

Form Name:	Commission Budget Recommendation Form
Submission Time:	June 1, 2020 3:35 pm
Browser:	Firefox 76.0 / Windows
IP Address:	71.42.188.154
Unique ID:	619754179
Location:	30.39999961853, -97.752799987793

## Your Information

---

**Your Name**

Jose Levy

**Your Commission**

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

**Email**

bc-jose.levy@austintexas.gov

**After question three, which questions from the flowchart are you prepared to answer?**

What are the impacts, and gaps?

---

## Root Cause Analysis

---

**Story: What did you hear from the community?**

People with visual impairments have no immediate means to verify that a person identifying themselves as a police officer is an actual police officer.

**Problem: What is the problem you identify?**

In the 2010 Census, it was recorded that there are around 30,000 individuals living in the Austin area (and surrounding cities) that have some type of visual impairment. In addition, individuals who are blind and visually impaired from other cities in Texas that are receiving vocational rehabilitation and public education services are temporarily taking residence at the Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center and the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Formerly, the Austin Police Department utilized identification cards adapted with Braille to assist citizens of Austin who are blind and visually impaired in verifying the legitimacy that the Officer is employed with the police department. It has been brought to the attention that the City of Austin Police Department no longer utilizes identification cards adapted with Braille. This presents a barrier to individuals who are blind and visually impaired in properly identifying the officer and preventing the risk of an individual or individuals impersonating as a police officer that could potentially put the citizen at harm.

**How does the problem show up in your community? Who is most impacted by the problem?**

People with visual impairments are the most impacted, in addition to the integrity of the police department. Addressing this would impact Safety (including physical and emotional harm prevention to individuals who are blind and visually impaired perpetrated by individuals posing as police officers) and government that works for all.

**Considering all of the information you have or have not collected above, how do we solve for this problem?**

Fully fund the modification to all Austin Police Department identification cards to be adapted with Braille to ensure equity in the identification of all APD police officers.

---