

# FY 2022 Budget Amendments

## Overview

### Apartment Inspection Reform (A.I.R.)

1. **Create a tenant advocacy center for Houston's renters.**
2. Produce detailed and frequently updated online reports on problem properties.
3. Develop a risk assessment profile for multifamily properties in Houston and conduct more frequent and comprehensive inspections of the city's highest-risk properties.
4. Shorten the time that landlords must respond to safety issues identified in a Multi-Family Rental Building inspection and require remediation plans.
5. Expedite issuing notices of violations and bringing enforcement actions against apartment complex owners who do not address violations.
6. Collaborate with the Houston Housing Authority on cracking down and barring problem properties from participating in the housing choice voucher program for new tenants.

### Vacancy Reductions

The City shall **eliminate non-critical vacancy positions** from the FY22 Budget.

It is imperative that the Administration takes steps to create a structurally balanced budget in order for the City to recover economically from the devastation of COVID-19 deficit now and in the future.

### Houston Department of Transportation (HOUDOT)

The City shall **create a Department of Transportation**. Transportation functions are split over five departments (HPD, HPW, ARA, Planning and DON) with an approximate FY22 budget of \*\$656M related to such duties. By consolidating these monies into one department the City will be prepared to address the transportation challenges we currently face and will continue to face in the future. Houston will continue to face increased traffic as the population increases at an exponential rate. Traffic stops and mobility issues are not being addressed but rather used as probable cause to search vehicles that have led to unnecessary arrests and at times deaths. It is in the best interest of the City to create a department of transportation.



### ARPA funded Police Reform Modification

The City shall **increase the number of MCOT teams** to twenty (20) and decrease the number of CIRT teams by two (2).

The MCOT teams will be better equipped to address non-violent social crisis issues as they do not have an armed officer within their response teams.

### Narcotics Division Audit Implementation

The City shall **freeze all Narcotics funds** in the FY22 budget until all recommendations presented in the \*Narcotics audit are implemented and codified in the City Code of Ordinances.

With crime on the rise it is important that the oversight needed to ensure the Narcotics division does not relive the issues of the past by developing a new operational plan that includes a checklist for warrant preparations, establish a schedule for annual classroom training to discuss policy updates, relevant laws and legal ramifications with a specific focus on supervisory awareness. Further, scenario-based training shall be implemented.

Vacant positions within HPD, such as the public affairs department, shall be eliminated to fund the implementation of the recommendations