

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin strives to be an active and supportive participant in national and global initiatives that align with the City’s goals of becoming a thriving, equitable, and resilient community; and

WHEREAS, cities across the United States, including Austin, have stepped up to reaffirm their continued commitment to and support of global climate efforts, despite inconsistent participation by our federal government across presidential administrations; and

WHEREAS, the United States has previously withdrawn membership from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1984 and 2018 and subsequently reinstated UNESCO membership in 2002 and 2023, respectively, and has withdrawn membership from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in 2018 and subsequently reinstated UNHRC membership in 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, Austin achieved the distinction of being the first city in the United States to receive a “City of Media Arts” designation from UNESCO, underscoring Austin’s reputation as a trendsetting global city; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations (UN) created 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the 17 UN SDGs can be summarized as: no poverty; zero hunger; good health and well-being; quality education; gender equality; clean water and sanitation; affordable and clean energy; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation and infrastructure; reduced inequalities; sustainable

25 cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; climate action;
26 life below water; life on land; peace, justice and strong institutions; and partnership
27 for the goals; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the UN SDGs highlight the connections between the
29 environmental, social, and economic aspects of sustainable development; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the UN SDGs serve as an urgent call for action to tackle
31 climate change in a global partnership while amplifying the climate inequities and
32 injustices low-income communities and communities of color disproportionately
33 shoulder; and

34 **WHEREAS**, the UN SDGs have influenced global and national debates but
35 have struggled to achieve transformative changes in policy and institutional
36 structures, complicating the global endeavor towards sustainable development; and

37 **WHEREAS**, the City is an active leader in sustainability and climate justice
38 with the adoption and guidance of Council-approved plans, including the Austin
39 Climate Equity Plan, Water Forward Plan, the Austin/Travis County Food Plan,
40 Austin Strategic Mobility Plan, the Austin Energy Resource, Generation and
41 Climate Protection Plan to 2035, and many more; and

42 **WHEREAS**, these City plans and other initiatives and commitments overlap
43 with several SDGs, varying in phases of development, direction, and
44 implementation; and

45 **WHEREAS**, the UN SDG Actions Platform is a global registry of voluntary
46 policies, commitments, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and other initiatives made
47 by governments, the UN system, and a broad range of stakeholders to support
48 acceleration of the UN SDGs; and

WHEREAS, the UN SDG Actions Platform serves as a tool to help inspire and mobilize actions around the world to promote the implementation of the SDGs; and

WHEREAS, the UN encourages governments to register their policies, initiatives, and commitments that accelerate the implementation of one or multiple SDGs on the SDG Actions Platform; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

Council declares the City of Austin’s support for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council directs the City Manager to:

1. identify major City actions (policies, initiatives, and commitments) that accelerate the implementation of one or multiple UN SDGs and to register those actions in the online UN SDG Actions Platform;
2. identify gaps in our implementation of the SDGs and recommend additional major City actions that could accelerate the SDGs, including educational initiatives, such as Austin Public Library programming around the UN SDG Book Club Reading List Catalogue; and
3. produce a report for Council on these existing major City actions, the recommended additional actions, and a suggested approach to implementation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

This report shall be presented to Council no later than November 4, 2025.

ADOPTED: _____, 2025

ATTEST: _____

Myrna Rios
City Clerk

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