

Posting language: Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to implement a Trauma Recovery Center in collaboration with Travis County and return to Council with an update.

WHEREAS, Trauma Recovery Centers (TRCs) provide free, culturally responsive trauma-informed therapy and case management for survivors of all violent crime, regardless of any involvement with the criminal legal system or immigration status;

WHEREAS, the first trauma recovery center model was created in 2001 by the University of California, San Francisco in partnership with the City and County of San Francisco's Department of Public Health and since then thirty-five TRCs have been implemented in over six states;

WHEREAS, TRCs are located in high-crime areas to serve victims that often do not access other services, and they address the needs of survivors who are traditionally underserved, such as people experiencing street violence, gun violence, people who are homeless, LGBTQ+ victims, and communities of color;

WHEREAS, using a survivor-centered approach, TRCs play a role as a conduit between someone struggling with trauma and how they navigate justice system processes to receive help, and work with the justice system to solve crimes, and reduce community harm;

WHEREAS, TRC's are uniquely situated to serve victims and families impacted by multiple crimes who have complex trauma and require comprehensive services;

WHEREAS, by providing clinical case management; individual, group, and family therapy; legal advocacy; and assistance and support in navigating and accessing compensation funds, TRCs are a critical way to end cycles of trauma and improve public safety;

WHEREAS, four out of ten Texans have been a victim of a crime in the past ten years, but among those impacted by violence, less than one in ten received victims compensation;

WHEREAS, an Austin Trauma Recovery Center would allow victims of violence access to help that does not exist in our city, and far more cost-effective than spending more on the criminal justice system and far more likely to address the root causes of violence;

WHEREAS, each hour of TRC care costs about a third less than usual care and twice as many clients used mental health services, and nine out of ten clients felt better emotionally after being served by a TRC;

WHEREAS, the Austin City-Community Reimagining Public Safety Task Force 2021 Mid-Year Recommendations include the creation of a Trauma Recovery Center;

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan aims to provide access to primary, preventive health, trauma, specialty, and urgent care; and,

WHEREAS, Council's Strategic Direction 2023's (SD23) Health and Environment Strategic Outcome promotes a sustainable environment to live a healthy life, physically and mentally.

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

The City Manager is directed to provide recommendations regarding:

- (1) the feasibility of operating the Trauma Recovery Center Model through the Office of Violence Prevention,
- (2) funding sources for a Trauma Recovery Center of \$500,000 for the next two fiscal years to support the startup costs of the center,
- (3) identify continued funding sources and grant opportunities, including but not limited to hospital systems, foundations, and federal programs that would support the continuation of a Trauma Recovery Center, and
- (4) the interlocal collaboration between the City and Travis County on the implementation and site selection of the Trauma Recovery Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

The City Manager is directed to provide Council within 60 days with an update on the implementation of the Trauma Recovery Center on the abovementioned recommendations.