



# PUBLIC SAFETY

**88%**

of Austinites say crime and public safety **have not improved** in the last two years

**77%**

of Austinites support filling the the more than 300 total overall **vacant APD positions**

**65%**

of Austinites agree that Austin does not have **enough police officers**

## From the Research

- Most Austinites believe that slow response times is the most critical public safety issue the city faces
- 88% of Austinites also said they are concerned about the 340 police officer vacancies because it makes response times longer
- 88% also said it causes higher burn out among officers, leading to poor and dangerous decisions
- Austinites identified filling the 340 police officer vacancies as the number one most effective thing (by a 30% margin) we can do to improve public safety
- A majority of Austinites (64%) say they trust APD

## Quotes from the Focus Groups

"I never see a police officer on the streets anywhere where I'm driving. It's rare to even pass one on the road. It kind of gives you a feeling of 'What if I needed one?'"

"We were in a traffic accident, and we needed the police just to come out there and help sort some stuff out...we waited for 2 hours, and no one came."

"That's the basics. Get enough bodies to be able to cover the street and cover the shifts."

"We used to go out/downtown and do stuff. We don't anymore, because of the thought of what could happen in an open area."