



Public Safety Commission Recommendation no. 20180604-006

Regarding Austin City Ordinances Targeting Homeless Individuals

Date: June 4, 2018

Subject: Should Austin repeal ordinances primarily targeting people experiencing homelessness?

Motioned By: Daniela Nuñez and **Seconded By:** Sam Holt

The Public Safety Commission recommends the following actions to Austin City Council regarding the three ordinances scrutinized in the City Auditor’s November 2017 Audit Report entitled “Homelessness Assistance Audit Series: City Policies Related to Homelessness.”

1. The City Manager is directed to seek input from stakeholders including people who are or were homeless, advocates for the homeless, and other interested community members — to evaluate the “solicitation,” “camping” and “sit/lie” ordinances that criminalize homeless individuals, and create barriers for people who are trying to obtain housing or employment;
2. Additionally, the City Manager should consider how these ordinances will impact respect and trust between Austin Police Department and homeless individuals;
3. Further, city leaders should work to fund and expand community-based solutions that effectively or efficiently connect people facing homelessness to social services.

Vote

For: 6 (Commissioners Rebecca Gonzales, Michelle McCurdy, Carol Lee, Daniela Nunez, Sam Holt and Rebecca Webber)

Against: 3 (Commissioners Brain Haley, Ed Scruggs and Noel Landuyt)

Abstain: 0

Absent: Rossmo, Tyree

Attest:

Janet Jackson, Board Liaison
Austin Police Department