

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

57 **~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:~~**

58
59 The City Council re-affirms its commitment to the established funding
60 mechanisms of the Housing Trust Fund and HOPE Fund by an ongoing dedication
61 of funds from City property taxes derived from public property returned to the tax
62 rolls, and from penalty and interest on delinquent taxes, respectively; and the City
63 Manager is directed to return to Council with an ordinance memorializing these
64 funding mechanisms but allows for flexibility in budgeting during years when the
65 City is below its financial policy for general fund reserves.

67

68 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

69 In executing the Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations investment plan,
70 the City Manager is directed ~~to utilize a proportional increase (15%) to prioritize~~
71 ~~funding for addressing youth experiencing homelessness. In carrying out such a~~
72 ~~prioritization, the Manager shall target to allocate at least a representative proportion~~
73 ~~of youth experiencing homelessness (15%) from-of the total budgetary~~ increases in
74 homelessness-related programs ~~from FYiscal Year 2024-2025 to Fiscal Year 2025-~~
75 ~~2026~~ such as prevention, diversion, shelter, rapid rehousing, and permanent
76 supportive housing (including operations and service dollars) ~~to address youth~~
77 ~~homelessness., and s~~Such proportional funding does not have to be within each
78 program administered by the Austin Homeless Strategies and Operations but rather
79 be based on the net increase in homelessness programs referenced above.

80 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

81 ~~The City Manager is further directed to ensure that investments in~~
82 ~~homelessness response also include targeted resources for veterans experiencing or~~
83 ~~at risk of homelessness, including, but not limited to, prevention, housing, and~~
84 ~~supportive service interventions. The Commission on Veterans Affairs should be~~
85 ~~engaged in developing strategies and priorities to ensure that veterans' needs are~~
86 ~~represented in these investments, including specialized mental health and trauma-~~
87 ~~informed care services.~~

88 ~~The~~
89 ~~To improve transparency and accountability, the~~ Austin Homeless
90 Strategies and Operations ~~is-directed to shall~~ monitor and regularly report on
91 subpopulation data, such as, but not limited to, youth, older adults, LGBTQ
individuals, and veterans as part of the Homelessness Performance Dashboard.

92

93 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

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

96 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

97 The City Manager is directed to ~~utilize homeless prevention and diversion~~
98 ~~funding to establish a new grant program dedicated to providing financial assistance~~
99 ~~to local organizations historically serving LGBTQIA+ individuals who are unhoused~~
100 ~~or at risk of becoming unhoused with priority to transgender, nonbinary, and gender-~~
101 ~~expansive individuals consistent with Recommendation 20250317-006 of the~~
102 ~~LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission, with available revenues within the~~
103 ~~HSO budget if the 2025 tax rate election is approved.~~ The City Manager is directed
104 to engage the LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission in the process of
105 drafting the scope of work for the grant program and processes to help ensure
106 community standards and expectations are adequately represented in the newly
107 established grant program.

108 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

109 ~~The City Manager is directed to utilize homeless prevention and diversion~~
110 ~~funding to establish a new grant program dedicated to providing financial assistance~~
111 ~~to local organizations historically serving LGBTQIA+ individuals who are unhoused~~
112 ~~or at risk of becoming unhoused with priority to transgender, nonbinary, and gender-~~
113 ~~expansive individuals. The City Manager is directed to engage the LGBTQ Quality~~
114 ~~of Life Advisory Commission in the process of drafting the scope of work for the~~
115 ~~grant program and processes to help ensure community standards and expectations~~
116 ~~are adequately represented in the newly established grant program.~~

117 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

118 ~~The City Manager is directed to ensure that investments in homelessness~~
119 ~~response include targeted resources for veterans experiencing or at risk of~~
120 ~~homelessness, including, but not limited to, prevention, housing, and supportive~~
121 ~~service interventions. The City Manager is further directed to engage the~~
122 ~~Commission on Veterans Affairs in developing strategies and priorities to ensure~~
123 ~~that veterans' needs are represented in these investments, including specialized~~
124 ~~mental health and trauma informed care services.~~

125 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

126 The City Manager is directed to ~~develop a proposal~~identify duties currently
127 ~~being performed by sworn personnel that could be performed by~~for a non-sworn
128 public safety ~~response~~ pilot and present to the Council Public Safety Committee by
129 ~~December 1, 2025~~personnel through a pilot program in Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The
130 goal of such a pilot should be to provide sworn personnel with greater time to
131 ~~perform high-priority duties and lower departmental costs.~~The pilot proposal should
132 ~~utilize contracted third parties to immediately augment sworn personnel.~~ Priority
133 should be given to scalable efforts in departments experiencing the greatest staffing
134 shortage. ~~If supplemental funding is required for a successful pilot, the City Manager~~
135 ~~is directed to return to Council with a mid year budget request as appropriate.~~

136 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

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

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

Erika Brady
City Clerk

DRAFT