

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, ongoing gentrification in Austin is resulting in the displacement of low- and moderate-income residents from their communities; and

WHEREAS, Austin residents have long advocated for a comprehensive plan to address mass displacement with clear strategies to prevent further displacement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin needs to address displacement caused by gentrification in a data-informed, comprehensive, broad, and systematic manner; and

WHEREAS, a focus of the Mayor's Task Force on Institutional Racism and Systemic Inequities holds past public policy actions and inactions accountable for racially discriminatory practices and policies resulting in housing segregation and displacement driven by gentrification, and recommends several policies to remedy the resulting inequitable status quo; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin and the Austin City Council have considered multiple recommendations and efforts related to displacement and gentrification as documented in the City Auditor's special report on City Efforts to Address Displacement and Gentrification, which includes an analysis of over 541 previous community recommendations from the Council; and

WHEREAS, one such effort is the Housing Trust Fund, which since its inception in 2000, Council has transferred about \$23 million into the Fund, supporting nearly \$12.2 million in rental housing development; and

WHEREAS, recommendations for anti-displacement programs and initiatives are coming from the community, council members, and such ideas and

programs need to be researched and vetted so that City Council may make data-informed policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, Council approved Resolution No. 20170817-055 whereby The University of Texas is conducting a study of gentrification within Austin, including the mapping of vulnerable neighborhoods, and bringing forward geographic specific policy recommendations in August of 2018, so that Council may make data-informed policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council created the “Anti-Displacement Task Force,” to review and recommend specific strategies for displacement prevention; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2018 the Anti-Displacement Task Force recommended that the City Council consider and take action on the “People’s Plan,” a series of resolutions drafted by certain community members aimed at preventing displacement; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2018 the City Council passed Resolution 20180308-010 directing the City Manager to propose a preference policy that could create additional opportunities for households with generational ties to remain in or return to the City, which is a recommendation proposed in “The People’s Plan” and by the Task Force on Institutional Racism and Systemic Inequities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has passed multiple resolutions expressing its interest and intent to create affordable housing on City-owned land — also a component of “The People’s Plan” — and will receive a fuller analysis of possibilities by June 2018; and

WHEREAS, several recommendations of “The People’s Plan” have not received previous study or analysis; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to acknowledge and act on the Anti-Displacement Task Force recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The Council directs the City Manager to review and analyze the policies and programs identified within the “People’s Plan” recommendations, attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A, and to provide the Anti-Displacement Task Force and the Council with the analysis no later than August 31, 2018.

The analysis shall include:

- an assessment of each proposed policy and program;
- an analysis of operational and legal issues;
- fiscal impacts;
- history of City efforts related to the proposed policies, including documentation of previous and ongoing efforts if applicable;
- gathering and analysis of data demonstrating the effectiveness of such or similar policies implemented in Austin or other communities to better determine where, when and how such policies and programs perform;
- review and analysis of similar policies and programs in other communities;
- alignment with the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Housing Blueprint, and Council’s strategic indicators;
- an equity analysis; and

an analysis and recommendation on each proposal that assesses its ability to achieve the stated goals of the plan, and consideration and recommendations on the best ways to implement such proposals, ideas and programs, including recommendations of alternatives or adjustments to the People’s Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

This action will not prevent any related ideas, programs, or initiatives from moving forward during the period in which the City Manager is conducting the above-described review.

ADOPTED: _____ 2018

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk