



Yea On Prop A!

Save Austin Now P.A.C.



Did



Know?

ATX can afford police AND fire/EMS/pools/parks/libraries.

APD is losing officers faster than they can replace them.

ATX has only 1580 officers. 2 years ago there were 1800.

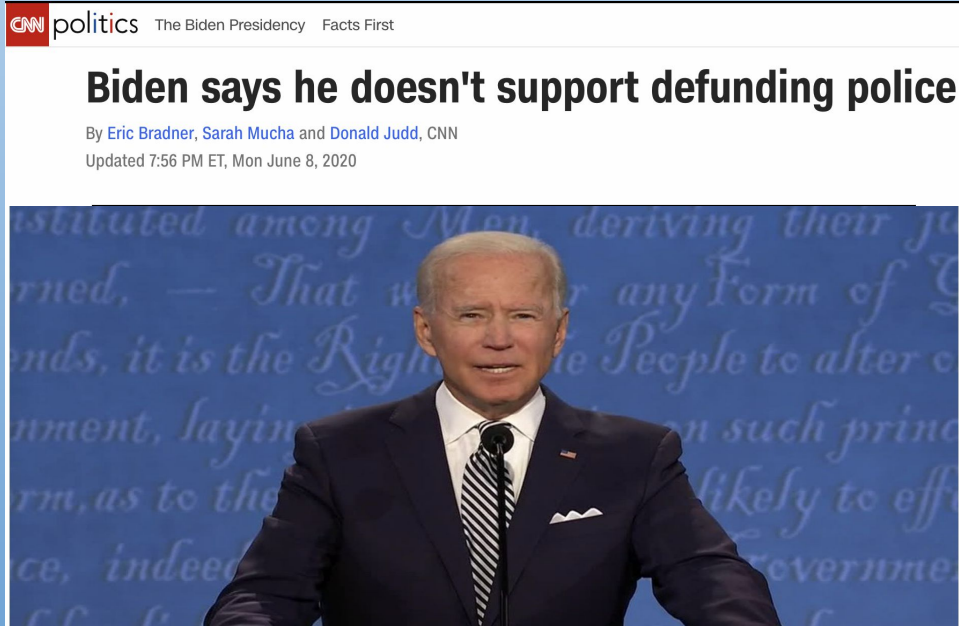
APD response times are increasing rapidly - now at >10 min!

Violent crime is rising in ATX.

How did we get here?

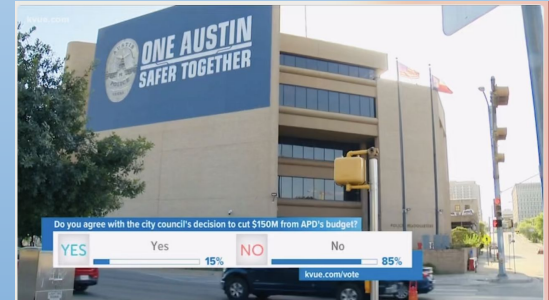
June 8, 2020

After justified protests nationwide to the George Floyd MURDER, Joe Biden opposed the “Defund Police” movement. Defunding doesn’t reform police practices



August 13, 2020

Council knee-jerk reaction was to defund APD by reducing budget by \$150 million and drastically slashed officers. (like open camping-rushed decision with no plan)



LOCAL NEWS

City council votes to slash \$150 million from Austin Police Department, approves city budget



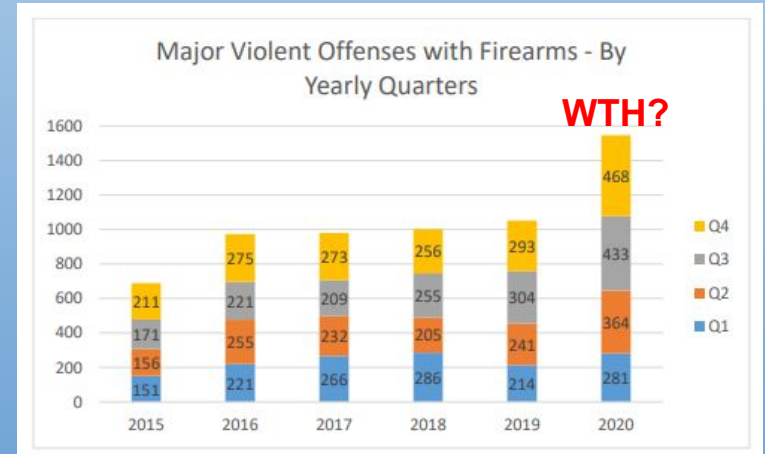
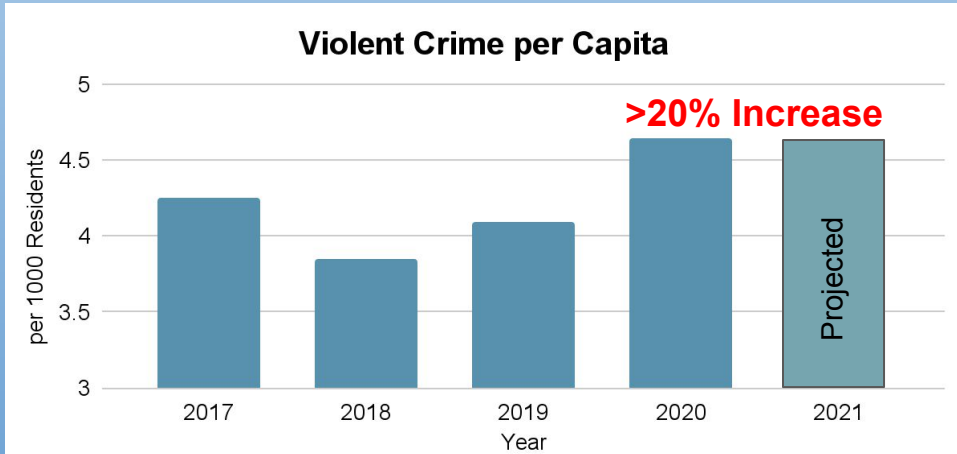
Did the Knee Jerk Work?



Spoiler...Nope-as expected!

City Council + DA disdain for police = 2 bad outcomes:

1. Police reducing activity and resigning due to the caustic environment. Police believe their work means nothing and that they are at high risk of harassment and prosecution.
2. Clear message to thugs that they can expect clear sailing in ATX. Send your wife and kids on foot around the city and ask them how safe they feel.



East Austin resident's worst fears come true:

Rendon Delgado, president of the East Town Lake Citizens Neighborhood Association, agreed with urgent demands for reform. But the 42-year-old, fifth-generation Austin resident feared city leaders were moving at lightning speed, acting on emotion over sound judgment by canceling three cadet classes and stripping operations, such as 911 dispatch, from the under-scrutiny department.



Bertha Rendon Delgado, president of the East Town Lake Citizens Neighborhood Association, is concerned about the city's decision to cancel three cadet classes and strip...

[Show caption](#) ▼

Statesman Article - "Rendon Delgado, president of the East Town Lake Citizens Neighborhood Association, **agreed with urgent demands for reform.**

But the Austin resident **feared city leaders** were moving at **lightning speed**, acting on emotion over sound judgment by canceling 3 cadet classes and stripping operations, such as 911 dispatch, from the under-scrutiny department.

13 months later, as her neighbors discuss arming themselves and installing web cameras and security systems, the Hispanic mother of 2 believes her **worry turned to reality.**

She said **community-based officers** who used to be on hand to help address crime and quality of life issues — such as drug dealing, public intoxication and noise complaints — are now too busy responding to more urgent matters. **"We're suffering out here,"** she said.

"We don't have the police here doing what they need to do to keep us safe."

Thirteen months later, as her neighbors discuss arming themselves and installing web cameras and security systems, the Hispanic mother of two believes her worry turned to reality. She said community-based officers who used to be on hand to help address crime and quality of life issues — such as drug dealing, public intoxication and noise complaints — are now too busy responding to more urgent matters.

"We're suffering out here," she said. "We don't have the police here doing what they need to do to keep us safe."

Officers are taking longer to respond to 911 calls. The average response to the most serious emergencies rose to 9 minutes, an increase of 1 minute, 30 seconds — 17% — during the past year.

Austin recently set a record for the most homicides in the 61 years the Police Department has kept count, and the killings have become a central focus of debate. Austin's increase is part

Where are we now?

September 13, 2021

Chief Chacon held a press conference because of our history making homicide increase.

74% increase in homicides over last year

Chacon indicated this increase attributable to:

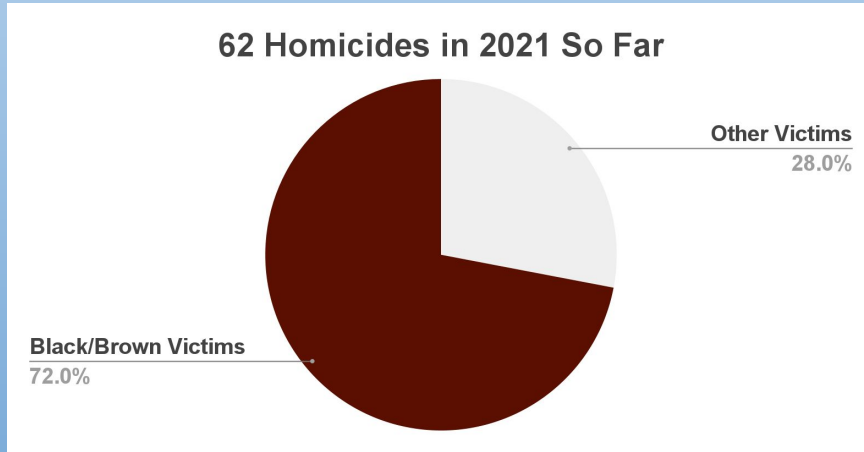
- 1) An uptick in violent crime offenses from offenders released on personal recognizance (PR) bonds and recommitting violent offenses
- 2) Increase in illegal guns on the streets
- 3) Police Staffing crisis

Chief Chacon indicated research shows:

#1 deterrent for crime is officer presence

What about Justice?

Indiscriminate mass staffing cuts don't stop bad cops and they don't stop violent criminals from inflicting harm. And guess who bears the brunt of that harm?



84% of homicides in 2021 are NOT family violence.

Social justice is not served by increasing the number of black and brown deaths.

36% of victims are Black yet they are only 7% of the population.



What Is Prop A



A citizen driven initiative to properly staff and train APD.

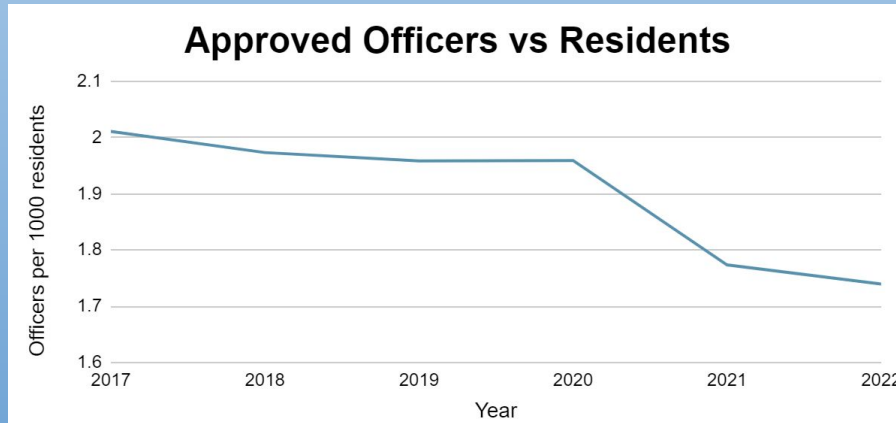
- Approve 2 officers/1000 residents. In 2018 we were basically there.
- ATX will be on track to have the most comprehensively trained force in the country
- Community policing can be restarted. Presently APD is in crisis management.
- Enact police reforms: boost minority hiring (through foreign language proficiency), ensure racially diverse community policing, and provides retention bonuses for officers without police complaints (“Good Conduct Medal” eligible officers)

Why is Prop A Needed?

Spoiler...Cuz we have a massive staffing crisis-DUH!

In mid 2020, Austin City Council massively cut funding to APD. This was a **knee jerk** response to the horrific murder of George Floyd and the protests that followed. This **fixed nothing** and has caused major problems.

“But its been put back and then some” you say...Not quite. Austin is in a political poker game with the governor and had to move services that were once part of APD back under APD. **But they DID NOT restore approval for adequate staffing.**



This is not reimagining.

This is foolish!

How much does Prop A cost?

Spoiler...nowhere near what you have heard. Try \$30-35M/yr. Shocked?

Return the \$45M reimagine fund to staffing where it belongs.
Stop playing poker with the Governor. Problem solved.



Budget fear mongering is to pit everyone against the police.
Austin has budgeted for reasonable staffing in years prior.



City claim's \$271.5M-\$598.8M over 5 years. **Outrageous**.
Lumps in capital spending which is **not** budgeted this way. These
last >>5 years & rapidly growing city has to make investments
regardless.



Misleading to project 5 year cost when binding for only 2 years.

Year	Approved Staff
2017	1908
2018	1908
2019	1929
2020	1959
2021	1809
2022	1809

Citizens are paying for Police/Fire/EMS

Spoiler...It's the most basic responsibility of city Gov. Watch those taxes

**We Austinites love property taxes & the city loves the increases.
Don't be fooled-ATX council has no problem finding money to spend.**

PROPERTY TAX \$ INCREASE vs PRIOR YR.	
2019	\$52.1M
2020	\$60.6M
2021	\$39.0M
2022	\$52.5M

Bet you didn't realize how much more money Austin collects EVERY year. They have had no trouble throwing around 100s of millions of dollars at homeless issues. Some on council simply don't support APD.

>\$200M Increase!



Conclusion



Austin has the \$ to staff APD properly and it isn't coming out of other services. **It's already in APD and must be allocated to staffing.**

Austinites are not paying high taxes to also endure more crime as part of a failed social experiment. Let's learn from other cities.

Passing Prop A will send a clear signal to officers that the community can BOTH appreciate their service and expect impactful changes to ensure justice for all. **Stop the attrition at APD!**

Get onboard with the citizens of ATX and support Prop A. We need **SANITY**. Don't fall for divisive politics designed to punish APD.

Most comprehensively trained Police Force in the Country!!!!

Double annual training hours from 40 to 80 post cadet graduation. With present workload, officers have no time for training.

The academy and police leadership have told us, they expect to add:

- De-escalation training
- Scenario based training
- Advanced communication

This will give us the most comprehensively trained police force in America. Train, Equip, and Demand professional behavior in all circumstances.

APD in Crisis Mode

We are at least 365 police officers below where we should be as a city of our size.

We are seeing 15-22 officers retire or resign each month and it will be at least 6 more months until the current police cadet class can become active.

We will be at 1998 police staffing levels by the end of the year, when our city was 25% as large as we are today.

We are now at 1,540 available police officers, down from 1,959 authorized strength and 1,800 available just 2 years ago.

We are at 1.6/1000 Dallas is 2.4/1000 Houston is 2.9/1000

We are 200 officers down from last year (1,800 to ~1,600).

According to the Austin Police Association, 96% of scheduled police shifts are not fully staffed – putting every single officer at greater risk. Chacon stated not even able to fill with overtime.

Priority one 911 call response rates are up at least 20% since that year began.

This Labor Day weekend was the worst 911 response in city history.

That weekend a stabbing victim waited 7 minutes for a 911 call to be answered

APD in Crisis Mode

Effective October 1st because of staffing shortages,

Austin Police will no longer send police for:

1. Burglary of a residence where the suspect has fled the scene
2. Stolen vehicles where the suspect is not there
3. Non-violent verbal attacks
4. Intentional damage to property when there is no theft

Units already disbanded - DWI, Gang Unit, Forensics, Special Investigations & Park Patrol

Your Homework

Please ask an APD OFFICER:

- How the staffing crisis is impacting them personally and professionally?
- Do they feel they have the capacity right NOW to do their job effectively?