RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, 15 percent of the Travis County population is food insecure, with disproportionately high food insecurity along the IH-35 corridor, in the Eastern Crescent, and in rural parts of the County; and

WHEREAS, currently in Austin/Travis County:13 acres of farmland are lost each day; only 1.1 percent of farmland (2,310 acres) is devoted to fruits and vegetables;1.24 million pounds of food are wasted every day; only 0.06 percent of food consumed is locally produced; and as of 2022, 18 out of 47 zip codes lack a grocery store; and

WHEREAS, for Austin/Travis County to be a thriving, healthy, and just community, it must have an equitable, sustainable, and resilient local food system; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2021, the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board recommended that the City and Travis County support and fund an Austin Travis County Food Plan (Plan) and that such plan be developed through an equitable, inclusive process led by a Community Advisory Board comprised of community and business members impacted by food system inequities; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2021, Austin City Council passed Resolution No. 20210610-039 directing the development of a five-year food plan for Austin/Travis County and thereby addressing racial disparities within our community's food system; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Office of Sustainability published the *State of the Food System Report* as a starting point to understand Austin's current food system; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Travis County Food Plan incorporates the community's vision and core values for our local food system; and

WHEREAS, The Austin/Travis County community has been deeply engaged in shaping this Plan, demonstrated by community member participation in Plan meetings and events, feedback collected, and the commitment of many individuals working tirelessly on all aspects of the planning process; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Travis County Food Plan is a set of priorities for the next five years developed by city and county-wide partners from a variety of background across the food system; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Travis County Food Plan honors local agencies and actors who have previously identified strategies to advance our food system; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Travis County Food Plan is an active living document that will ignite and mobilize a local food movement centered around the implementation of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2024, the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board approved the Austin Travis County Food Plan; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2024, the Travis County Commissioners Court approved the Austin Travis County Food Plan; and

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2024, the City Council will vote to approve the adoption of Austin Travis County Food Plan, which sets the vision and goals for achieving a just, accessible, and culturally diverse food system in Austin/Travis County for the next five years; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Travis County Food Plan includes a number of strategies that may be implemented and/or launched in the short-term, and the imperative to act means City Council cannot wait for the next budget cycle to make investments that further advance the strategies outlined therein; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

City Council affirms support for the vision, goals, and strategies outlined within the Austin Travis County Food Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

In adopting the Austin Travis County Food Plan, the City Council recognizes that the City is one partner of many of the community co-created plan, and therefore directs the City Manager to:

- Work with Plan partners, businesses, and the community to develop an asset map of available resources and current food system conditions.
- Use the strategies and goals outlined in the Austin Travis County Food Plan to create a roadmap with actionable steps for the City to prioritize and lead.
- Identify ongoing funding and partnership opportunities to implement Plan strategies.
- Continue to engage and support community-based organizations, school districts and higher education entities, small and large businesses, faith communities, grassroots initiatives, and individual community members to collaboratively achieve all goals within the Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to identify and clearly define leadership roles and responsibilities over the implementation of the various strategies within the Austin Travis County Food Plan, including defining metrics and measurements of success. Furthermore, the City Manager is directed to return to Council with an update by March 2025 and provide quarterly biannual updates on the implementation of the Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to identify and prioritize the strategies within the Austin Travis County Food Plan that address racial inequities and have a large impact on displacement, food access and insecurity, food workers, emergency food preparedness and response, and agricultural land. Staff shall identify strategy priorities to be included as part of the next bond package.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to identify funding in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget for investment in and implementation of the Austin Travis County Food Plan. In the meantime, the City Manager is directed to identify strategies in the Plan that do not require a budget amendment and can be launched in the near-term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Before the end of the Plan's initial five-year time frame, the City Manager is directed to work with the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board and Plan partners to assess the state of the Plan and provide a recommendation to update the

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97 98 99 <u>Plan accordingly.</u> <u>Upon adoption of the Plan, the City Manager is directed to commence the planning process to update the Plan within the next five years.</u>

ADOPTED: ______, 2024 **ATTEST:** _____

Myrna Rios City Clerk