

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City Council is responsible for the effective and efficient use of taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, the City Council must govern with fiscal discipline in order to deliver critical city services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council must ensure the use of public dollars is appropriate and reflects the public's trust in its governing body as responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, City Council is subject to state laws related to financial transparency and accountability; and

WHEREAS, in addition to state law requirements, the City values practices that provide fiscal transparency where purchases, contracts, and other spending is available for public review; and

WHEREAS, updating procedures and policies for the use of City Council office spending will align with the City Council's goal of reforming said procedures and policies to assure best practices and highest standards; and

WHEREAS, updating procedures and policies for the use of City Council office spending will align with the City's prioritization of fiscal responsibility and transparency; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council understands and embraces the importance of governing with fiscal discipline and the need for responsible governance as stewards of taxpayer dollars and affirms its support for prudent financial policies that promote fiscal accountability and transparency.

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

26 Mayor and Council will develop, in coordination with Austin Financial
27 Services and the City Attorney's Office, policies applicable to officeholders and
28 City Council office spending that ensure financial accountability and transparency.
29 These policies will demonstrate a public benefit of spending by officeholders and
30 will be informed by government best practices.

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

32 The Council understands the importance of thoughtful policy making and its
33 role in assuring trust in local government. Council will develop policies and
34 procedures that set the highest standard. The development of these policies will
35 include but are not limited to:

- 36 • Addressing processes and procedures for all officeholder expenses, such
37 as purchasing card use, reimbursements, and travel expenses.
- 38 • Reviewing practices and policies from other local government entities.
- 39 • Reforming spending criteria used for the type, the amount, and purpose
40 of expenditures.
- 41 • Developing mechanisms for regular reporting and review.

42 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

43 The Audit and Finance Committee will serve as the lead Council committee
44 for review and consideration of all policies related to officeholder expenditures and
45 will provide recommendations to the full Council.

46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

47 The Audit and Finance Committee, in coordination with Austin Financial
48 Services and the City Attorney's Office, will provide an update to City Council on

49 this resolution no later than December 11, 2025, and present updates on the City's
50 financial polices to the full Council no later than January 22, 2026.

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52 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2025 **ATTEST:** _____

53 Erika Brady
54 City Clerk
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