



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Rosie Truelove, Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department

**DATE:** December 17, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Resolution No. 20180510-052 - Tenant Protections for Rental Properties Required to Register Under City Code Chapter 4-14 (*Registration of Rental Property*)

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The purpose of this memo is to respond to Resolution [No. 20180510-052](#), which directed the City Manager to draft a code amendment that would require all newly registered and existing registered properties subject to Chapter 4-14 (*Registration of Rental Property*), which is commonly referred to as the City's Repeat Offender Program, to add tenant protections similar to those outlined in the City's Rental Housing Development Assistance Program.

This Resolution requests a novel approach to addressing the potential for displacement at a Repeat Offender property. As a result, the Law Department needs to provide legal advice to Council on this subject prior to the initiation of any code amendments. After the Law Department advises Council, the Austin Code Department and the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department will provide their code amendment recommendations.

One of the five Community Values found in the [Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint](#) is to "Prevent Households from Being Priced Out of Austin." Staff identified several actions that could have the highest impact, including "Develop Programs and Policies that can help Mitigate Gentrification Pressures in Historically Low-Income Neighborhoods." Staff is currently working on the implementation of the *Strategic Housing Blueprint*. Implementation of the *Blueprint* will include a variety of recommendations from recent reports and task forces, including UT Austin's [Uprooted](#) report, which suggests "some of these tenant protections could also be extended to properties in the City's Repeat Offender Program for code violations." Staff's comprehensive recommendations on *Blueprint* implementation and funding strategy will be presented to City Council Housing and Planning Committee in February 2019.

**cc:** Spencer Cronk, City Manager  
Joe Pantalione, Interim Assistant City Manager  
Anne Morgan, City Attorney