

August 29, 2017

Council Member Ann Kitchen
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Re: Support for Council Agenda Item #59

Council Member Kitchen,

The Downtown Austin Alliance encourages the City Council to support Council Agenda Item #59, which directs the City Manager to develop recommendations for creating alternatives to panhandling activities to better serve people who are experiencing homelessness.

The Downtown Alliance is interested in collaborating with agencies and non-profit providers in identifying and establishing new and creative means to offer alternatives to panhandling. We believe there are technology alternatives and potential entrepreneurship concepts that may provide safer and more effective resources for financial self-sufficiency, and we are prepared to participate in this effort.

We believe it is important to use new innovative strategies to help people experiencing homelessness and hope you will consider supporting this item.

Sincerely,



Dewitt Peart
President and CEO