

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, families and children are critical to the growth, diversity, vibrancy, and economic vitality of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is committed to being the most family-friendly city in the country and to ensuring that its policies and decisions support and enhance the quality of life for Austin's families and children; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 20070621-097 established the Families and Children Taskforce to consider and make recommendations on the challenges families with children face living in Austin; and

WHEREAS, the Families and Children Taskforce presented their recommendations to the Austin City Council on October 16, 2008, and to the Joint Subcommittee of the Austin Independent School District, the City of Austin, and Travis County on January 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all residents of Austin that the City of Austin, Austin Independent School District, and Travis County collaborate on all major planning efforts, including the City's Comprehensive Plan and School District's Strategic Plan and Master Facilities Plan; **NOW THEREFORE;**

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

The City Council establishes the Families and Children Planning and Advisory Group, a cooperative effort between the City of Austin, Austin Independent School District, and Travis County, to coordinate and collaborate on the implementation of the recommendations of the Families and Children Taskforce and the Community Committee on Neighborhoods and Schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to provide ongoing staff support to assist in the coordination of the Advisory Group and to invite city staff to participate as expert stakeholders to contribute in the development and implementation of policies and programs to promote a more family-friendly city, including, but not limited to, the following recommendations by the taskforce:

- An assessment tool that enables the City of Austin and AISD to identify and evaluate the educational impact of code changes and large-scale developments and redevelopments;
- Establish multi-use facilities at new and existing schools in partnership with public/private/non-profit entities, including housing non-profits, with particular emphasis on under-enrolled and challenged campuses;
- A housing assistance program to reduce student mobility rates incorporating credit counseling for families and foreclosure assistance;

- Expansion of support for curricular initiatives and innovative programs, including after school programs, through public/private/non-profit partnerships; and
- Support for neighborhood-based schools.

ADOPTED: _____, 2009

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk