

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20211012-03C

Date: October 12, 2021

Subject: Commitment to using the Racial Equity Anti-Displacement Tool beyond Project

Connect

Motioned By: Commissioner Delgado Seconded By: Commissioner Woods

Recommendation:

WHEREAS, to address the affordable housing crisis, the voters of Austin approved the 2018 GO Bond; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Austin also approved a \$300 million investment in anti-displacement initiatives, along with a commitment to expanding rail service throughout Austin, all of which are a subset of the larger Project Connect Initiative of \$7 billion; and

WHEREAS, black, brown, and other communities of color and marginalized peoples are threatened by displacement due to a shortage in deeply affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the City must prioritize the protection of longtime residents from displacement; and

WHEREAS, the City has made a commitment to equity and justice; and

WHEREAS, the Project Connect Community Catalyst Group with assistance from City Staff has created the Racial Equity Anti-Displacement Tool in order to ensure that anti-displacement funding benefit people most at risk of displacement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Austin Community Development Commission advises the Austin City Council to commit to the development and implementation of the Project Connect Anti-Displacement Equity Tool; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Austin Community Development Commission advises the Austin City Council to commit to the application of the fully developed Equity Tool as a framework to evaluate any and all current and future initiatives, such as the 2018 GO Bond and other housing initiatives, that aim to address the historic inequalities faced by black, brown, and other communities of color and marginalized peoples of Austin.

Date of Approval: October 12, 2021

Record of the Vote: Approved by the Community Development Commission on 9-0 vote with Commissioner Garret abstaining.

Against: None

Absent: Fisayo Fadelu, Miriam Garcia, Shakita Hawthorne-Plair, Michael Tolliver

Attest:

Commissioner Jose Noe Elias