

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations (HSO) Office's mission is to make homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring; and

WHEREAS, downtown Austin has a need for compassionate, comprehensive, and multi-departmental homelessness response resources, programs, and street outreach services such as, but not limited to, the Homeless Outreach Street Team (HOST) and the Austin Community Court (ACC) Mobile Court; and

WHEREAS, HOST is an innovative and collaborative initiative that operates primarily in the Downtown and West Campus area, occasionally assisting other parts of the city to address the needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, ACC Mobile Court is an important part of Austin's Homelessness Response System, providing walk-in homeless services to an estimated 70 people per day onsite at the downtown location. Most notably, the ACC Mobile Court provides services to resolve cases and outstanding warrants across Austin; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Point in Time (PIT) ~~ecount~~ (PIT) is to better understand the scope, characteristics and subpopulations of people experiencing homelessness in Austin the City so that funding and services may be targeted appropriately; and

WHEREAS, PIT count data released by ECHO in May 2025 reported 3,238 people are experiencing homelessness, with 1,577 people sleeping unsheltered.

24 Some of the highest PIT count numbers in the [eCity](#) were found in the 78701,
25 78704, 78744, 78702, 78753, and 78741 zip codes; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the State of the Homelessness Response System published by
27 ECHO revealed a 72 [percent%](#) increase in the number of people seeking services
28 from the Homelessness Response System for the first time, indicating an
29 improving street outreach system; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the [State of Texas Legislature](#) enacted HB 1925 in September
31 2021, making it a Class C misdemeanor to camp in a public place; and

32 **WHEREAS**, ECHO reported 1,307 citations have been issued under
33 camping ban [laws ordinances](#), such as HB1925, since 2021; and

34 **WHEREAS**, many of the zip codes with the highest PIT count numbers in
35 the [eCity of Austin](#) are not located downtown and Austinites experiencing
36 homelessness in these areas deserve the same consistent, compassionate,
37 comprehensive, and multi-departmental homelessness response resources,
38 programs, and street outreach services; and

39 **WHEREAS**, Resolution [No.](#) 20250130-083 adopted the State of
40 Homelessness Response System report and directed the City Manager to prioritize
41 investments for a balanced homelessness response system, including resources and
42 staffing within the [HSO Office of Homeless Strategy Office](#); and

43 **WHEREAS**, [the Austin City](#) Council adopted the City [b](#)Budget for the
44 2025-2026 fiscal year and amended it to include an increase [in](#) [of](#) \$35.5 million to
45 expand programs intended to increase housing affordability and reduce
46 homelessness, dependent upon voter approval of a tax rate increase.

47 **WHEREAS**, ~~T~~his budget expansion increase includes \$2 million in
48 ongoing funding for street outreach efforts to improve engagement with
49 unsheltered individuals, enhance public health response, and connect people
50 individuals to housing and services; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

52 The Austin City Council reaffirms its commitment to prioritizing affordable
53 housing projects funded or secured through the City or the Austin Housing Finance
54 Corporation that seek to maximize the number of units accepting referrals via the
55 Coordinated Entry System and to make existing and available units accessible to
56 tenant-based permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing, as a part of the
57 Homelessness Response System, by committing to accepting referrals from the
58 Coordinated Entry System, as outlined in Resolution No. 20221208-067.

59 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

60 The Austin City Council directs the City Manager to develop a plan to
61 prioritize, expand, and align the operations of street and community outreach
62 (~~SCO~~)(SCO). The Plans should include programs and initiatives such as, but not
63 limited to, ~~the Homeless Outreach Street Team~~ (the HOST), the Austin
64 Community Court (ACC) Mobile Court, the No Wrong Door initiative, the Austin
65 FIRST initiative, Programs for Assistance in the Transition from Homelessness
66 (PATH), and Austin-HSO outreach. The plan should consider how to identify and
67 serve regions of the CityAustin that experience disproportionate incidence and
68 prevalence of homelessness as reflected in data sources such as the Homeless
69 Management Information System (HMIS), ~~Point in Time Count (PITPIT)~~, Austin
70 311 Service Requests, Austin 911 calls for service, and additional data sources

71 and measures identified by [Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations \(HSO\)](#).
72 Moreover, this prioritization, expansion, and integration plan should emphasize the
73 importance of primary and mental healthcare service connection, de-escalation
74 training, access to crisis shelter, respite beds, housing navigation services and
75 potential alternative forms of shelter.

76 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

77 The City Manager is directed to outline a street outreach sequence, aligned
78 with a proposed encampment management sequence for people experiencing
79 homelessness to gather personal belongings and outreach workers to provide
80 appropriate resources and housing connections. This sequence should be made
81 available to the appropriate providers in the homeless care continuum that may be
82 involved in ongoing care for individuals in an encampment before action is taken.

83 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

84 ~~Furthermore, t~~The City Manager [should is directed to](#) develop a process to
85 review and report circumstances the street outreach and encampment management
86 sequence is not followed for any reason.

87 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

88 The City Manager is directed to produce a feasibility study, outlining any
89 relevant fiscal considerations, to expand the Violet KeepSafe Storage program to
90 protect individuals' vital documents, belongings, and medications at all times.

91 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

92 The City Manager is directed to update the ongoing progress, metrics of
93 success, and gaps in services on dashboards related to homelessness response such
94 as, but not limited to, a Homeless Encampment Management Dashboard and
95 the public reporting dashboard of the performance of service providers, as outlined
96 in Council Resolution No. 20250813-012.

97 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

98 The City Manager is directed to present the prioritization and expansion plan
99 to the Austin City Council no later than December 11, 2025.

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

102 Erika Brady
103 City Clerk