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26 **WHEREAS**, the City of Houston also administers council district service
27 funds, where each council member receives a set amount of discretionary funds
28 that they can allocate toward a specific community need such as street repairs,
29 infrastructure enhancements, neighborhood beautification projects, support for
30 local nonprofit organizations, overtime pay for Houston police, staff overtime to
31 expedite residential permitting review requests, park improvements, sidewalk
32 repairs, community center upgrades, and miscellaneous neighborhood
33 enhancement projects, and the projects are updated on a publicly accessible online
34 dashboard with a detailed accounting of how each council district utilizes the
35 discretionary funds and the status of funded projects; and

36 **WHEREAS**, discretionary funds can serve as a mechanism that allows
37 council district offices to respond quickly to address community needs and
38 constituent concerns without navigating lengthy city planning and budgetary
39 processes in a way that is responsive and provides attention to minor projects that
40 often get overlooked in the broader budget or delayed by citywide initiatives;

41 **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

43 The City Manager is directed to develop a pilot program for implementing
44 Council Member District Service Funds for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget, and
45 the purpose of these funds shall be to address neighborhood-specific needs of
46 individual council member districts promptly, for use at the discretion of each
47 council member within a recommended legal and ethical framework.

49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

50 The City Manager shall develop recommendations, in collaboration with the
51 City Council offices, for the implementation of Council Member District Service
52 Funds, including but not limited to:

- 53 • the budgeted amount for each Council District considering factors such as
54 equitable dispersion, areas of historical disinvestment, growth areas, and
55 alignment with the City's Capital Improvement Program,
- 56 • any ordinance necessary to meet the City's existing legal and ethical
57 framework including conflict of interest policy and comply with state law
58 regarding the use of public funds, transparency, and reporting,
- 59 • a decision-making framework that provides for consistency and transparency
60 in how funding shall be utilized by Council offices, and
- 61 • a mechanism for publicly and transparently reporting the utilization of funds
62 and the progress of funded projects.

63 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

64 The City Manager shall report back to Council with recommendations by
65 March 1, 2025.

66
67 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2024

68 **ATTEST:** _____
69 Myrna Rios
70 City Clerk