



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016

(This report is covering the transition date to 10-1 and in accordance with Ordinance No. 20141211-204.

This report is due July 31, 2016. Please note that this is to be completed by the Chair of the board or commission. While a board action is not required to complete this form, I highly recommend this be a collaborative effort of the board.)

Commission on Immigrant Affairs

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:

(B) The commission shall:

(1) advise the city council on issues of common concern to immigrants, particularly in the areas of health and human services, education, and the demographic makeup of the Austin immigrant community; (2) monitor requirements of federal, state, and local immigration, welfare and other laws that affect immigrants, and recommend to the city council actions to maximize the benefits to local immigrants under existing laws and to minimize the adverse impacts to local immigrants under the laws;

(3) promote recognition of the contributions of the foreign-born to the economic and cultural vitality of Austin; and

(4) promote the availability of, and promote accessibility to, local educational, economic, legal, and social resources for immigrants.

1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code. The conclusion of the 2015 Austin Welcoming City Initiative and completion of the report speak to the manner in which the commission has taken action to support its mission. It can be found at: https://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/EGRSO/WelcomingCityInitiativeFinalReport9_4_2015_1.pdf

- A. To advise the city council on issues of common concern to immigrants, particularly in the areas of health and human services, education, and the demographic makeup of the Austin immigrant community: The Commission made several recommendations to City Council which it believed would benefit the immigrant community and further gather and engage diverse stakeholders in order to have the meaningful dialogue that begets successful growth, community prosperity and transformation. They are as follows:

- Welcoming City Report Release and Welcoming Week Press Conference and Reception at City Hall sponsored by Global Austin and City of Austin Economic and Development Department. <http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=5b661342e7013c7d2de144837&id=5c6ab2ca9b>

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- Recommendation - 20160121-004Ba: Regarding ' Welcoming Refugees'
 - Recommendation - 20160121-004C: Regarding 'Department of Homeland Security Immigration Raids'
 - Recommendation number 201602084D – Supporting the Muslim Community of Austin
 - Appointment of a representative and back-up to the Joint Inclusion Committee
- B. To promote the availability of, and promote accessibility to, local educational, economic, legal, and social resources for immigrants. They are as follows:
- Recommendation - 20160121-004Ba: Regarding ' Welcoming Refugees'
 - Recommendation - 20160121-004C: Regarding 'Department of Homeland Security Immigration Raids'
 - Recommendation number 201602084D – Supporting the Muslim Community of Austin
 - Appointment of a representative and back-up to the Joint Inclusion Committee
- C. To monitor requirements of federal, state, and local immigration, welfare and other laws that affect immigrants, and recommend to the city council actions to maximize the benefits to local immigrants under existing laws and to minimize the adverse impacts to local immigrants under the laws; and to promote the availability of, and promote accessibility to, local educational, economic, legal, and social resources for immigrants:
- Recommendation - 20160121-004C: Regarding 'Department of Homeland Security Immigration Raids'
 - The Commission has liaised with and assisted in getting local city government engaged in Cities United for Immigration Action and Travis County to support the implementation of extended DACA and DACA. Likewise, it sent a representative to the “Leading Immigrant Integration Workshop” at Boston University.
 - USCIS Presentation: San Antonio District Director Mario Ortiz and USCIS Community Liaison, Jacque Crouse
 - Guest Speaker Commissioner Nisha Agarwal, New York City’s Mayors Office on Immigrant Affairs Re: Cities United for Immigration Action
- D. To promote recognition of the contributions of the foreign-born to the economic and cultural vitality of Austin: The members of the Commission on Immigrant Affairs believe that it is our responsibility to be aware and informed of the issues that affect Austin's immigrant population.
- Invited Consuls General of Ireland and Mexico to present at Commission Meeting. The meeting the former was scheduled to attend, and for which he was present was cancelled due to lack of quorum
 - 2016 Austin Immigrant Heritage Month Reception as well as The Mailing Out of the Newsletter: The World at Your Doorstep:
 - <http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=5b661342e7013c7d2de144837&id=210fe17b45>
 - <http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=5b661342e7013c7d2de144837&id=d45365fbb0>
2. Determine if the board’s actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.
Yes. As noted above they have.
3. List the board’s goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

Among the primary goals of the Commission is to make quorum. Due to delays in making appointments and Commissioner non-attendance the work of the Commission has been greatly hindered due to cancellations. See below:

- January 11, 2016 - Cancelled
- January 21, 2016 - Special Called

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- February 8, 2016 - Cancelled
- March 14, 2016 - Cancelled
- April 11, 2016
- May 9, 2016
- June 13, 2016 - Cancelled
- June 30, 2016 - Special Called
- July 11, 2016 - Cancelled
- July 18, 2016 - Cancelled - Special Called

Additionally, upon being able to make quorum the Commission intends to continue working through its respective workgroups, to ensure that the items and recommendations highlighted in the Welcoming City Initiative Report are prioritized through policy changes and budget allocations. This includes but is not limited to furthering the work done around a Municipal ID Card