

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the 2017 Point in Time Count, a survey of all individuals experiencing homelessness in Travis County on a particular evening, identified approximately 2,036 people experiencing homelessness in Travis County; and

WHEREAS, while the 2018 Point in Time Count data is still being verified, preliminary estimations project that the number of households experiencing homelessness in Travis County has increased since 2017; and

WHEREAS, housing and social service providers in this community are deploying successful strategies in combatting homelessness, but they need to increase the scale of these activities to effectively end homelessness in Travis County; and

WHEREAS, over the course of 2017, the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) worked with housing and social service providers and community stakeholders to compose a strategic plan to ensure that homelessness is a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2017, the City created an interdepartmental team to review the City's coordinated efforts regarding homelessness in Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City's interdepartmental team provided feedback that has been integrated into "Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness"; and

WHEREAS, the December 2017 audit report, “Homelessness Assistance Audit Series: Coordination of the City’s Homelessness Assistance Efforts,” recommended that the City develop a comprehensive strategic plan to guide City efforts to address homelessness; and

WHEREAS, “Austin’s Action Plan to End Homelessness” (attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit A) delineates five critical methods to effectively end homelessness:

- 1) Outreach services and shelters;
- 2) Addressing disparities;
- 3) Providing housing and support services;
- 4) Strengthening our response system; and
- 5) Building community commitment from both the public and private sectors.

WHEREAS, the “Action Plan to End Homelessness” includes successful efforts and strategies deployed during the City’s successful campaign to end homelessness among veterans and is intended to activate both private and public resources to fund innovative policies, programs, and services; and

WHEREAS, the ECHO Membership Council, comprised of social agencies, service providers and stakeholders, such as the City’s Austin Public Health

Department, LifeWorks, Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Services, Downtown Austin Alliance, Caritas of Austin, Housing Authority of the City of Austin, Austin Travis County Integral Care, SAFE Alliance, Central Health, HousingWorks, and the City's Austin Police Department, and individuals with lived experiences of homelessness, voted to endorse the "Action Plan to End Homelessness" during ECHO Membership Council's February 5, 2018, meeting; and

WHEREAS, the "Action Plan to End Homelessness" states its intent to be "a living document updated along the way to reflect lessons learned and the evolving needs of our community"; and

WHEREAS, the City Council affirms its commitment to help create opportunities for our most vulnerable neighbors to attain a pathway out of homelessness; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

Council endorses the "Austin Action Plan to End Homelessness" as an evolving blueprint for ending homelessness in our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to coordinate with ECHO, the Office of Performance Management, and other partners to provide regular updates to Council regarding the community’s evolving needs and strategic outcomes related to homelessness and how the “Action Plan to End Homelessness” may be adjusted to reflect those needs and strategic outcomes.

ADOPTED: _____, 2018

ATTEST: _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk