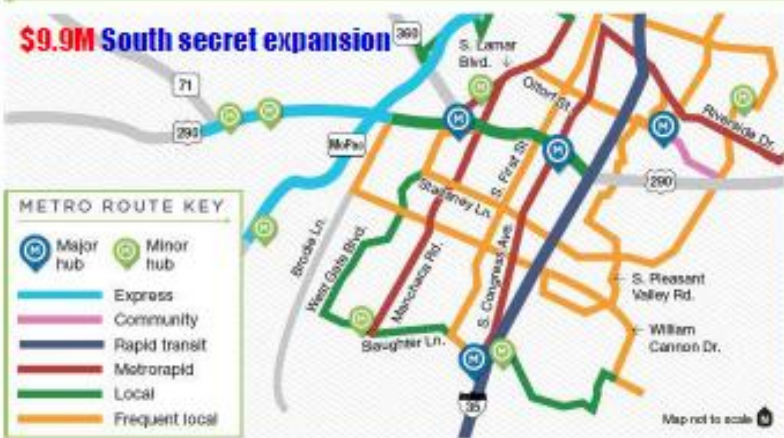
June 3, 2018 He then unilaterally eliminated northeast-west 1-seat rides to HEBs (Routes 240, 392) and Walmarts (Frequent 325). Cap Remap propaganda and FY 22 Budget said, "More frequent, More reliable, Better connected." Gray map shows disconnection.



## ENHANCING PUBLIC TRANSIT

Capital Metro unveiled proposed changes to its bus and rail services Aug. 22. All proposed service changes are subject to approval by the agency's board of directors and could change depending on public input and feedback from board members.

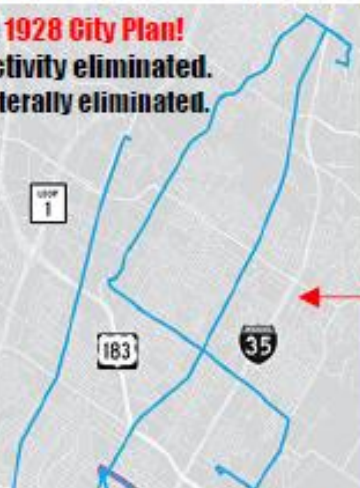
### \$9.9M South secret expansion



**September 21, 2016:** Capital Metro falsely advertised frequency for all. "City transit agency aims to boost frequency" By Amy Denny: *Community Impact* <https://communityimpact.com/austin/news/2016/09/21/city-transit-agency-aims-boost-frequency-2/>

**June 3, 2018 Cap Remap recodified the 1928 City Plan!**  
**Minority/Black Northeast-west connectivity eliminated.**  
**July 27, 2020 Samsung to Apple BRT unilaterally eliminated.**

**\$0: 30-minute transfer to white side!**



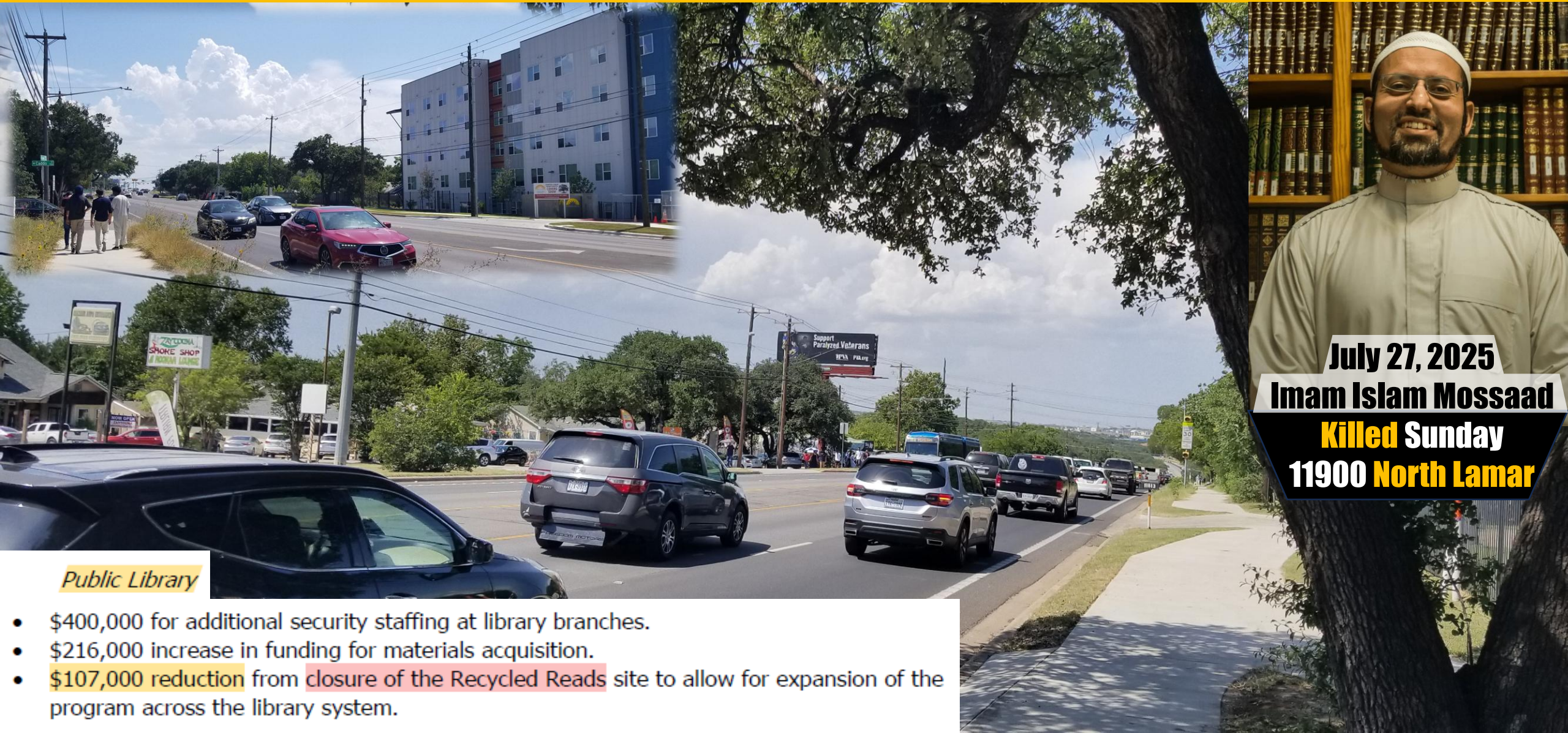
Map: 2020 ACS Linguistic Isolation by Census Tract (Item 2 Backup, p. 5 of 18)

November 3, 2017 "Cap Metro hangs hopes on Connections 2025": *The Austin Chronicle* shows sole partial north-south frequent Route 325. "Supporters of the plan, including Cap Metro itself, acknowledge that every policy has certain casualties," Project Manager Lawrence Deeter noted. #325 was 15 minutes east-west 7 days. ~Jack Craver: <https://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2017-11-03/cap-metro-hangs-hopes-on-connections-2025/>

<sup>7</sup> Sunset Commission (2011). Final report: Capital Metro: <https://www.sunset.texas.gov/public/uploads/files/reports/Capital%20Metro%20Final%20Report%202011%2082%20leg.pdf>

# August 2, 2025 Library Commission/Title VI Testimony Zenobia C. Joseph

*FY25-26 COA Budget: Prioritize N. Lamar equitable safety (PHBs, red sidewalks, new signals)*



**July 27, 2025**  
**Imam Islam Mossaad**  
**Killed Sunday**  
**11900 North Lamar**

### Public Library

- \$400,000 for additional security staffing at library branches.
- \$216,000 increase in funding for materials acquisition.
- \$107,000 reduction from closure of the Recycled Reads site to allow for expansion of the program across the library system.



# Austin Public Library 2026 Bond Proposal

Updated Presentation, March 2025



## First Steps Toward the Future



**New Branch Library**  
All-new community hub addressing service desert



**Facilities Expansions**  
Enhancing existing network



**Land Acquisitions**  
For future library construction



**Safe and Secure Libraries**  
Protecting and supporting in times of crisis

The 2026 Bond Election presents a critical opportunity to begin implementing Austin Public Library's city council-approved facilities recommendations, ensuring APL meets the growing needs of Austin's diverse communities through expansion, innovation, and sustainability.

# August 2, 2025 Zenobia C. Joseph Library Commission Special-Called Meeting



## African American Resource Advisory COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20250304-004

Date: March 4, 2025

Subject: Austin Public Library Black Literature Expansion

Motioned By:

Seconded By:

Reco  
\$1.5M

Desc

It is c  
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and p

**March 4, 2025 FY 25-26 Budget  
Title VI: \$1.5M Black Literature  
African-American Resource Advisory  
Joint Inclusion Commission Recommendation  
Carver Museum: \$650K (\$7M PARD Bond: 2018)**

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also  
literary  
s, books  
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