



21 culture changes required to end the disproportionate impact of police violence on  
22 Black Americans, Latinx Americans, other nonwhite ethnic communities, and  
23 returning and low-income residents; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the measures that current Austin Police Department leadership  
25 have been willing to implement are inadequate, and resemble the same flawed  
26 police training and command expectations that have existed in the past; and

27 **WHEREAS**, Austin's 911 system, managed by the Austin Police  
28 Department, continues to send armed police to address problems that would be  
29 better met with an alternative response; and

30 **WHEREAS**, for Fiscal Year 2020 Council budgeted for the implementation  
31 of a program of alternatives for first response to mental health crisis calls, and from  
32 December 16, 2019 to June 4, 2020 of 23,333 calls for service with a mental health  
33 component, 291 were transferred to a Crisis Center Counselor, indicating the need  
34 for continued development of additional alternatives and the resources to do so;  
35 and

36 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 global pandemic requires us to carefully  
37 reconsider how the City allocates FY2021 funds in order to address the needs of  
38 disparately impacted residents; and

39 **WHEREAS**, the greater Austin area has lost 100,000 jobs during the  
40 COVID-19 global pandemic and closures, and the Austin City Council actively

41 supports the need to edify budget spending priorities to address this regional  
42 socioeconomic crisis; and

43 **WHEREAS**, the FY 2020-2021 budget is scheduled to be adopted in  
44 August 2020; and

45 **WHEREAS**, the budget for the Austin Police Department is the City's  
46 single largest General Fund expenditure, comprising approximately 40% of the  
47 City of Austin's General Fund budget, leaving fewer resources available for other  
48 public safety strategies that could better serve our community's needs and long-  
49 term goals; and

50 **WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of  
51 Justice Statistics, public expenditure on policing in the United States more than  
52 quadrupled between 1982 and 2006, with no clear correlation between increased  
53 spending and lower violent crime rates; and

54 **WHEREAS**, a Prison Policy Initiative 2017 report explicated that local  
55 governments nationwide spend approximately \$13.6 billion on incarceration and  
56 over-criminalization; and

57 **WHEREAS**, the budget is a reflection of the City of Austin's morals,  
58 overarching vision, and strategic direction; and

59 **WHEREAS**, starting in FY16, the Council set a goal of increasing spending  
60 on social service contracts to better align with community needs; and

61           **WHEREAS**, the City Charter grants Council final authority over budget  
62 decisions; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

63 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

64           The Austin City Council affirms its commitment to reimagining public  
65 safety and law enforcement in our community.

66 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

67           The City Manager is directed to bring forward a baseline budget that:

- 68           • Includes no additional sworn police staff positions;
- 69           • Eliminates the sworn positions that the Austin Police Department cannot  
70 reasonably fill in FY2020-2021 and reallocates those unused funds to  
71 alternative public safety and public health strategies such as, but not limited  
72 to, training and standards for trauma-informed responses, substance abuse,  
73 mental health responses, victims services counselors, a comprehensive and  
74 community informed community policing standard, COVID-19 relief, social  
75 services, housing stability programs, family violence prevention and family  
76 violence sheltering strategies funded through the Austin Public Health or  
77 Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Departments,  
78 housing-focused case management for individuals experiencing  
79 homelessness, human trafficking prevention, and other preventative actions  
80 and alternatives;

- 81 • Explores options for reallocating positions and roles currently assigned to  
82 the Austin Police Department that could be managed by other departments,  
83 including but not limited to Code Enforcement, Austin Transportation  
84 Department, Austin Public Health, Austin Fire Department, and Parks and  
85 Recreation Department;
- 86 • Explores options for reallocating positions and roles to new city units and  
87 departments not currently reflected in our existing organizational structure  
88 including but not limited to an Office of Violence Prevention as other major  
89 cities have created;
- 90 • Explores options for reallocating positions and roles currently assigned to  
91 the Austin Police Department that could be managed by other outside  
92 partner entities, including but not limited to CAPCOG, constable precincts,  
93 or non-profit organizations.
- 94 • Does not include any additional funding for militarized equipment, including  
95 but not limited to:
- 96 • Tear gas
  - 97 • Rubber bullets
  - 98 • Bean bag rounds
- 99 • Includes funding for a process to rewrite the Austin Police Department's  
100 General Orders, in collaboration with Offices that may provide policy

101 guidance that aligns with the equity and oversight policy direction from  
102 Council, such as the Office of Police Oversight, using national best practices  
103 and community input for the implementation of new guidelines in the  
104 following areas, including but not limited to: use of force, de-  
105 escalation, search and seizure, body worn camera and dashboard camera,  
106 discipline matrix, comprehensive on duty reporting requirements, language  
107 and courtesy, bias, and mental health response;

- 108 • Funds an audit of all disciplinary records held by the Austin Police  
109 Department, along with providing recommendations on staffing needed to  
110 build data systems designed to measure and track the implementation of new  
111 force guidelines and equity outcomes and recommendations to establish  
112 practices that use a scoring mechanism for disproportional behavior to  
113 identify at-risk officers, assign appropriate interventions, and use in the  
114 determination of promotions;
- 115 • Sets aside reserve funds, in collaboration with Offices such as the Office of  
116 Police Oversight and the Equity Office, to implement forthcoming  
117 recommendations from APD-related audits, evaluations, memos and reports,  
118 including but not limited to Council Resolutions 20190131-77 and  
119 20191205-66, cadet training curriculum from the Office of Police Oversight,  
120 and the Joint Report: Analysis of APD Racial Profiling Data;

- 121 • Increases staffing for mental health first response, such as Community  
122 Health Paramedics, EMCOT, and the Homelessness Outreach Street Team  
123 (HOST), to ensure the full implementation of an alternative response to 911  
124 calls related to mental health;
- 125 • Provides funding required to implement at full scale the First Responder  
126 Mental Health Calls for Service program outlined in the 2019 Meadows  
127 Institute Report, to include funding for mental health clinicians, call center  
128 training and support, equipment and technology, project management and  
129 implementation support. Funding shall reflect at least the amount in the  
130 City Manager’s budget proposed for FY 2021 for this program in the FY  
131 2020 budget documents;
- 132 • Exempts victim services and sex crimes unit from cuts unless those FTEs are  
133 transferred to another City department or to a newly created department;
- 134 • Funds for the distribution of Naloxone and training in its use to ensure that  
135 officers save lives when confronted with drug overdose situations;
- 136 • Includes funds for the expansion of programs to reduce or eliminate arrests  
137 for low-level, non-violent offenses by substituting alternatives to arrest and  
138 incarceration, including harm reduction strategies, when the underlying  
139 issues can be better addressed with services and health care;

- 140 • Includes additional funding for the Office of Police Oversight and the Equity  
141 Office that enables the departments to sufficiently perform their missions  
142 and fulfill Council directives, including funding for additional FTEs; and
- 143 • Establishes and funds an audit of the costs incurred by the City in  
144 expenditures related to suspected and/or confirmed officer misconduct,  
145 including but not limited to paid administrative leave, replacement  
146 compensation and overtime, litigation and fees, settlements and payouts.

147 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

148 The City Manager is directed to explore and propose ways to structure the  
149 FY2021 Austin Police Department budget using outcomes-based budgeting and  
150 zero-based budgeting frameworks.

151 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

152 The City Manager is directed to review all grants received by the Austin  
153 Police Department to determine if those funds and initiatives align with and  
154 advance Council's affirmed vision for department policies and practices.

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156 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

157           The City Manager is directed to report back to Council and relevant Council  
158 Committees all changes made to the Austin Police Department General Orders.

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160 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2020      **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk

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