

Submitting a Public Comment on the Bird-Friendly Design Initiative

From Sarah Ruiz [REDACTED]
Date Mon 10/27/2025 12:43 PM
To Salinas, Jon BC <BC.Jon.Salinas@austintexas.gov>
Cc Corona, Nicole <Nicole.Corona@austintexas.gov>

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

External Email - Exercise Caution

Dear Chair Salinas and members of the Design Commission,

I'm writing to express my strong support for Austin's Bird-Friendly Design initiative. These standards are a practical, science-based way to prevent bird deaths, save energy, and protect our night skies.

I support this initiative for multiple reasons. First of all, it makes financial sense. Bird-friendly design isn't expensive; it's about smarter lighting, patterned glass, and window shading that, together, save energy while minimizing bird deaths. Second, the initiative makes sense from a health perspective. Dark sky-friendly lighting (a key part of bird-friendly design) improves humans' sleep, reduces light pollution, and gives us the opportunity to view the stars and feel more connected with nature. Third, the initiative benefits the natural world. Millions of birds migrate through Texas every spring and fall, and any steps that we — an official Bird City — can take to prevent these birds' needless deaths helps our environment.

I sincerely hope you will recommend adoption of the measures in the Bird-Friendly Design initiative. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Sarah Ruiz

PS: Please note this comment was sent to all 11 members of the Design Commission as well as Nicole Corona.

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious or phishing email, please report it using the "Report Message" button

in Outlook.

For any additional questions or concerns, contact CSIRT at "cybersecurity@austintexas.gov".