



TO: Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager

FROM: Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission

DATE: May 16, 2017

SUBJECT: FY 2018 Base Budget Request

Asian Americans are currently the fastest growing subpopulation in Austin/Travis County, surging from three percent of Austin's population in 2000 to seven percent in 2014. Although the Austin City Council previously approved studies and surveys, the FY 2017 budget marked the first time that Council approved budget items for services specifically targeting the needs of the Asian American community. However, these items were awarded as one-time funds with no assurance of inclusion in the FY 2018 base budget. Without funding for these programs, any momentum gained in addressing the needs of the Asian American community will be lost.

The Asian American Quality of Life Commission requests that you include funding for these programs in the FY 2018 base budget that will be presented to Council on June 2nd. At our April meeting, the Commission voted to request that Council and the City Manager continue to fund the FY 2017 Council budget actions as part of the base budget for FY 2018 and future years. Each budget item was voted upon separately by the Commission to comply with Robert's Rules of Order and accommodate Commissioners who abstained from specific items. The list of Commission recommendations is attached below. Each item includes a description of how it addresses the Council Strategic Outcomes and Indicators adopted by Council on April 5, 2017.

We would like to point out that these recommendations are simply a reflection of actions Council took with regard to the FY 2017 budget and extends those actions into the base budget for FY 2018. In June and July, the Commission intends to take a comprehensive look at the program needs of the Asian American Resource Center (AARC) and the Asian American community at large and plans to make additional recommendations for Council action at that time. The recommendations may include expansion of one or more of these program recommendations for the base budget as well other initiatives to better serve Austin's growing Asian American population.

We thank you for your consideration and ongoing support of the Asian American community.

Attachment: FY 2018 base budget recommendations



Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission

Recommendation to extend FY 2017 one-time funding to ongoing funding in FY 2018 base budget

| Recommendation | Area | FTE | Amount |
|---|------|-----|-----------|
| AFSSA (Health Equity) Contract – For services to Asian American clients. Funded at \$75,000 in FY 2017. Requested amount includes 2.3% increase provided to other social services contracts this year. Approved 8-0-1 Strategic Outcomes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having economic opportunities and resources that enable us to lead sustainable lives in our community <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Social Services programming that targets Asian American residents b. No other Health Equity contracts in Austin Public Health targets culturally appropriate services to Asian American residents 2. Maintaining a healthy life, both physically and mentally <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide culturally appropriate health options for Asian Americans, including mental/behavioral health (e.g. Tai Chi and Yoga classes) | APH | - | \$76,725 |
| AARC Nonprofit Community Health Navigator – Links Korean, Vietnamese, and Burmese residents to health-related services and benefits. Funded at \$137,775 in FY 2017. FY 2018 amount includes the same 2.3% increase provided to other social services contracts this year. Approved 8-0-1 Strategic Outcomes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having economic opportunities and resources that enable us to lead sustainable lives in our community <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Increase access to benefits and resources for Asian American clients 2. Maintaining a healthy life both physically and mentally <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Arrange appointments with medical and social services providers and arrange for language interpreters b. Assist with enrollment in health insurance, Medicaid, Medicare and Social Services benefits c. Advocate for culturally and linguistically appropriate health education and disease prevention information 3. Being enriched by Austin’s unique civic, cultural, ethnic, and learning opportunities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Educate the City and other service providers about the cultures and needs of the Asian American communities served b. Improve clients’ understanding of American culture and English language communication | HHSD | - | \$140,944 |



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|--|-----------|------|----------|
| <p>Asian Chamber – FY 2017 amount was requested to achieve parity with the other minority chambers. FY 2018 request would maintain this level. Approved 8-0-1</p> <p>Strategic Outcomes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being enriched by Austin’s unique civic, cultural, ethnic, and learning opportunities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assist Asian American businesses thrive in Austin/Travis County through education and networking opportunities b. Increase business opportunities and networking for businesses based in Asia and for U.S. companies interested in doing business in Asian countries 2. Believing that City government works for all of us, that it is fair and equitable, and serves as a good, continuously improving, and innovating steward of its resources <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. City resource allocation to minority Chambers of Commerce should be equitable for like services b. Outreach to Asian countries are extremely complex and requires extensive follow up | Eco Dev | - | \$50,000 |
| <p>Public Events Leader (1 FTE) – Currently funding a contract employee since no FTE was approved. FY 2017 funding amount is increased from \$58,000 to fund the position as a Facility Services Lead next year. Approved 9-0</p> <p>Strategic Outcomes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being enriched by Austin’s unique civic, cultural, ethnic, and learning opportunities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improve the quality, accessibility, and diversity of civic and cultural events and programs at AARC b. Provide extended hours and additional programming at AARC (e.g. ESL evening classes) 2. Government is fair and equitable, serves as continuously improving and innovating steward of City resources, and effectively collaborates with the public <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Creating additional innovative programming at AARC and in the community (such as Artists in Residence Program thru local Asian American Theater Company) b. Propose expansion of existing programs (i.e. Senior Meal Program) | PARD/AARC | 1.0 | \$66,651 |
| <p>AARC Transportation (FTE) – About \$38,000 is being used this year for the van purchase with the remainder for the temp driver. FY 2018 request would fund a .75 FTE shuttle driver. Approved 8-0-1</p> <p>Strategic Outcomes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Getting us where we want to go, when we want to get there, safely and cost effectively <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improve efficiency of transportation to/from AARC b. Increase the availability of transportation for Senior Meal program and other activities 2. Being enriched by Austin’s unique civic, cultural, ethnic and learning opportunities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide transportation options for program expansion and innovative opportunities. | PARD/AARC | 0.75 | \$41,736 |