

NO WAY ON A

Prop A ain't the way!

Prop A is a **dangerous** and **fiscally irresponsible** ballot measure led by Republican-front group Save Austin Now.



It would force the City to **cut essential services** to fund hundreds more police officers, instead of investing in a comprehensive approach to public safety.

Public Safety must include Environmental Protections

As we've seen this last year, public safety must include environmental justice and addressing the climate crisis. Prop A risks current and future funding for:

- Parks maintenance, rangers, and programming
- Flood mitigation and water quality programs
- Climate resilience and disaster preparedness
- Staffing and program development to meet our Climate Equity goals

Join these organizations fighting against Prop A:

- Clean Water Action
- PODER
- Public Citizen
- Save Our Springs
- Sierra Club
- Sunrise Movement Austin

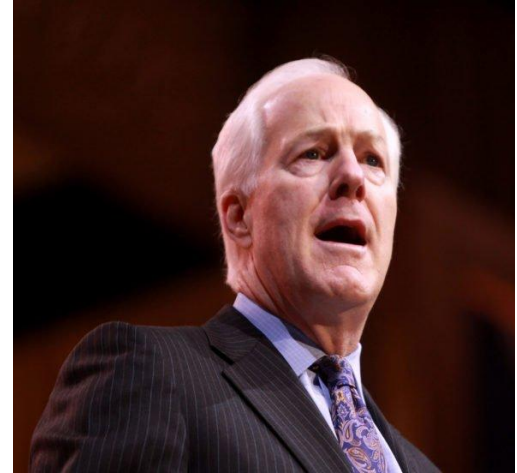
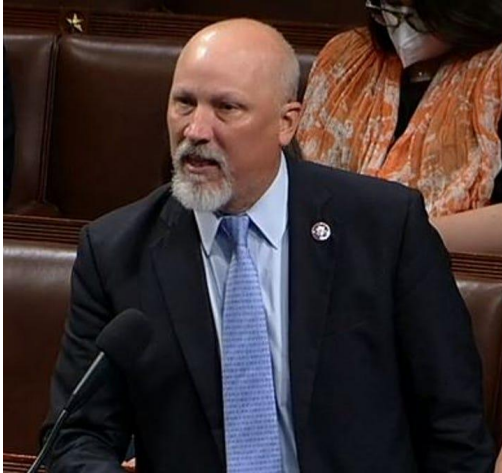
What is Proposition A on the November 2 ballot?

If successful, Prop A will:

- Force Austin to immediately hire up to 680 more police officers and a total of 885 officers over five years, which could cost the City \$120 million per year
- Require front-line officers to spend at least 35% of their time *not* responding to 911 calls

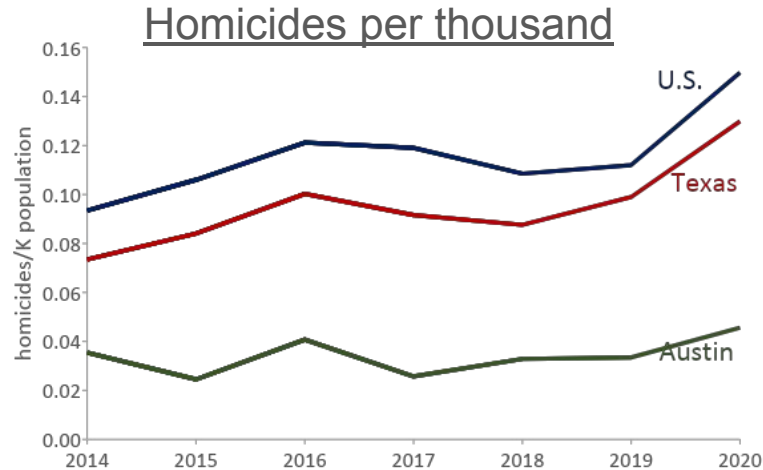
If this **unfunded mandate passes**, the city will have to **cut mental health, parks, and other essential services**, and potentially **lay off** firefighters, medics, and 911 call takers. That's **not** how to protect public safety.

Prop A is supported by national Republicans & Austin's wealthiest elites.



Austin is a safe city.

We can make it safer without fear mongering.



Austin is consistently ranked safer than Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio and ranked one of the safest cities in the U.S.

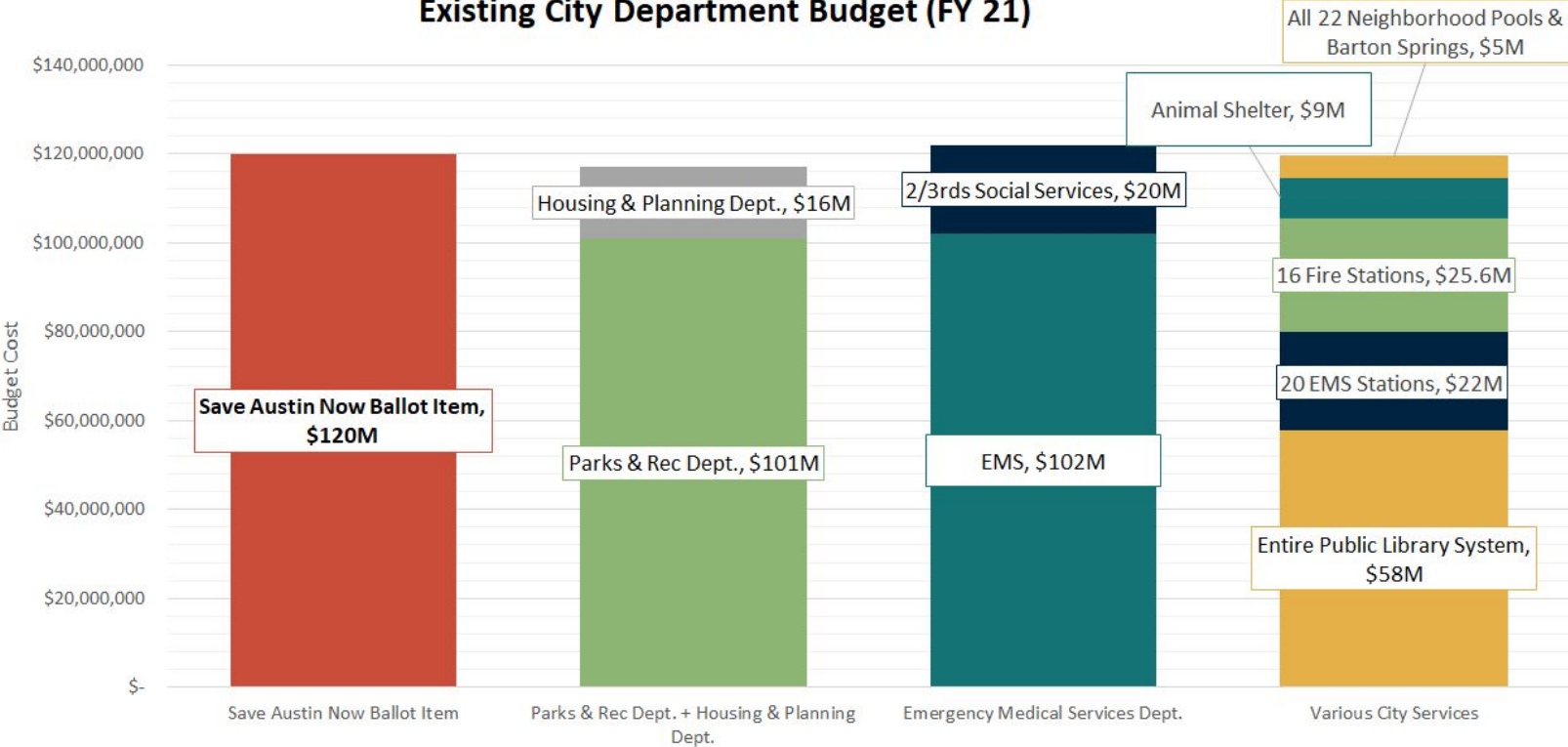
[Austin American Statesman](#)
[FOX 7 Austin](#)

Prop A is fiscally irresponsible.

- If Prop A becomes law, it would lead to **budget cuts & elimination of city facilities** like parks, libraries, mental health care, and much more.
- Prop A could also lead to **very steep tax increases** for working Austinites.
- Due to HB1900, the City can never decrease the police budget after increasing it. This further harms Austin's future financial health.
- We need to comprehensively hire all kinds of staff, including park rangers, police, EMS and Fire personnel, and Prop A means **cuts** to all departments except police.

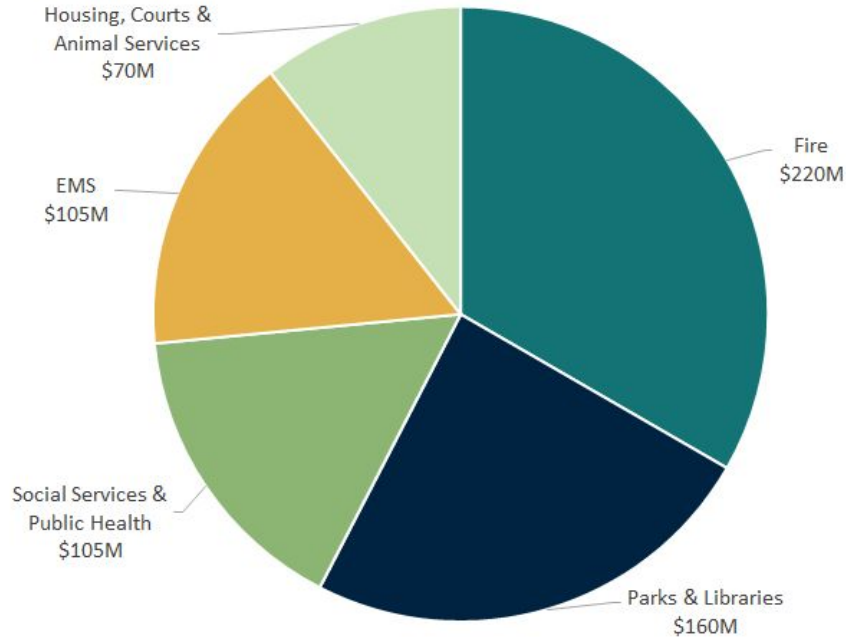
Prop A will cost A LOT of money.

Save Austin Now Ballot Item Cost Per Year vs. Existing City Department Budget (FY 21)

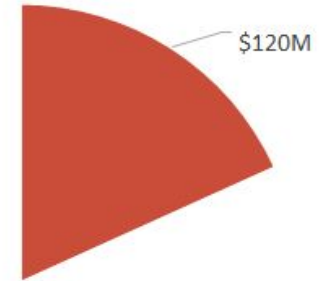


What will we cut to fund Prop A?

FY 2021-22 General Fund Uses



Save Austin Now Ballot Measure
Additional \$120M per year



Here's one way we can make cuts...

400 firefighters.....\$40M
400 parks & libraries staff.....\$30M
210 medics.....\$19.2M
255 health & service staff.....\$19.2M
160 courts & other staff.....\$12M

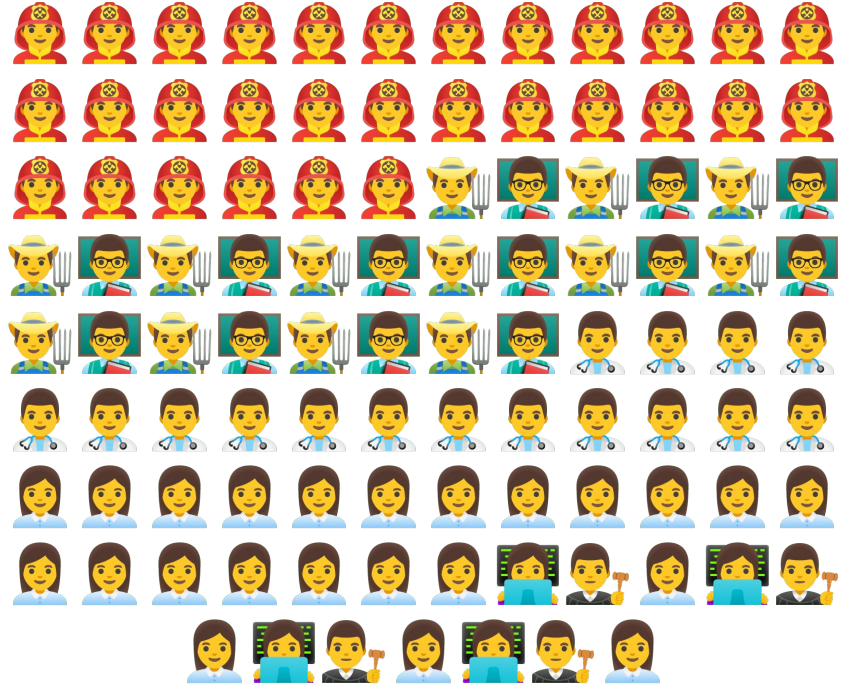
1,425 fewer city staff
\$120M per year



The middle scenario isn't much better...

300 firefighters.....\$30M
300 parks & libraries staff.....\$21M
160 medics.....\$15M
190 health & service staff.....\$15M
120 courts & other staff.....\$9M

1,070 fewer city staff
\$90M per year



Prop A isn't based on best practices.

*"I've been very, very public, both internally and externally,
(two officers per 1,000 residents) is **not something I can get behind.**"*

- Austin Interim Police Chief Joe Chacon

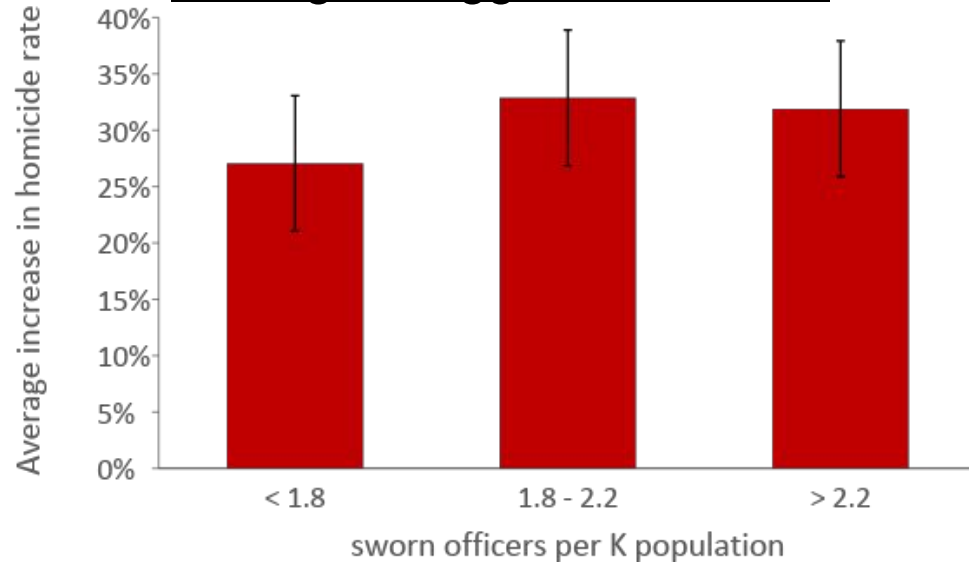
[Austin American-Statesman](#)

Prop A will not make us safer.

Research shows that using **arbitrary metrics** and throwing hundreds more officers at problems **don't reduce violence**.

Reducing crime requires a **comprehensive safety approach**, not just an army of police officers.

Increase in Homicide Rate Among 67 biggest U.S. cities



Bill Spelman, 2021

Austin needs a comprehensive approach to public safety.

The Austin City Council has funded all different kinds of public safety services that would be at risk if Prop A passed.

- Ambulances to handle COVID 19
- Family Violence Shelter
- Mental health services
- Housing for homelessness
- Park rangers
- Gun violence reduction workers
- Reformed police cadet classes for better officers

November Election

Election Day: Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Early Voting: Monday, October 18, 2021 - Friday, October 29, 2021

Prop A Ballot Language:

Shall an ordinance be approved that, at an estimated cost of \$271.5 million - \$598.8 million over five years, requires the City to employ at least 2 police officers per 1,000 residents at all times; requires at least 35% of patrol officer time be uncommitted time, otherwise known as community engagement time; requires additional financial incentives for certain officers; requires specific kinds of training for officers and certain public officials and their staffs; and requires there be at least three full-term cadet classes for the department until staffing levels reach a specific level?

Ordinance No. 20210811-010

Join the coalition!

We are building a diverse coalition of organizations to defeat Prop A.

To join the coalition publicly opposing Proposition A on the November 2 ballot, please email Laura@laurahernandezconsulting.com.