

Resolution In Support of Supervised Children's Activities (Child Care) During Austin Community Meetings

For consideration by the Early Childhood Council April 12, 2017

WHEREAS, The Early Childhood Council of the City of Austin is charged with making recommendations to City Council that support cooperative arrangements that support quality care and education for children and families; and

WHEREAS, supporting families with children and providing them along with their children the opportunity to participate in supervised children's activities during Austin community meetings can improve public engagement in community meetings; and

WHEREAS, the ability to participate in community meetings would allow more parents and families to engage and actively take part in the decision making process presented to them by the city, and

WHEREAS, additional participation by parents and families would in turn enhance the ability for city leaders in all departments to better understand and plan for the needs of families living in Austin, and

WHEREAS, offering supervised children's activities would foster reciprocal communication and establish a connection between families and city leaders as well as departments to improve on programs across the city;

WHEREAS, studies have shown that the existence of supervised children's activities at public meetings contribute to more participation by parents and families in said meetings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Austin Early Childhood Council recommends that the City Council support and fund supervised children's activities during community meetings; and

THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that said supervised children's activities be implemented that are in compliance with standard child care policies and procedures to maximize benefits for children participating in programs.