

MAKE AUSTIN SAFE AGAIN

I'm running for City Council to represent you.

Austin has never been more dangerous than it is today. This is rapidly eroding our quality of life. Did you know District 5 has the highest number of vehicle thefts in Austin? It's true.

Homeless people suffering from drug and alcohol abuse, and mental illness are camping next to neighborhoods and school playgrounds (Joslin Park and the Ben White Blvd. underpass near Menchaca Road).

Women have been sexually assaulted in broad day light at the Target parking lot (Southpark Meadows).

Nightly, criminals roam neighborhood streets trying every car door handle to see if it is unlocked (Garrison Park/Cherry Creek). It's only a matter of time before these criminals move from seeing if a car door is unlocked to trying the doors and windows of homes.

Worst of all, getting help from 911 is a nearly futile effort. Citizens who call 911 are routinely waiting on hold between 5-12 minutes before they even speak to an operator. And with around 300 police vacancies, help may never come. You deserve immediate response to your emergency! We need to hire, train, and deploy more personnel immediately. If elected, I will move to fully staff 911, and also provide them with guaranteed counseling services because 911 operators have a very mentally and emotionally draining job.

We must also stand by our Police. Mistakes can be made when dealing with tense situations. I agree with strict accountability for chronic misbehavior. I also believe we should focus more on recurring training for all officers and remedial training for those who fall short of established standards of conduct. There are nearly 300 vacant police jobs in Austin today, now imagine Austin with 400 or 500 vacancies. If Austin continues to be a toxic environment for law enforcement, no one will want to be a police officer in Austin no matter how much we pay them.

Join my campaign to make Austin safe again.

VOTE BILL WELCH FOR CITY COUNCIL

Pol. Adv. paid by Bill Welch Campaign. Ruthie Howard, Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Chapter.