



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2017 to 6/30/2018

Commission on Seniors

The Commission on Seniors mission statement (per the City Code):

The Commission on Seniors shall serve as an advisory board to the council concerning the quality of life for senior citizens in the Austin area and to help ensure older adults are productive, independent, and healthy.

The commission shall:

- (1) advise the council on issues related to the senior population in the Austin area;
- (2) evaluate and recommend programs, policies, and practices that create a positive impact and reduce the burden on seniors;
- (3) determine the needs of seniors in the Austin community, and advise council regarding these needs; and
- (4) promote the contributions of seniors to the cultural, economic, and historical value of Austin.

The council encourages the commission to hold periodic joint meetings with the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities.

Source: Ord. 20130926-081; [Ord. No. 20141211-204, Pts. 17, 18, 7-1-15.](#)

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.

This annual report for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018, highlights the accomplishments of the Commission on Seniors based largely on the responsibilities outlined in the mission

statement of the Commission, the implementation work and strategies of the Age Friendly Action Plan, along with other important issues facing seniors.

Advise the Council on issues related to the senior population:

The following resolutions were adopted and sent to the City Council:

The Commission on Seniors supported the rehabilitation and redevelopment of the Rebekah Baines Johnson Center and recommended the City study the feasibility of providing a range of multi-generational social services, health care and other services and programs at the adjacent city-owned building. **Recommendation No. 20171011-4D**

The Commission on Seniors made recommendations to the Capital Metro Board to ensure Connections 2025 prioritized retaining routes and stops that serve seniors and those workers who serve seniors; retain routes and stops that provide access to health care providers and social services; extend the grandfathering period for displaced Metro Access clients; and extend outreach to help seniors and others overcome barriers to using the fixed route system. **Recommendation No. 20171011-4C**

The Commission on Seniors supported the renaming of Robert E. Lee Road.
Recommendation No. 20171011-4F

The Commission recommended to the Bond Advisory Task Force to target outreach to seniors and organizations serving seniors; to consider the needs of seniors when evaluating items to include in the bond package; and to include at least \$18 million for home repair in the bond package. **Recommendation No: 20171011-4E**

The Commission recommended Austin Energy's revision to its Security Deposit rules mirror state regulations and include waivers of deposits for seniors aged 65 and older.
Recommendation 20180214-4Ci

Recommendation: 20180411-481 regarding Gentrification Study found that the University of Texas at Austin study on gentrification in Austin excluded seniors from their vulnerability analysis. The Commission is concerned that leaving seniors out of the vulnerability analysis may result in policy recommendations that do not adequately address the needs of seniors; the Commission recommends to the City Council that researchers provide maps that identify the percentage of seniors in the City's census tracts and overlay on the study maps; identify how each proposed policy would address the needs of seniors and long term homeowners and format the policy matrix to clearly identify each targeted population and identify the benefits to each targeted group.

The Commission on Seniors recommended adding at least another \$18 million to the affordable housing bond package to double the amount available for home repair.

Recommendation Number: 20180509-E.E The resolution also recommended that voter education about the affordable housing bonds should include information about the housing needs of seniors, and include information specifically about the Home Repair program and the seniors and disabled persons served by this program.

The Commission adopted recommendations for the City FY 19 Budget that would serve to implement the Age Friendly Action Plan. **Recommendation 20180509-DA** The Commission recommended a FTE as a Senior Coordinator position to oversee, promote and encourage implementation of the Age-friendly Austin Action Plan (AFAP). 2. Develop an Asset Map of senior services and programs provided by the City of Austin, Travis and Williamson Counties. 3. Improve and expand access to physical, mental and **dental care** for low income seniors, 4. Coordination of transportation for seniors and additional funding for drivers.

Recommendation 20180613-5E, adopted June 13, 2018, supports adding to the Bond Election Advisory Task Force recommendation \$3.8 million for capital costs related to a multi-generational health center at the city-owned building adjacent to the Rebekah Baines Johnson Senior Living Center. Further, the Commission supports the Bond Election Advisory Task Force recommendation to include \$16 million for the Dove Springs Health Center and the Commission recommends the Dove Springs facility include multi-generational programs and services.

On June 13, 2018 the Commission also adopted **Recommendation 20180613-4C** related to including employment for seniors in proposed changes to economic development incentives. The Commission on Seniors supports the inclusion of incentives for employment of seniors and programs supporting training and employment of seniors in any revisions to Chapter 380 economic development incentives. The Commission does not take a position on any other provisions in the proposal.

Evaluate and recommend programs, policies, and practices that create a positive impact and reduce the burden on seniors:

In addition to the actions above the Commission has adopted the model of working groups to study, analyze and evaluate major strategies identified in the larger strategic Age Friendly Plan. The groups are also analyzing cross-cutting strategies both within the plan and across various platforms to determine how they align. Another focus is to involve other interested community representatives and City of Austin and County personnel to help drive the implementation of the Action Plan.

The Age Friendly Action Plan has 8 Domains but there has been discussion regarding membership, meeting times, areas of alignment with other work groups and structure

changes. The Commission established four Working Groups to focus on prioritization, organization and delegation of goals/strategies to maximize efficiency. The activity of the Working Groups is summarized below:

Age-friendly Austin Implementation Work Group.

Established bi-monthly meeting with IACM Hensley, City Department staff, Quality of Life Commission representatives and Commission on Seniors work group chairs.

Austin Public Health and PARD reps created and are expanding a directory of current city activities for seniors.

Prioritized work group goals to assist with Commission on Seniors 2019 budget requests.

Worked with Imagine Austin team to review AFA metric proposal to produce document of metrics that are aligned and those that need editing.

Housing, Transportation, and Outdoor Spaces Workgroup

The Workgroup spent the first half of the year successfully working on developing metrics for the three domains in the recently adopted Age Friendly Action Plan for which we are responsible.

Transportation:

We have advocated developing easier access for seniors to obtain ID cards for reduced bus fares with Capital Metro. This effort has raised awareness of the issue with Capital Metro officials and they are working on ways to accomplish this goal.

We advocated for the City's PARD request for additional Senior Center drivers to support the new vans that have been authorized for purchase.

We also provided input to Daniel Brooks of the City's Transportation department regarding the needs of seniors in the planning process of the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan.

Housing:

Janee Briesemeister, who serves on the Seniors Commission and is active in the City's new Anti-Displacement Task Force, provided feedback to the Task Force on how gentrification is affecting seniors.

We advocated for additional money for home repair as the City budget for next year gets formulated.

We, with the support of AustinUP representative Teresa Ferguson, attended a work session for the developing Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint with the message that seniors' population is growing fast and needs to be accounted for in consideration of affordable housing decisions.

We also tackled ideas on property tax reform for seniors with the goal of keeping housing affordable. These discussions are continuing.

Outdoor Spaces:

We have discussed innovative ways to more efficiently utilize the Senior Centers, the Rec Centers, and the Libraries to engage the senior population throughout the geographic area.

We have invited representatives from PARD and the Austin Parks Foundation to discuss ways to expand the park availability and enhance park experience for residents of all ages.

Domains 4-6 Working Group:

Development of a social engagement asset map. This recommendation was made to expand this to include all senior-focused services and programs provided by the City, Travis County, and Williamson County. The development of an asset map was included in the list of budget recommendations to the City of Austin. The workgroup is currently working with PARD to utilize and expand their current asset map of city and county services, programs and resources for seniors (both governmental and nonprofit).

Development of metrics for WHO Age-Friendly Plan approval.

Drafted the following guiding principle that was adopted by the Commission on Seniors: The City of Austin Commission on Seniors is committed to building a strong inclusive community where all seniors are valued and supported regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, national origin, religion, socio-economic status, or disability. We honor the uniqueness of each individual and embrace diverse backgrounds and points of view.

Increasing employment for older persons. The Commission on Seniors supported AustinUp's efforts to improve awareness and coordination of employment services, as well as encourage local businesses to hire older persons. AustinUp, in collaboration with other senior services providers, hosted four job fairs that targeted the 50+ demographic.

Advocating that all City programs, services, and strategic plans address the needs of seniors. Met with Jill Goodman, from the Office of Performance Management, to discuss the City's strategic directions.

Community Support and Health Services Working Group

The Community and Health Services working group members include the representatives of the City of Austin Department of Public Health, Meals on Wheels, AustinUP, and AARP volunteers. We are collaborating with community partners in efforts to focus on the Domain 8 identified top 3 priorities.

- 8.1.2: Create focus groups of city and community representatives with the charge of developing a strategic plan to integrate aging, mental health and wellness programs.
- 8.3.3: Provide emergency response, preparedness strategies on the COA website specific to the needs of the senior population.
- 8.2.1: Expand community outreach and public awareness around caregiver support and in-home support programs, including respite care, palliative care and other home-based services.
 - Our members recently participated in the Travis County Community Health Improvement Plan planning session as advocates for older adults.
 - We provided feedback to the City of Austin Department of Public Health unveiled their new Asset Map created with data from the CDC 500 Cities Project.
 - We are coordinating with the Aging Services Council regarding an updated Community Needs Assessment.
 - We are working with the City of Austin Department of Public Health and Travis County to obtain necessary (but currently deficient) data regarding older adults with respect to their physical and mental health needs.
 - We provided specific recommendations to City of Austin Performance Department (Jill Goodman) to assist with goals/measures for the Austin Strategic Direction 2023.
 - We have provided specific budget recommendations to the City of Austin to include

- Funding a Senior Program Coordinator to coordinate implementation of the Age Friendly Austin Action Plan.
- Improving and expanding access to physical health care, mental health care and dental care for low-income seniors.
- Improving transportation options for older adults to assist with access to medical care.

Determine the needs of seniors in the Austin community, and advise council regarding these needs:

Invited and requested presentations on issues of interest to the Commission:

July 12, 2017 City of Austin Lobbying Ordinance Presentation on how it affects the work of the Commission on Seniors was presented by Lynn Carter, Senior Attorney in the Law Department; Ms. Carter also reviewed the requirements of a registered lobbyist, and those of the Commission and work groups.

July 12, 2017 Wendy Settles Volunteer Coordinator Foster Grandparent Program – The program is a national program and administrated under the Texas Health and Human Services Commission for low income eligible, adults age 55 or older who volunteer to mentor children/students up to 18 years of age. Impact: 65 volunteers who donate 60,200 hours and over help 207 children (daycare, Head Start K-12). Volunteers work 1:1 and supplement the teacher’s time. Receive a federal grant with a match from the State of Texas.

August 9, 2017 Sam Storey, new graduate of the LBJ School of Public Affairs, RBJ Health Center. LBJ School of Public Affairs Policy Research Project developed a plan for a multi-generational center and complementary day services at the city-owned facility adjacent to the RBJ Senior Living Center; Complex project with community leaders and involvement including non-profit partners. Similar in scope to the PACE or Programs for all-inclusive Care for the Elderly program to provide wrap around services and provides care for dual eligible residents.

August 9, 2017, Richard Bondi, LGBT Coalition on Aging presentation and discussion regarding the Adoption of an Inclusion Statement for the Commission on Seniors. The statement was adopted unanimously.

August 9, 2017, Amy Temperley, Aging Services Council Presentation and discussion regarding the Aging Services Council. Discussion included how

Commission on Seniors could be more engaged with the Council and invitation to Aging Services Council members to participate in Commission Working Groups.

September 13, 2017 Amy Price, 2-1-1 Director of Community Information, United Way for Greater Austin. Provided data on community trends can be obtained on the 2-1-1 website and that data on older adults 65 or older and explained information in the 2-1-1 database is updated based on the feedback from the participating agencies and organizations.

September 13, 2017 Amy Wong Mok, Advocate for the Asian American Cultural Center. Ms Wok made a presentation on a proposed affordable senior housing project and multigenerational center. The building will have one and two-bedroom units; head of household must be 55 or over and of Asian descent. If units are available after satisfying the demand of the Asian community, the facility will be opened for other senior communities. Jeremiah Bush with BBVA Compass Bank reported under Citizen's Communication that the bank was supportive of the affordable housing initiative that Ms. Mok presented.

October 11, 2007 Diana Deaton with Aging 2.0 Aging 2.0 is a global intergenerational organization looking for entrepreneurial, innovations and new ideas in aging across the world to address unmet needs. The organization is looking at the best solutions, for example in mobility, caregiving; health care delivery, transportation; set up focus groups and let seniors judge them passed up to the regional level (America, Asia, Europe) and then to a world competition.

October 11, 2017 – Presentation by John Miller – Financial Manager with Austin Public Health to speak on the final budget and City Council update. Mr. Miller shared the outcome of the APH budget. He explained that Direct Services received level funding) while Contracted Services increases slightly. Mr. Miller noted horizon issues including that APH needs facilities located where people are now living due to gentrification.

October 11, 2017 Presentation by Lawrence Deeter on the Capital Metro Connections 2025 Transit Plan approved by Capital Metro Board (February 2017) which includes changes to be implemented in June 2018. Mr. Deeter explained that there could be an impact on Metro Access services for some customers, and CapMetro is currently analyzing the data.

December 13, 2017 presentation by David Colligan, Manager for Global Business and Julia Campbell in Business Development; Economic Development Department, focuses on Economic Policy Ordinance Policy Update. The overview will look at the

economic development policy developed in 2003; where the economy is today and performance over time and the resolutions that Council has provided to staff and look at new recommendations to bring back to Council. The Commission on Seniors made recommendations that the new policy address the goals of the Age Friendly Plan to increase employment opportunities for an older adult workforce. There is a need to increase awareness within our community that there is age discrimination in the workforce and the wealth of skills acquired by older adults are not being tapped into adequately.

December 13, 2017 Presentation –Kevin Rix – Injury Prevention Coordinator for 11 county area and City of Austin for Dell Seton. Mr. Rix described the Stepping On, a 7 week evidence based program to reduce falls by seniors. Participants had a 31% reduction in fall risk.

January 17, 2018 Office of Sustainability Presentation – Edwin Marty, Office of Sustainability Mr. Marty discussed studies and programs related to food insecurity in the Austin area. Significantly impacted are children and seniors as well of those without cars. In terms of addressing the needs of seniors, Mr. Marty discussed potential pilot programs to couple technology with free delivery of groceries. He's optimistic that the explosion of the food delivery and home delivery will positively impact seniors using technology, but it has to be affordable to everyone including low-income seniors.

March 7, 2018 presentation on the Study on the Impact of Gentrification from Jake Wegmann, The University of Texas, School of Architecture. The Commission asked questions on why the study excluded seniors age 65 or over when identifying vulnerable populations and recommended this demographic should be included in the study.

April 11, 2018 presentation by Greg Guernsey, Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Austin, on CodeNEXT talked about the text, map and next steps. Mr. Guernsey responded to a list of questions from the Commission sent in advance.

April 13, 2108. Joint Meeting with Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities. Diane Siler, City of Austin Budget Office. Presentation on budget process.

April 13, 2108. Joint Meeting with Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities. Jonathan Tomko and Mandy DeMayo, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development. Presentation on programs and the Community Needs Assessment.

June 13, 2018. Marya Crigler, Chief Appraiser, Travis Central Appraisal District and Bruce Elfant, Travis County Tax Collector. Ms. Crigler and Mr. Elfant explained senior tax exemptions and payment options. The speakers identified barriers to seniors utilizing the tax exemptions and deferrals, including lack of information, need for estate planning, and assistance with probate.

June 13, 2018 presentations by Allen Bergeron, Veterans Consultant, Austin Human Resources Department on benefits for senior veterans, **John Perkins, Texas Veterans Land Board** on veterans nursing homes and **Tina Lee, Veterans Consultant, Austin Human Resources Department** on Honor Flight.

Citizens Communications:

September 13, 2017: Jeremiah Bush, BBVA Compass Bank, presented his bank's support for the affordable housing initiative presented by Ms. Mok of the Asian American Cultural Center (item 3B). **Jessica Lemann, AARP,** responded to questions regarding the Age Friendly Action Plan metrics submission process (item 4D(v)a)

November 8, 2017: Michelle Newman, Administrator of Silverado Memory Care, in Onion Creek with a focus on dementia care and educational opportunities; interested in helping businesses in the City of Austin to be a resource to become Age Friendly and dementia friendly; started working with the Austin Fire Dept. on an educational video to help first responders appropriately serve people with dementia.

January 10, 2018: Gus Pena provided a comment card to Chair Briesemeister indicating the need for: increased affordable housing for seniors, healthcare and programs for seniors. **Diana Deaton** provided two maps of demographic data from the 2010 Census, illustrating the location of seniors in the greater Austin/Travis County metropolitan statistical area. Ms. Deaton provided these maps to Teresa Ferguson of AustinUP, so that they can be accessed by the Commissioners

February 14, 2018: Carol Biedrzycki, Executive Director of Texas Ratepayers Organization to Save Energy spoke during Citizens Communication about the fees and deposits required to open Austin Energy accounts and how they negatively impact seniors. She is encouraging the Commission to adopt a resolution requesting that Austin Energy add Security Deposit and fee waivers for residents over 65 to their Customer Protection Rules.

March 7, 2018: Mary Teeters, Meals on Wheels of Central Texas provided input on the contract process and the city budget. Old Business, Item E.

April 11, 2018: Cristina Coupal – Senior caregiver and Meals on Wheels volunteer spoke on the topic of transportation for seniors to congregate meal sites. **Teresa Ferguson, Executive Director of Austin Up** spoke on the topic of the Livability for Longevity Symposium. **Chioma Okon** spoke on the topic of the cognitive senior homeless and her efforts to secure housing and activity space for them at a City of Austin library.

April 13, 2018 (Joint meeting with the Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities): Walter Moreau- Director of Foundation Communities provided the information on health navigators and requested support from the joint commissions regarding grant funding of the Foundation for the Fy2018/2019 budget cycle.

May 9, 2018: Mary Teeters, Meals on Wheels of Central Texas spoke on the topic of transportation for seniors to congregate meal sites. **Teresa Ferguson, Executive Director of Austin Up** provided information on the Affordable Housing Blueprint.

June 13, 2018: Linda Stewart, Waterloo Square Dance Club spoke on concerns around fees for use of PARD facilities and assistance in getting fees lowered.

Promote the contributions of seniors to the cultural, economic and historical value of Austin:

The Commission adopted the following Statement of Inclusion to guide our work:

The City of Austin Commission on Seniors is committed to building a strong inclusive community where all seniors are valued and supported regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, national origin, religion, socio-economic status, or disability. We honor the uniqueness of each individual and embrace diverse backgrounds and points of view. (Adopted August 9, 2017)

City of Austin Equity Tool:

Commissioner Nicola represents the Commission on the Equity Action Team formed by the Equity Office. This year the Equity Action Team updated the City of Austin’s Equity Action Tool to include ‘age’ as a data point in Section One: Departmental Analysis. The tool originally asked [4. What is the racial breakdown of your department’s client base?]. The tool now asks [‘What is the racial/ethnic breakdown of your department’s client base? (We would like you to collect this information including age, religion, gender

identify, sexual orientation, ability, veteran status each intersected with race/ethnicity)']. This addition addresses the Commission on Seniors Recommendation Number: 20170412-3B (Recommendation on Draft Equity Assessment Tool) urging the Equity Office to recommend that age be included as a demographic variable for consideration in terms of its intersectionality with race and that questions to address this intersectionality be included in the Equity Assessment Tool, as appropriate.)

Age Friendly Community Certificate:

On May 10, 2018 members of the Commission on Seniors attended the Presentation to Mayor and City Council of a Certificate from the World Health Organization, designating Austin as an Age Friendly Community, by AARP.

The Commission promotes the contributions of seniors through engagement with the community, our participation in community events and committees, presentations to other planning and community bodies, and meetings with City staff.

- Chair Briesemeister serves as the Commission’s representative on the Joint Inclusion Committee and attended meetings throughout the year.
- Chair Briesemeister serves on the Capital Metro Project Connect/Austin Strategic Mobility Plan Multimodal Community Advisory Committee representing the Commission.
- Commissioner Nicola represents the Commission on the Equity Action Team formed by the Equity Office.
- Chair Briesemeister and Commissioner Garcia-Pittman are members of working groups established by the Anti-Displacement Task Force.
- Commissioners Briesemeister, Varteressian and Van Sickle met with City Manager Cronk to discuss the work of the Commission and the Age Friendly Action Plan.
- Chair Briesemeister was interviewed by KUT on the Age Friendly Action Plan.
- Representing the interests of older adults, Vice Chair Varteressian acted on behalf of the Commission on Seniors on the interview panel for the new Director of Austin Public Health.
- Commissioners participated in the April 10, 2018 Livability and Longevity Symposium at LBJ School of Public Affairs as panelists and attendees.

- Vice Chair Varteressian represented the Commission at a stakeholder meeting on the Affordable Housing Blueprint convened by Neighborhood Housing and Community Development.
- Chair Briesemeister attended a community stakeholder lunch with Randy Clarke, the new CEO of CapMetro.
- Commissioners attended meetings of the Aging Services Council.
- Chair Briesemeister met with staff on the proposed Chapter 380 rules on economic development incentives.
- Commissioners Briesemeister, Varteressian and Van Sickle met with Imagine Austin staff on Age Friendly Action plan metrics.
- Commissioners Briesemeister, Varteressian, Lugo, Garcia-Pittman, Bordie and Van Sickle with staff on Council Strategic Direction metrics.
- Commissioners Briesemeister and Nicola met with Brion Oaks, Chief Equity Officer.
- Commissioners Briesemeister and Van Sickle were invited by AARP to attend their national conference on Livable Communities held in Dallas on November 14, 2017.
- Commissioner Garcia-Pittman discussed the Age-Friendly Action Plan as an invited speaker on Programs and support in Austin to help keep your patients and their supports healthy. UT Dell Medical School, Department of Psychiatry, Grand Rounds. April, 2018
- Commissioner Garcia-Pittman, Jessica Lemann of AARP and Teresa Ferguson of AustinUP were invited speakers on the Age-Friendly Austin: Creating the Age-Friendly Action Plan. Austin Psychiatric Society. January, 2018

Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

The Commission on Seniors has acted to fulfill the scope and the responsibilities as outlined in the mission statement as identified in Ord. 20130926-081.

List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

On February 14, 2018 the Commission on Seniors adopted the following Working Groups and Priorities for calendar year 2018. The Commission will revisit these priorities after adoption of the FY 2019 budget:

1. Age Friendly Action Plan Working Group:
 - a. The Age Friendly Action Plan Working Group will oversee implementation of the Age Friendly Action plan and coordinate with other working groups on items related to the Action Plan. It will include the Communications and Information domain.
 - b. Commissioners: Van Sickle (Chair), Varteressian, Briesemeister, Lugo, Bordie, Garcia-Pittman
 - c. Shubhada Saxena, SAIVA/AAQL; Jessica Lemann, AARP; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP; Mary Teeters, MOWCT
 - d. Representatives of Hispanic Latino Quality of Life Commission; African American Quality of Life Commission; LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission; Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities; Planning and Zoning/Imagine Austin staff; Interim Assistant City Manager Sara Hensley; other staff as requested.
 - e. Priorities identified in Domain 7:
 - i. 7.1.1: Include information about city and state services, community organizations and other resources on all appropriate City communication channels.
 - ii. 7.2.2: Urge City communications staff to include an "age-friendly" perspective in all communications materials and age-inclusive language, messaging and visuals in materials intended for older adult audiences.
 - iii. 7.3.3: Offer learning opportunities for those seniors without access to technology.
 - iv. 7.3.4: Use all appropriate City communication channels to promote training opportunities.
2. Transportation, Housing, and Open Spaces:
 - a. The Working Group will review and make recommendations on city budget, city programs and policies and other policies (such as from Cap Metro) related to the Age Friendly Action Plan Domains 1, 2 and 3.
 - b. Commissioners Varteressian (chair), Kareithi, Briesemeister, Jackson, Angel
 - c. Tommi Ferguson, Capitol City Village, Diana Deaton, Aging 2.0; Shubhada Saxena, SAIVA/AAQL; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP; Charles

- Curry, Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging and LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission; Carla Penny, AARP Volunteer; Jessica Lemann, AARP
- d. Staff from Austin Transportation Department, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, Parks and Recreation and other departments as requested.
 - e. Priorities identified in Domains 1, 2 and 3
 - i. 1.1.1: Ensure all residents have access to parks and open spaces within a half mile of every home.
 - ii. 1.1.2 : Ensure all residents have access to recreation facilities within a mile of every home.
 - iii. 1.1.3: Increase the number of parks and public spaces that are equipped with functional seating at frequent intervals, drinking fountains, shaded resting areas, walkways suitable for wheelchairs/walkers and accessible public restrooms.
 - iv. 2.1.4: Evaluate and install pedestrian-friendly crossing signals.
 - v. 2.1.8: Replace missing street signs/traffic signs with easily readable, well-lit signage and addresses access and functional needs.
 - vi. 2.2.2: Create a centralized clearing house for seamless information for the public.
 - vii. 2.3.3: Provide public transportation discounts to older adults.
 - viii. 3.1.1: Encourage the development of new and innovative models of affordable housing (multigenerational, co-housing/cooperative housing).
 - ix. 3.1.2: Increase and prioritize funding for affordable housing for seniors (housing bonds, housing trust fund).
 - x. 3.3.1: Expand support for the Austin Housing Repair Coalition.
 - xi. 3.3.2: Increase home access for seniors through design modification that improves safety and visitability.
3. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment (Domains 4, 5, 6)
- a. The Working Group will review and make recommendations on city budget, city programs and policies and other policies related to the Age Friendly Action Plan Domains 4, 5, and 6.
 - b. Commissioners Lugo (Chair), Grampp, Van Sickle,
 - c. Claire Irwin, Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Cody Rothschild, Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Richard Bondi, Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging and Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP.
 - d. Staff from Austin Public Library, Austin Public Health, Parks and Recreation Department, Economic Development, and other departments as requested.
 - e. Priorities identified in Domains 4, 5, and 6:

- i. 4.2.1 Develop an asset map to identify existing and new opportunities for senior social engagement at public libraries, PARD facilities, HHS facilities and schools
- ii. 5.3.3: Ensure services and programs targeted to seniors that respect racial, ethnic and cultural diversity and are welcoming and inclusive
- iii. 5.3.4: Advocate that all City programs, services and strategic plans address the needs of seniors
- iv. 6.1.1: Improve awareness and coordination of employment services
- v. 6.1.2: Promote home-based, part-time and job-sharing employment opportunities
- vi. 6.1.4: Encourage local businesses to hire older persons
- vii. 6.2.1: Develop a City of Austin internship or fellowship program for people 55+

4. Community and Health Services

- a. The Working Group will review and make recommendations on city budget, city programs and policies and other policies related to the Age Friendly Action Plan Domain 8.
- b. Commissioners Bordie and Garcia-Pittman (co-chairs), Angel, Cagle, Nicola, Hauser
- c. Mary Teeters - Gerontology Consultant - Meals on Wheels of Central Texas; Barry Waller, LGBT Coalition on Aging; Jose "Chema" Saenz, AARP state office and South Austin Chapter 2426; Korey Darling, LMSW, Research and Planning Division at Travis County Health and Human Services; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP.
- d. Austin Public Health staff (including the Office of Emergency Management), the Travis County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other city and county staff as requested.
- e. Priorities identified under Domain 8:
 - i. 8.1.2 Create focus groups of city and community representatives with the charge of developing a strategic plan to integrate aging, mental health and wellness programs.
 - ii. 8.2.1: Expand community outreach and public awareness around caregiver support and in-home support programs, including respite care, palliative care and other home-based supportive services.
 - iii. 8.3.3: Provide emergency response, preparedness strategies on the COA website specific to the needs of the senior population.