



April 7, 2021

Dear Austin Area Hotel Colleagues:

We have all witnessed the proliferation of tent shelters and encampments being placed across Austin downtown corridors, along Town Lake, and under countless overpasses, and other areas of Austin. The good news is that there is a local Austin ballot proposition, Proposition B, which will be voted on locally by Austin voters on Saturday, May 1 that seeks to directly address this issue. Proposition B gives Austin voters the opportunity to require the Austin City Council to do two things:

1. It would require Austin City Council to adopt a city ordinance that prohibits individuals from using public sidewalks and other public areas for camping and placement of tents unless it is a designated area for camping; and
2. It would require the Austin City Council to also adopt a city ordinance that prohibits individuals from making solicitations or panhandling that would be deemed aggressive in nature.

In summary, a "Yes" vote on Proposition B would mandate that the Austin City Council adopt a new city ordinance that would ban such encampments, tents, in public areas that are not designated for this purpose by the Parks and Recreation Department. And a "Yes" vote on Proposition B would require the City of Austin to also adopt an ordinance to address aggressive panhandling that threatens to make downtown and other areas of the City unsafe for both residents and tourists to our City.

If you care about the proliferation of tents in public areas and the overly aggressive behavior of panhandlers throughout the commercial and tourist areas of Austin, it is vital that you make your voice be heard and vote in the May 1<sup>st</sup>, Austin city election. Early voting runs from Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. You can also opt to vote on election day, Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>. Information on early and election day voting places is available at [www.VoteTravis.com](http://www.VoteTravis.com).

We hope that this information is helpful to you in understanding the impact of Proposition B on the importance of having your voice be heard by voting early or at the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, Austin City Election.

Sincerely,

Denise Eisman  
President  
Austin Hotel & Lodging Association

Scott Joslove  
President & CEO  
Texas Hotel & Lodging Association

Pol. Ad Pd. For by Austin Hotel & Lodging Assn. & the Texas Hotel & Lodging Assn.



## **Let Your Voice Be Heard on the Growth of Tent Shelters in Public Areas and Overly Aggressive Panhandling**

Austin Voters have an opportunity at the Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> Austin City Election to vote for action on the proliferation of tent shelters throughout Austin and Aggressive Panhandling.

Your opportunity is through local Austin ballot proposition, Proposition B.

### **Voting “Yes” on Proposition B Does Two Things:**

1. It requires Austin City Council adopt a city ordinance to prohibit individuals from using public sidewalks and other public areas for camping and placement of tents unless it is a designated area for camping; and
2. It would require the Austin City Council to prohibit individuals from making aggressive solicitations or panhandling.

It’s more than time that we as Austin residents and tourism professionals say, Enough is Enough.

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