



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Stephanie Hayden-Howard, LMSW, Assistant City Manager *SHH*

From: David Gray, Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations Director *DG*

Date: March 18, 2026

Subject: **South Austin Housing Navigation Center Advisory Board Update 2**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update regarding [Resolution No. 20251009-017](#) to purchase the property at 2401 South Interstate 35 for the South Austin Housing Navigation Center (the Navigation Center).

Advisory Board Charter

During the initial five-week stakeholder engagement phase for the Navigation Center, Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations committed to creating a Center Advisory Board to support the department in finalizing the scope and design of the Navigation Center. The Center Advisory Board will provide ongoing advisory support to the Navigation Center's operator ensuring the Navigation Center achieves its mission of preventing homelessness and helping people move quickly into stable housing.

Following a public comment period that lasted 14 days, Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations published the final South Austin Housing Navigation Center Advisory Board Charter on the Navigation Center's [SpeakUp Austin! webpage](#). The adopted charter incorporates feedback received through stakeholder meetings and public comments, and it designates 13 seats to represent several constituencies: five for local area representatives, three for individuals who have experienced homelessness, four for homeless services and housing partners, and one for a local civic representative.

Advisory Board Application Process

After the Board Charter was published, Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations conducted an open Center Advisory Board application process from noon on December 10, 2025, to noon on January 21, 2026. The electronic application was available in English and Spanish, and the department promoted the application through a variety of communication channels including community meetings, the SpeakUp Austin! webpage, and mass email. Sixty-nine applications were received by the submission deadline.

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Evaluators from Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations, Austin Community Court, Austin Housing, and the Homeless Outreach Street Team were assembled to conduct a blind evaluation of applicant responses to three narrative questions. The highest scoring applicants then progressed to a holistic evaluation by the department. Consistent with the Center Advisory Board Charter, Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations reviewed and selected the inaugural 13-member board based on the geographic proximity of local area candidates, representation of diverse perspectives, and stakeholder requests for representation by people with affiliation to schools, public safety, and clinical care.

All 13 finalists have accepted the opportunity to serve on the inaugural Center Advisory Board. A complete Center Advisory Board roster is included below.

Next Steps

Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations has begun onboarding the 13 members, and the Center Advisory Board’s first order of business will be to advise on the development of a competitive social service solicitation for the future Navigation Center operations. Separately, Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations and Austin Facilities Management installed temporary perimeter fencing at the Navigation Center, and preparations for capital improvements, including building system upgrades, are underway.

South Austin Housing Navigation Center Advisory Board Roster

Local Area Representatives (5 Seats)
Zach Stone Residence Proximity: 0.1 miles, District 3
Ian Dille Residence Proximity: 0.1 miles, District 3
Cecil St. Pierre Residence Proximity: 0.4 miles, District 9
Eduardo “Eddie” Gamez Residence Proximity: 0.5 miles, District 3
Carly Gratton Residence Proximity: 1.2 miles, District 9
Homeless Services Partners (4 Seats)
Kenneth Winston Integral Care
Carl Hunter Invictus Consulting Group
Sarah Weier Tikvah Counseling
Michael Reid Apartment Management Professionals

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People with Experience of Homelessness (3 Seats)

Gregory Alderson
Travis County Mental Health Public Defender

Pamela Bryant
Walking By Faith Prison Ministry

Adrenne Mendoza Luna
Military Veterans Empowerment Network

Civic and Faith-Based (1 Seat)

Stacy Suits
Travis County Constable, Precinct 3

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Gray, Director of Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations at david.gray@austintexas.gov or 512-974-7836.

cc: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Erika Brady, City Clerk
Jason Hadavi, City Auditor
Mary Jane Grubb, Municipal Court Clerk
Judge Sherry Statman, Municipal Court
CMO Executive Team
Department Directors