

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 2 RELATING TO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND THE MUNICIPAL COURT; CREATING A PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. Subsection (B) of City Code Section 2-5-103 (*Council Committees Created; Subject Matter of Each Committee*) is amended to rename the Judicial Committee to the Public Safety Committee, and expand its purpose, to read as follows:

(B) Council creates the following standing committees:

- (1) The Audit and Finance Committee may review audit reports, matters related to the city auditor, the city clerk, internal services, bond oversight, purchasing and contract audits, taxation, financial policy, government performance, bonds and City debt, bond-funded programs, retirement systems, employee benefits, banking and investment policies, performance metrics and reporting, budget matters, affordability, and related matters. The Audit and Finance Committee shall also have oversight of the City's boards and commissions.
- (2) The Mobility Committee may review land use as it concerns mobility, all transportation modes including, roads, aviation, public transit, pedestrian programs, bicycle programs, ground transportation, taxicab regulation, Lone Star Rail, core transit corridors, and related matters.
- (3) The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee may review issues related to the City's electric utility. The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee is a committee of the whole council. Six members of the committee are a quorum, and the favorable votes of a majority of the quorum present at the meeting are required for the committee to take action. The committee may create subcommittees, including a subcommittee to address Austin Energy's business model.

- 34 (4) The Health and Human Services Committee may review social services,
35 education, public health, health care services, animal welfare, sustainable
36 food, social equity, veterans' affairs, populations at risk, and related
37 matters.
- 38 (5) The Housing and Planning Committee may review housing and related
39 land use and mobility issues, community development block grants, the
40 City's comprehensive plan, the land development code, development
41 processes, neighborhood planning, noise, annexations, and related matters.
- 42 (6) The ~~[Judicial]~~ Public Safety Committee may review the municipal court,
43 the Downtown Austin Community Court, policing issues, criminal justice,
44 emergency medical services, fire services, emergency management, code
45 compliance, and related matters. ~~[including making recommendations to~~
46 ~~the full council on the following:~~
- 47 (a) ~~appointment of municipal court judges, including the presiding judge;~~
- 48 (b) ~~evaluation of the performance of the presiding judge of the municipal~~
49 ~~court;~~
- 50 (c) ~~consultation with municipal court judges on the development of~~
51 ~~performance criteria for the evaluation of municipal court judges~~
52 ~~under Section 2-10-11(B)(10) (Presiding Judge);~~
- 53 (d) ~~appointment of the clerk of the municipal court;~~
- 54 (e) ~~appointment of the judge of the Downtown Austin Community Court;~~
55 ~~and~~
- 56 (f) ~~evaluation of the performance of the judge of the Downtown Austin~~
57 ~~Community Court.]~~
- 58 (7) The Austin Water Oversight Committee may review issues related to the
59 City's water utility, including mission, scope and responsibilities of
60 relevant advisory commissions and task forces, strategic plans, major
61 capital purchases or transactions, and financial policies and the financial
62 status of the utility.

63 **PART 2.** Subsection (B) of City Code Section 2-10-11 (*Presiding Judge*) is
64 amended to read:

65 (B) The presiding judge shall:

- 66 (1) maintain administrative control and oversight of municipal court judges;
- 67 (2) adopt rules for the orderly trial of a case in the municipal court;
- 68 (3) maintain a central docket for the cases within the municipal court's
69 jurisdiction;
- 70 (4) distribute cases from the central docket to the municipal judges to equalize
71 the workload of each judge;
- 72 (5) set the work hours for each judge;
- 73 (6) schedule and approve vacation, sick leave, and other absences for each
74 judge;
- 75 (7) assign the duties of each judge;
- 76 (8) assign municipal judges to exchange benches and to act for each other in a
77 pending proceeding;
- 78 (9) if necessary, assign a substitute judge to act in a judge's absence;
- 79 (10) at least twice during each term, evaluate the performance of each judge on
80 criteria other than a decision made in a judicial proceeding and forward the
81 evaluation to the Council [~~Judicial~~] Public Safety Committee; and
- 82 (11) perform the other duties of the presiding judge under Chapter 30
83 (Municipal Courts of Record) of the Texas Government Code.

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85 **PART 3.** The Council finds that creation of the Public Safety Committee and the
86 immediate need for its expanded role constitutes an emergency. Because of this
87 emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the
88 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

89 **PASSED AND APPROVED:**

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_____, 2020

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Steve Adler
Mayor

APPROVED: _____

Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk