

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan includes several policies related to collaboration with local school districts in planning for public facilities and community services, recognizing that a robust public school system is vital to our city; and

WHEREAS, for more than a decade, multiple work groups and task forces have recommended strategies for the City of Austin (City) and the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to improve their coordination, collaboration, and planning efforts, including AISD's 2008 Community Committee on Neighborhoods and Schools, the City's 2008 Families and Children Task Force, the 2011 Urban Parks Work Group, the 2011 AISD Facilities Master Plan Task Force, and the 2014 Families and Children work group of the Joint Subcommittee of AISD, the City, and Travis County; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the City Council passed Resolution No. 20100729-041, which authorized an interlocal agreement with Travis County and AISD implementing the recommendations of the Joint Subcommittee of the City, Travis County and AISD, regarding developing policies supportive of families and children, and neighborhoods and schools; and

WHEREAS, in the midst of AISD's budget shortfall in 2011, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 20110217-048, directing the City Manager to enter into discussions with AISD to identify potential operational efficiencies and partnership

22 opportunities to help ensure the success of AISD primary and secondary schools citywide,
23 and to partner with AISD to develop demographic information to guide future planning
24 efforts; and

25 **WHEREAS**, in 2014 the City began its financial contribution to programs that
26 operate in AISD schools and serve a municipal purpose, including Family Resource
27 Centers, afterschool programs, and parent-teacher support specialists; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in response to the "Retaining Families and Strengthening Schools in
29 Central Austin" report and in acknowledgement of the critical role that schools and
30 families play in maintaining strong communities, the City Council adopted Resolution No.
31 20141016-028, directing the City Manager to develop a timeline for strategies to promote
32 the development of family-friendly housing, such as strategies that embrace the
33 collaboration between AISD, Travis County, and the City to address the multiple issues
34 impacting families with children including:

- 35 • addressing school attendance zones with declining enrollments as identified by
36 AISD;
- 37 • targeting programs to create more family-sized housing in those zones, as well as
38 areas of higher opportunity, as appropriate;
- 39 • prioritizing housing bond funds for affordable housing for families with children;

- establishing a policy to be adopted by public entities to include the City, Travis County, and AISD regarding surplus property and capital planning coordination; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution 20161013-005, providing the authority that enabled the City Manager to respond to AISD's requests for proposals to lease, purchase, or partner several of its properties; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution 20161103-045 directing the City Manager to have the City's Strategic Facilities Governance Team work with other local governmental and quasi-governmental entities, including AISD, to create a process for identifying opportunities within each entity's real estate portfolio to achieve shared priority policy goals, such as creating affordable and permanent supportive housing, supporting transportation goals, or supporting space for creatives on sites or within facilities that no longer are needed to serve their original purpose; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Joint Subcommittee of AISD, the City, and Travis County prioritized the development of a joint project to build affordable housing on publicly-owned land and, in Fall 2018, affirmed its commitment to re-engaging this discussion; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 20161013-005 and other resolutions, the City Council has identified income-restricted affordable housing (particularly in high-opportunity areas), workforce development, open space and recreation, child care, environmental

60 protection, and other community benefits as priorities in future use and redevelopment of
61 publicly-owned land; and

62 **WHEREAS**, as the City, AISD, and Travis County came together to find public
63 land that can be used to build affordable housing, the City Council approved Resolution
64 No. 20161208-007, which declared the City Council's strong support of an affordable
65 housing proposal for the use of the AISD-owned Allan Center; and

66 **WHEREAS**, the City Council approved Resolution No. 20180510-049, which
67 directed the City Manager to, among other things, work in partnership with AISD to help
68 successfully deploy implementation of the 2017 Bond, which is intended to bring new and
69 modernized schools to the students of AISD; and

70 **WHEREAS**, despite substantial increases in the Austin area population, AISD has
71 seen a persistent decline in student enrollment, with a projected decline of 4,266 students
72 over the ten-year projection time frame, for a net decrease of 4.8%; and

73 **WHEREAS**, since 2013, it is estimated that AISD has lost approximately \$55
74 million due to enrollment losses of more than 6,000 students; and

75 **WHEREAS**, in compliance with Chapter 41 of the Texas Education Code, AISD
76 submits approximately 55% of its revenue to the state, equaling an estimated \$669.6
77 million for Fiscal Year 2019, with a projected annual payment of more than \$884 million
78 by Fiscal Year 2020; and

79 **WHEREAS**, from FY 2002 to FY 2019, AISD will have submitted more than \$3.7
80 billion to the state; and

81 **WHEREAS**, these factors have created significant operating and capital funding
82 gaps for AISD and have forced the district to consider options for reducing expenses and
83 increasing revenue in order to maintain and enhance its core mission of providing a
84 comprehensive educational experience that is high-quality, challenging, and inspires all
85 students to make a positive contribution to society; and

86 **WHEREAS**, to meet these extreme financial challenges, while maintaining student
87 success, AISD is considering potential school closures, facility leasing, school
88 consolidations, and boundary changes, major decisions for which AISD's Community
89 Committee on Neighborhoods and Schools has recommended a defined public process to
90 ensure community engagement; and

91 **WHEREAS**, as part of its Facilities Master Planning process, it may be appropriate
92 for AISD to consider the community benefits potential of a site when deciding the future
93 of a campus or district facility as part of the decision-making and vetting process; and

94 **WHEREAS**, by this resolution the City Council does not desire to advocate for any
95 particular action concerning the use of AISD campuses nor any long-term budget
96 decisions that AISD may confront, but instead aims to provide information that could
97 enhance the decision-making process and to reiterate its commitment to partner on

98 solutions that would yield strong benefits for students and the community at large; **NOW,**
99 **THEREFORE,**

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

101 The City Council reaffirms its ongoing and sincere commitment to collaborate with
102 AISD for the benefit of the students and families within its district boundaries.

103 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

104 The City Council directs the City Manager to prioritize the existing and ongoing
105 collaborative work of the Strategic Facilities Governance Team with AISD to identify
106 opportunities to achieve shared priority policy goals, including without limitation:

- 107 • income-restricted affordable housing in high-opportunity areas or areas susceptible
108 to gentrification and displacement;
- 109 • workforce development;
- 110 • open space and recreation;
- 111 • child care;
- 112 • environmental protection; and
- 113 • other community benefits;

114 and to provide information and regular updates to AISD, to the City Council, and to the
115 Joint Subcommittee.

116 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

117 The City Council asks the AISD Board of Trustees and Administration to consider
118 opportunities to provide community benefits on all or part of campus sites as appropriate
119 in upcoming facilities and budget deliberations.

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122 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2019

ATTEST: _____

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Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

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