

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2024, Council adopted the Austin/Travis County Food Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Austin/Travis County Food Plan establishes a goal to “expand access to nutritious and culturally relevant food in food distribution programs and food retail locations for residents of Austin/Travis County experiencing food insecurity or facing barriers to food access (proximity, mobility, income, and availability) with priority investment in areas experiencing high rates of food insecurity;” and

WHEREAS, according to Feeding America Map the Meal Gap Reports in 2023, 16.4% of children in Travis County’s population were food insecure; and

WHEREAS, the City has an interlocal agreement with Austin Independent School District for the provision of resources connecting parents and families to family-centered and other social services through parent support specialists; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 includes \$1,290,000 in ongoing general funds for parent support specialists; and

WHEREAS, a pilot program of school food pantries located at Title I elementary schools in Austin and surrounding areas had the following outcomes, as documented in a Central Texas Food Bank survey of caregiver-participants:

- Increased access to nutritious food,
- Reduced financial strain,
- Perceived improvement in stress,
- Improved caregiver’s perception of the school,
- Reduced feelings of stigma when needing support from a pantry, and
- Perceived improvement in household’s eating habits;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

The City Manager is directed to partner with local school districts and the Central Texas Food Bank to establish on-site food pantries and parent support specialists at Title I elementary schools within the City limits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Priority shall be given to Title I schools with the designation of Campuses Identified for Comprehensive Support under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) or Campuses Identified for Targeted Support under the ESSA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVER:

After selection of elementary schools has been made, the City shall fund infrastructure for on-site food pantries, including refrigerators, freezers, and shelving.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to report back on the progress of school selection by no later than November of 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to present Council with reports on the progress of this resolution by January of 2026.

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

Erika Brady
City Clerk