

## Community Treasure Chest

In addition to the solutions/actions recommended before, the following are ideas that while they do not necessarily fall within the City of Austin's purview. These "treasures" will be addressed with other bodies and/or through future community dialogue about what the community can do to improve its own quality of life.

### Miscellaneous

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1. Bring up all these issues as part of Black reparations. The tax abatement, property easement or traditional land set asides could be a critical, functional part of Black reparations. Organize teams to go into at-risk, dysfunctional families and communities on an ongoing regular basis with life skills training, orientation, support, etc. Collect, compile, collage data, info, etc. pertaining to our communities. Engage and involve all groups and institutions involved with Blacks.
2. Carefully research for existing programs and processes that can be tapped into, i.e., do not reinvent the wheel.
3. Sustain the current coalition and continue the current format of dialoguing opportunities that serve to elicit input from the community.
4. There are four major areas that require special attention along with special focused committee to resolve the long-term issues associated with the African American community. They are as follows: health, education, housing and economic development.

### Police & Safety

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5. I think there needs to be a "Black" officer with a "white" officer patrolling this area or investigating a problem in this community. I think this will help some of the complaints concerning police sensitivity.
6. Implement an anonymous ethics violation reporting system (similar to Sarbanes Oxley for accounting) with quarterly reporting by the City including number of items resolved. ("Does this exist already?")
7. In interacting with the community, [the] police should collaborate with African American organizations so that those organizations could be involved in 1) participating in that interaction, 2) empower effectiveness, and 3) inform community.

### Employment & Education

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8. City needs to have an annual audit of city employment with a focus on race to audit and ensure African Americans city employment in administrative, professional, and other City position types are proportionate to African American percentage of Austin population.
9. City needs to actively recruit young African Americans to field positions with the City upon graduation from college.
10. City needs to work towards grooming current African Americans who are qualified to move up into management level of the city. We are not represented at the management level.
11. The City of Austin must set the educational and trade requirement bar for its future population for year 202 and beyond.
12. Create or expand the current City of Austin/AISD regular meeting to include concerned citizens and to discuss negative educational trend issues of the day.

13. Need to create a product (marketable) that can employ our black people. Use UT alumnus to create from their experience to brainstorm for a marketable product. Then build a facility to produce the product. This will employ people on the eastside when it is based in the eastside.
14. Develop an African American-owned bar and grill on East 12th Street with public support for parking.
15. Develop a City program designed to help people with credit problems reestablish their credit in order to start new businesses in the community so that we can be more productive.
16. The City should have representative go into high schools to educate, counsel students (soon to be grads) who may not be going to college on employment issues/opportunities and even to “recruit” for jobs. City should sponsor (or provide incentives) to companies who send reps into schools. The focus is on schools with large African American student body.
17. That the City provide seed funding to HTU, African American Chamber, Urban League and other stakeholders to establish a think tank that will focus on issues relevant to African Americans.
18. That the City will facilitate recruiting African American representatives to participate in the ? Consolidated Plan.
19. The City of Austin should set up a standards committee to determine Education Attainment Goal Committee for 2015. The Committee would comprise all of the educational institutions in Austin and Central Texas along with key educators who would create the evaluation subcommittees and the tools for performing annual reviews to determine if the school systems in Austin are meeting the standards and/or goals for global competitiveness. The purpose of setting educational attainment goals and proposed standards for 2015 would allow the City to create the measurement tools for annual review of the local school systems. In order to obtain what would be required to meet the City goals and proposed standards, schools systems would be measured on their annual progress versus the statewide comparisons. It is technically unimportant to know how well Austin students did compared to schools systems across the state, when countries like China and India are producing superior students, which is Austin’s competitor not Dallas, etc. Austin as a city must have students that can compete on an international and global level.

### **Economic Development**

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20. Request the City of Austin to more aggressively market its economic development programs such as a) the Community Development Bank, b) the Business Assistance Center, and c) [the] Micro-Enterprise Technical Assistance Program.
21. Support the creation of an African American bank in our community that pools our resources.

### **Arts, Culture & Entertainment**

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22. City should sponsor programs that specifically focus on getting youth involved in positive arts and culture[al] program/events.
23. A proposed music (e.g., jazz) venue within the East End Business District (E. 11th & 12th Street). Music in East Austin is part of its history and an integral piece of the cultural, social and economic prosperity that must be redeveloped for the overall benefit to the City.
24. KAZI must be subsidized and given more transmission powers to cover more areas in Central Texas. They should be able to re-broadcast all town hall meetings and get access to the Tom Joyner Morning Show.
25. Provide capacity-building support to African American arts organizations outside of cultural contracts process.
26. Contract with ProArts Collective to coordinate programming at Carver Museum.

**Health**

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27. City needs to build more jogging and walking trails east of I-35 (similar to Town Lake hike and bike trail) to encourage a healthy lifestyle.