Early Childhood Council Quality of Life Study Update

Austin Equity and Inclusion – Equity Division | May 13, 2026

Agenda for Today's Briefing

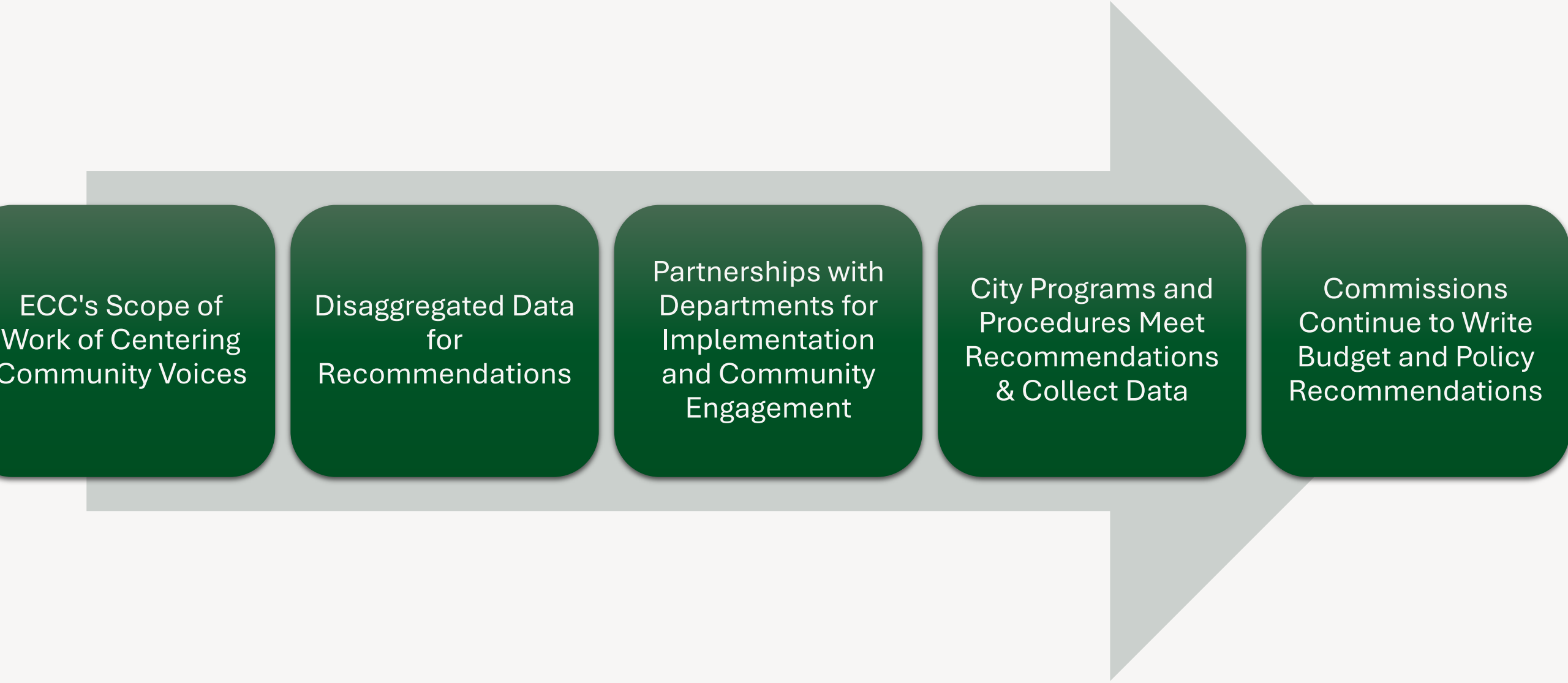
- Backgroup of Quality of Life Studies
- Common Themes Across Three Studies
- Overview of Steps Taken & Community Engagement Plan
- Timeline for City Quality of Life Studies Website

Purpose of Quality of Life Study

To improve outcomes for all communities by addressing the intersections between race, ethnicity, age, gender and other demographics that impact experiences in Austin.

- **Definition:** Quality of life is living in a community that supports and empowers parents and other caregivers to raise healthy children in the best possible ways to thrive in childhood and adulthood and congruent with their own goals for their children.
- **Commitment:** The ECC is committed to ensuring historically marginalized populations (leading with race) are included and centered in the study in ways that allow them to shape the recommendations from the studies.

Quality of Life Study: Process



Common Themes Across Three Studies

Strong	• Trusted Community Partners
Gap	• Knowledge and Awareness
Inconsistent	• Language Access

Overview of Steps Taken

- **October 20, 2025** Vendor Presentation to City Departments

✓ Socialize the three studies for future planning with ten Departments

- **January 2026 - Now** Internal Collaboration (Equity Division and Equity Network)

✓ Socialize the three studies for future planning

✓ Share general recommendaitons from all three studies

✓ Collect an "inventory" of programs/policies that address the recommendations

✓ Schedule follow up meetings to align on data collection processes

- **April 1st 2026** Memorandum to the Mayor and Council

✓ Share full studies

✓ Describe QoL process

✓ Share alignment with the City's emerging Economic Mobility Framework

Sample Inventories that Implement Recommendations

Recommendation	Department and Program	Opportunities
Increase visisibility and awareness of family support programs; collaborate with community organizations, pediatricians, hospitals, schools, and childcare centers to disseminate materials. Partner with neighborhood associations and property management companies to amplify awareness among residents.	• APH Early Childhood & Aging Teams • Austin Energy's Weatherization Programs • Austin Housing Outreach • Austin Language Access Liasons/Points-of-contacts	• Watershed Protection • Capital Metro
Invest in trusted community hub; partner and fund trusted neighborhood organizations to serve as "community connectors" that bridge families to programs, housing supports, health care, and childcare resources.	• Austin Public Health's Neighborhood Centers • Austin Arts Culture Music & Entertainment's Recreation and Cultural Centers	• Austin Public Library • Austin Homeless Strategy Office

Community Engagement Plan

- Age Friendly Austin Update has been a collaborative opportunity to learn what works when we re-engage quality of life study participants with City Departments.
- We've learned that we need to share information about the three studies when we meet with participants of any study.
- Through these conversations, we are also addressing the three common themes.
- We are developing:
  - A schedule of outreach for the participants for the three studies.
  - One pagers for each study.
- We are available to meet and work with any Commission Quality of Life Study Implementation Workgroups.

Timeline

June & July
Discuss Data
August
Publish Website
with Inventories
September
JIC FY28
Community Input
November
Update Website
with Budget Info
March 2027
Update Website's
Data

Questions?