



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Commission on Immigrant Affairs

Recommendation Number: 20210405-2c: Immigrant Integration Mini Grants

Whereas, the City of Austin is a Welcoming Community, as noted in Resolution 20140320-049; and

Whereas, organizations in the community could be funded with mini grants to help foster a sense of welcoming among immigrant¹ communities; and

Whereas, the Equity Office has an existing Mini Grant program that can serve as a model for an Immigrant Integration Mini-Grant Fund to improve the quality of life of immigrant communities; and

Whereas, an Immigrant Integration Mini-Grant Fund would provide flexible resources for local, community-based organizations to seed projects; and

Whereas, the Fund would help increase sense of welcoming and belonging of immigrant communities; and

Whereas, the projects granted the funds would be focused on eliminating structural barriers for the City's various immigrant populations; and

Whereas, the projects granted the funds would be focused on improving the quality of life for the City's various immigrant populations; and

Whereas, the Fund would support creative projects that can help bring diverse communities together in the spirit of collaboration; and

Whereas, the Fund would support projects that are aligned with advancing one or more of the six outcome priorities featured in Austin City Council's Strategic Direction 2023 addressing equity concerns and disparities where gaps need to be closed; and

Whereas, the Equity Office was able to pilot the project during the current fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission on Immigrant Affairs recommends that the City of Austin set aside a pool of at least \$100,000 to the Equity Office for continued funding for an Immigrant Integration Mini-Grant Fund. Each Mini-Grant would be no more than \$10,000.

Date of Approval: April 5, 2021

¹ The term "immigrant" as used here also includes people who are refugees and asylees/asylum-seekers.

Record of the vote: Unanimous on a 8-0 vote with Juan Vences-Benitez, Rennison Lalgee, and Glenn Rosales absent

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Vences-Benitez", written in a cursive style.

Staff Liaison