



## COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022 6:30 PM

### Meeting Minutes

#### Board Members in Attendance:

*Krystal Gomez, Chair*

*Nicole Merritt, Vice-Chair*

*Sara Becker*

*Karen Crawford*

*Adrian De La Rosa*

*Rennison Lalgee*

*Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch*

*Joseph Ramirez-Hernandez*

*Juan Vences-Benitez*

#### Board Members not in Attendance:

*Glenn Rosales*

#### Staff in Attendance:

Sinying Chan, Staff Liaison & Health Equity Unit Program Coordinator/Austin Public Health

### CALL TO ORDER

#### 1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 7, 2022

- Postponed to next month; Kate moved; Karen seconded; all in favor

#### 2. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS:

##### A. Karla Peredo, Office of Police Oversight, to provide updates on current work to revise APD's body-worn camera and dashboard camera policies and speak on previous and future community engagement efforts with immigrant and refugee communities

- Results of two reports from 2015 and 2019 showed racial disparities persisted and in many cases worsened; OPO's analysis revealed patterns that negatively affected Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino community members; Black/African American drivers are the most overrepresented group across all categories except for citations; Hispanic/Latinos received the highest percentage of citations; White/Caucasian are the most underrepresented in all categories; Asians are slightly underrepresented in all categories
- Austin officer-involved shootings in 2018 showed that 7 out of 12 incidents involved Latinx individuals; most individuals involved in the 2018 incidents were ethnic minorities, specifically Latinx males, and most individuals involved in the 2018 incidents were between 20-28 year old; officers failed to use deescalate tactics in many incidents



- Can make a complain/thank you for APD to OPO online, over the phone, in person, or by mail
- OPO actively participates in community engagement events and building partnerships; it also provides education and resources
- Current informational campaign to request public feedback that; project to rewrite APD's general orders in the future few years; OPO's analysis released in January 2022 found APD's policy on body camera and dash camera is too vague; an officer can stop recording with a supervisor's authorization but there's no information on when the supervisor can make that call; OPO will ask for more clarity

**B. Chief Joseph Chacon and Lieutenants Christine Chomout and Craig Smith, Austin Police Department (APD), to discuss: (1) U-Visa report and (2) Resolution 74 Immigration Enforcement report**

- Chief Chacon was not available to attend the meeting
- Lieutenant Christine Chomout shared data on U-Visa report and clarifications on denials
- Lieutenant Craig Smith shared the Resolution 74 Immigration Enforcement report and provided clarifications on data

**C. Brie Franco, Intergovernmental Relations Office, briefing on legislation that passed that affects the City of Austin**

- 7,148 bills and joint resolutions filed and reviewed by IGRO; 15% of filed bills and joint resolutions were passed; IGRO tracked 2,254 bills and joint resolutions that affected the City of Austin
- City Police Funding had to stay the same; cannot be decreased but can increased
- Camping is not allowed in public spaces
- Texas is now a permit less gun carry state
- No governmental agencies can't contract with entities that boycott the firearm and ammunition industries
- A bill was passed to reform the APD retirement system
- A bill was passed to increase resources and capacity of Cloud Computing at the City
- A bill was passed to add a new provider type and provider specialty for the enrollment of local health department entities in Medicaid; can bill Medicaid more efficiently
- Lots of changes in Senate membership and leadership; potentially 40 new members in House; Austin delegation changes and committee assignments; interim charges likely after March primary

**D. Budget discussion and vote on recommendations**

- All commissioners worked on making edits on recommendations
- Karen moved to approve the recommendation on the development of Immigrant Affairs Office; Nicole seconded; all in favor
- Karen moved to approve the recommendation on increasing the legal services funding; Adrian seconded; all in favor
- Karen moved to approve the recommendation on funding Refugee Health Screening Clinic; Kate seconded; all in favor



- Karen moved to approve the recommendation on the creation on summer camps in Spanish or dual language camps to support A.I.S.D.'s English learner and dual language learner populations; Nicole seconded; all in favor
- Karen moved to recommend all 4 recommendations to JIC; Nicole seconded; all in favor

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Report back from ISNA and the RST quarterly consultations**

- No updates from ISNA
- RST quarterly consultations will happen tomorrow

#### **B. Joint Inclusion Committee meeting update – Karen**

- Chief Chacon presented at the JIC; 30X30 – aiming for women to comprise 30% of force by 2030

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Emi Johnson from the Austin Public Library

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

- Commission Glenn Rosales has been in and out of the hospital

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- Nicole moved to adjourn; Kate seconded; all in favor



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