

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted a resolution on November 20, 2025, to develop City Council Office policies to align with the Mayor and Council’s commitment to financial accountability and transparency informed by government best practices; and

WHEREAS, the City Council Audit and Finance Committee met on December 3, 2025 and January 14, 2026, to receive comments from City Councilmembers regarding considerations for City Council Office Budget and Expense policies; 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, the City Council is subject to state laws related to financial transparency and accountability and practices fiscal transparency by publicly sharing its checkbook via Austin Finance Online, where purchases, contracts, and other spending is available for public review; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Council adopts the following City Council Office Budget and Expense Policy included in Exhibit “A”, to align with the City’s administrative and operational directives with commitment to financial accountability and transparency and to demonstrate a public benefit informed by government best practices. Any expense must:

- Be fiscally responsible;
- Provide a good or service that is of like value to the expense made;
- Defray the cost of carrying out the functions of an elected official;

- Comply with applicable laws, regulations, and procurement policies;
- Be documented with appropriate receipts and justifications;
- Be subject to audit and public disclosure; and
- Comply with the governing policies and procedures listed in the Appendix to the Policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

City Council Office expenses should reflect a commitment to:

- Stewardship of public resources;
- Transparency in decision-making;
- Avoidance of the appearance of impropriety, excess or personal benefit; and
- Alignment with community values and expectations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council affirms its support for prudent financial policies that promote fiscal accountability and transparency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council understands the importance of governing with fiscal discipline and the need for responsible governance as stewards of taxpayer dollars.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to:

- Develop annual training for employees on policies and procedures relating to taxpayer funded expenses;
- Assign a City Council Liaison to the Mayor and City Council Offices to support administrative and expense-related functions; and

- Develop mechanisms for regular reporting and review.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Audit and Finance Committee will serve as the lead City Council committee for regular review and consideration of revised policies related to City Council Office budget and expenses and will provide recommendations to the full City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The department of Budget and Organizational Excellence will publish a report of Council spending annually and will post the report on the City's website.

ADOPTED: _____, 2026 **ATTEST:** _____

Erika Brady
City Clerk