



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS RECOMMENDATION 2020429-03B (i)
FY 2021 Budget Recommendations**

Date: April 29, 2020

Subject: FY2021 Budget Recommendations

Motioned By: Garcia-Pittman

Seconded By: Angel

Recommendation

The Commission on Seniors submits the attached recommendations on the FY 2021 budget, using the “Root Cause Analysis” format requested by the Equity Office.

Description of Recommendation to Council

See each attached recommendation

Rationale:

See each attached recommendation

Vote

For: Briesemeister, Varteressian, Angel, Bordie, Cage, Garcia-Pittman, Grampp, Hauser, Kareithi, Nicol, Temperley, Van Sickle, Spain

Against: none

Abstain: None

Absent: Jackson, Lugo

Attest:

Jane Briesemeister, Chair

2021 Budget Recommendation Pedestrian Safety

Root Cause Analysis

Story: What did you hear from the community?

Through our community engagement meeting and survey tool the Commission on Seniors heard numerous comments about safety relating directly to city infrastructure. Comments included frustrations with lack of sidewalks, uneven sidewalks, lack of lighting, and the need for safer street crossings, including audible pedestrian signals and “leading pedestrian interval” crossing signals. Similar comments were made at the community engagement meeting held by the Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities. Community members noted that these deficiencies made them feel less safe and thus less likely to use nearby businesses and amenities such as parks, recreation and cultural centers.

Problem: What is the problem you identify?

Improvements in city infrastructure are necessary to allow older adults and persons with disabilities to feel safe as pedestrians.

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

The people most impacted are older adults and people with disabilities, including those who are blind or have limited vision and people using walkers and wheelchairs.

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

The Commission on Seniors recommends the Austin Transportation Department prioritize the construction and repair of sidewalks, audible crossing signals, leading pedestrian interval crossing signals and lighting in the following areas:

- In and around parks, recreation and cultural centers
- Near senior centers and senior housing
- Near medical offices, hospitals and senior care facilities
- Near grocery stores and other essential retail stores
- In areas of the city with older populations

Addressing this problem supports SD 2023 outcomes: Mobility and Safety. This recommendation is also consistent with the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan.

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

__Is there funding? Available within existing funding.

__Which department holds the funding? Austin Transportation Department

__How much funding is there?

__Which orgs receive it?

__How is success measured?