

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Austin Watershed Protection relies on a drainage utility charge to fund the drainage utility fund (“DUF”) that is used for the construction of stormwater infrastructure that provides flood mitigation and erosion control; and

WHEREAS, the costs of maintaining and improving the City's drainage system, including capital projects, aging infrastructure, and increased demand driven by growth and more frequent severe weather events, continue to rise; and

WHEREAS, the drainage utility charge is based on a property’s impervious cover; and

WHEREAS, the drainage utility fund includes a \$25 million transfer to Watershed Protection’s Capital Improvement Fund as part of the proposed Fiscal Year Budget 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, as part of the proposed Fiscal Year Budget 2026-2027, the City Manager is recommending an increase to the proposed drainage charge to the Monthly Base Rate of approximately 6.2 percent; and

WHEREAS, Council is concerned that the proposed increase to the Monthly Base Rate of the drainage utility charge may not be sufficient to maintain adequate stormwater control service levels and protect the health, safety, and property of Austin residents; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to study if the proposed increase to the Monthly Base Rate of the drainage utility charge is **sufficient** ~~[appropriate and necessary]~~ to address the City’s drainage infrastructure needs. As part of this study, the City Manager should consider the City’s short- and medium-term infrastructure needs and how Austin’s drainage fees compare to similar communities. [If the City Manager recommends increasing the change in the proposed drainage utility charge, the City Manager is directed to bring back any necessary ordinances to achieve that objective.]

ADOPTED: _____, 2026

ATTEST: _____

Erika Brady
City Clerk