

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City Manager’s draft Fiscal Year 2025-2027 budget proposed eliminating a combined \$16.8 million in ongoing social service funding beginning next year; and

WHEREAS, the City Council passed a budget with a “restoration of social service funding” at \$12.8 million, but no process was specified for identifying priorities for the \$4 million in contracts between Austin Public Health, Homeless Strategy Office, Austin Community Court, and the Economic Development Department; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20160616-035 directed the funds derived from property taxes generated by formerly publicly owned land to be deposited in the Housing Trust Fund and used to advance housing affordability initiatives like local housing vouchers; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20240814-026 directed the funds derived from delinquent property tax penalties and interest to be deposited in the House Our People Endowment Fund (HOPE Fund) to be used for capital or operating expenses for housing and service providers to supplement City efforts related to homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Council passed Resolution No. 20250130-083 adopting the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) State of Homelessness Response System report and modeling as a guideline to inform investments in the homelessness response system, and requested staff to develop a detailed investment plan for the homelessness response system; and

25 **WHEREAS**, on November 6, 2024, the Ending Community Homelessness
26 Coalition (ECHO) presented a 10-year system model to the Austin Public Health
27 Committee, and Council subsequently adopted this model as guidance in
28 Resolution No. 20250130-083, using it to inform investments in the homeless
29 response system; and

30 **WHEREAS**, on June 25, 2025, the Homeless Strategy Office issued a
31 memo to Mayor and Council entitled “Staff Response to Homeless Response
32 System Ongoing Investment Opportunities (Resolution No. 20250130-083)” which
33 included high level descriptions of interventions and suggested investment levels
34 for the City and partner entities over the next ten years; and

35 **WHEREAS**, the Council passed a budget with a significant increase in
36 funding to address homelessness and Resolution No. 20250813-012 directing the
37 development of a public dashboard for homeless strategy office performance; and

38 **WHEREAS**, people enter, experience, and exit homelessness in a wide
39 variety of ways, but unique characteristics of sub-populations require specific
40 interventions or have specific resource opportunities; and

41 **WHEREAS**, Council adopted Resolution No. 20240926-075 directing
42 Council priority areas for evaluation by the Bond Election Advisory Task Force
43 and amended the Fiscal Year 2025-27 budget to set aside additional funding for
44 planning for bond development; and

45 **WHEREAS**, one adopted Council parks priority that would assist Austin in
46 becoming “the best city in the country to be a kid” is the creation of a metropolitan
47 splash park and to be considered in the bond development process, further planning
48 and cost estimates are required; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to prepare the Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget with ongoing social service funding restored and develop an evaluation process for identifying \$4 million in cuts to social service funding and present a process proposal to the Council Public Health and Economic Opportunity Committees by December 3, 2025, and this process should include notification of vendors and planning for an orderly ramp down in services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council re-affirms its commitment to the established funding mechanisms of the Housing Trust Fund and HOPE Fund by an ongoing dedication of funds from City property taxes derived from public property returned to the tax rolls, and from penalty and interest on delinquent taxes, respectively; and the City Manager is directed to return to Council with an ordinance memorializing these funding mechanisms but allows for flexibility in budgeting during years when the City is below its financial policy for general fund reserves.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

In executing the Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations investment plan, the City Manager is directed to utilize a proportional increase (15%) of the total increases in homelessness-related programs such as prevention, diversion, shelter, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing (including operations and service dollars) to address youth homelessness, and such proportional funding does not have to be within each program administered by the Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations but rather be based on the net increase in homelessness programs referenced above. The Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations is

73 directed to monitor and regularly report on subpopulation data as part of the
74 Homelessness Performance Dashboard.

75 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

76 The City Manager is directed to utilize any funding deposited into the HOPE
77 Fund for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to address youth homelessness.

78 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

79 The City Manager is directed to utilize homeless prevention and diversion
80 funding to establish a new grant program dedicated to providing financial
81 assistance to local organizations historically serving LGBTQIA+ individuals who
82 are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused with priority to transgender,
83 nonbinary, and gender-expansive individuals. The City Manager is directed to
84 engage the LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission in the process of
85 drafting the scope of work for the grant program and processes to help ensure
86 community standards and expectations are adequately represented in the newly
87 established grant program.

88 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

89 The City Manager is directed to develop a proposal for a non-sworn public
90 safety response pilot and present to the Council Public Safety Committee by
91 December 1, 2025. The pilot proposal should utilize contracted third-parties to
92 immediately augment sworn personnel. Priority should be given to scalable efforts
93 in departments experiencing the greatest staffing shortage. If supplemental funding
94 is required for a successful pilot, the City Manager is directed to return to Council
95 with a mid-year budget request as appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to provide timely support of the bond development process by conducting a site selection, plan, and cost estimates for the metropolitan splash park in time for consideration by the Bond Election Advisory Task Force and City Council prior to setting the 2026 General Obligation Bond.

ADOPTED: _____, 2025 **ATTEST:** _____
Erika Brady
City Clerk