

1
ORDINANCE NO. XXXX

2
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2-3 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING
3 TO THE CITY AUDITOR AND ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE
4 EFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT.**

5
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

6
PART 1. City Council makes the following findings:

7
(A) Council seeks to safeguard public confidence, assure operational
8 efficiency, and deliver the best value in City services.
9
(B) Independent, systemic, and continuous evaluation of City operations,
10 service delivery, and resource utilization can enhance efficiency,
11 effectiveness, and innovation, and lead to citywide and departmental
12 improvements that are implementable and sustainable.
13
(C) The most effective assessment requires external independence,
14 accountability, and transparency.
15
(D) Successful implementation of evaluation results and recommendations
16 requires time for review, planning, and execution of new processes.

17
PART 2. City Code Chapter 2-3 (*City Auditor*) is amended to add a new Section 2-3-
18 9, to renumber existing Section 2-3-9 as Section 2-3-10, and to renumber the remaining
19 sections accordingly, to read:

20
§ 2-3-9 – COMPREHENSIVE EFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

21
(A) The City Auditor shall initiate and oversee a program of recurring
22 Comprehensive Efficiency Assessments designed to address cost effective
23 performance improvements of all other departments on a repeating schedule
24 with at least three years between assessment cycles.
25
(B) The City Auditor shall contract with an external consultant with expertise in
26 municipal audits and collaborate with the consultant to perform each
27 Comprehensive Efficiency Assessment.
28
(C) Each Comprehensive Efficiency Assessment shall include:

- (1) an efficiency analysis of City operations, management structure, functions, programs, services, and policies, including a cost-benefit analysis where appropriate;
- (2) an analysis of City contracting practices and opportunities for increased efficiency;
- (3) determination of whether City contractors are meeting uniform standards for performance metrics, documentation of required deliverables, and accounting of expenditures;
- (4) identification of and recommendations for cost savings and performance enhancements within departments;
- (5) an analysis of efforts toward continuous improvement and managing organizational change; and
- (6) efficiency and financial benchmarking with peer cities, where applicable.

59 (I) Amendments to this section may only be adopted by the favorable vote of at
60 least nine council members and repeal of this section may only be adopted
61 by the favorable vote of at least nine council members.

62 **PART 3.** The City Auditor shall initiate the Comprehensive Efficiency Audit program
63 within twelve months of the adoption of this ordinance.

64 **PART 4.** Subsection (C) of City Code Section 2-3-5 (*Powers and Duties*) is amended
65 to read:

66 (C) The City Auditor shall communicate directly with the council audit and
67 finance committee and the council, attend council audit and finance
68 committee meetings, and regularly meet with council members.

69 **PART 4.** This Ordinance takes effect on _____, 2026.

70 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

71
72 _____, 2026

§
§
§

73
74 Kirk Watson

75
76 Mayor

77
78 **APPROVED:** _____

79 Deborah Thomas
80
81 City Attorney

ATTEST: _____

Erika Brady
City Clerk