



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**WORK SESSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Work Session Meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, via Videoconference.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 11:14 a.m.

**BRIEFINGS**

- B1.** Briefing regarding the Brodie Oaks Planned Unit Development.  
**Presentation was given by Jerry Rusthoven, Assistant Director, Housing and Planning Department and Rebecca Leonard of Lionheart Places.**

**Direction was given to Staff to provide a table listing the requirements versus the proposed application comparing the SOS redevelopment Ordinance, amount of park space, and housing development promised.**

**COUNCIL ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Mayor Adler introduced the agenda for March 25, 2021 Council meeting and allowed Council to give input or ask questions on any item posted on the agenda. Staff was available to provide verbal responses to Council questions. Discussion was held on the following items taken from Thursday's agenda.**

- 14.** Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Economic Development Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Iconic Venue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer in and appropriate \$2,400,000 from the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Convention Center Capital Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to provide relief funds to stabilize Austin's tourist economy and address the loss of iconic venues and businesses that promote tourism and the hotel and convention industry. Strategic Outcome(s): Economic Opportunity and Affordability.
- 25.** Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Economic Development Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Iconic Venue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer in and appropriate \$2,400,000.00 from the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Convention Center Capital Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to provide relief funds to stabilize Austin's tourist

economy and address the loss of iconic venues and businesses that promote tourism and the hotel and convention industry. Strategic Outcome(s): Economic Opportunity and Affordability.

**A request to postpone items 14 and 25 to April 8, 2021 will be made at the March 25, 2021 meeting.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The City Council went into Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, to receive advice from Legal Counsel, to discuss matters of land acquisition, litigation, and personnel matter as specifically listed on the agenda and to receive from Legal Counsel regarding any other item on the agenda.**

- E1. Discuss legal issues related to open government matters (Private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).**

**Withdrawn**

- E2. Evaluate the performance of, and consider compensation and benefits for, the City Clerk (Personnel matters - Section 551.074 of the Government Code).**

**Withdrawn**

- E3. Evaluate the performance of, and consider compensation and benefits for, the City Auditor (Personnel matters - Section 551.074 of the Government Code).**

**Withdrawn**

- E4. Evaluate the performance of, and consider compensation and benefits for, the Municipal Court Clerk (Personnel matters - Section 551.074 of the Government Code).**

**Withdrawn**

- E5. Discuss real estate and legal matters related to the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of an interest in real property and improvements to be used for historic preservation and affordable housing (Real property - Section 551.072 of the Government Code, and private consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).**

- E6. Discuss legal issues pertaining to Winter Storm Uri (Private Consultation with legal counsel - Section 551.071 of the Government Code).**

**Withdrawn**

- E7. Discuss Austin Energy generation resource issues (Certain Public Power Utilities: Competitive Matters - Section 551.086 of the Government Code).**

**Withdrawn**

**Mayor Adler recessed the meeting at 12:40 p.m.**

**Mayor Adler reconvened the meeting at 1:46 p.m.**

**BRIEFINGS CONTINUED****B3. Homelessness Update.**

**Presentation was given by Dianna Grey, Homeless Strategy Officer, Austin Public Health.**

**Direction was given to Staff to provide information on all parties involved in the hotel assessments that were purchased.**

**B2. Overview of the American Rescue Plan, including Recommended Framework for Economic Recovery and Resiliency.**

**Presentation for Recommended Framework for Economic Recovery and Resiliency was given by Veronica Briseno, Director, Economic Development Department and David Gray, Economic Development Department.**

**Presentation for the American Rescue Plan was given by Ralph Garboushian, Consultant; Diane Siler, Interim Budget Officer, Financial Services Department; Veronica Briseno, Director, Economic Development Department; and Rosie Truelove, Director, Housing and Planning Department.**

**COUNCIL ITEMS OF INTEREST CONTINUED**

111. Approve a 'Resilient ATX' resolution directing the City Manager to take actions regarding the development of a spending framework for Covid-19 relief and recovery and American Rescue Plan funding, and directing the City Manager to provide an update on the City's Fiscal Year 2021 budget and projections for Fiscal Year 2022 revenues. Council Sponsors: Mayor Steve Adler, Council Member Kathie Tovo, Council Member Gregorio Casar, Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, Council Member Alison Alter.

27. Approve a resolution adopting the Equitable Chamber Funding Report and its findings supporting the base equitable funding model and methodology for contracting and funding the local chambers of commerce. Strategic Outcome(s): Economic Opportunity and Affordability; Culture and Lifelong Learning.

**A request to withdraw item 27 will be made at the March 25, 2021 meeting.**

60. Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Watershed Protection Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to accept and appropriate \$4,445,825 in grant funds from the Texas Water Development Board; and amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Watershed Protection Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer in and appropriate \$4,445,825 for Atlas 14-based flood studies and floodplain mapping for various watersheds. Strategic Outcome(s): Safety

61. Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Watershed Protection Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer in and appropriate \$1,200,000 from the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Watershed Protection Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) for Atlas 14-based flood studies and floodplain mapping for various watersheds. Strategic Outcome(s): Safety

37. Approve a resolution relating to a reimagined cadet training academy for the Austin Police Department. Strategic Outcome(s): Government that Works for All; Safety.
64. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to engage city departments, the Austin Independent School District, Travis County, and the community to conduct an assessment of potential resilience hub locations to serve as emergency shelters and community spaces; to study and plan for providing these critical facilities with redundant power and water capability; and report back to the Council with necessary budget recommendations, funding strategies, and intergovernmental agreements to accomplish these goals. Council Sponsors: Council Member Kathie Tovo, Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, Council Member Leslie Pool, Mayor Pro Tem Natasha Harper-Madison.  
**A request to postpone item 64 to April 8, 2021 will be made at the March 25, 2021 meeting.**
67. Approve a resolution directing the City Auditor to conduct an audit of aspects of the City's emergency response to the recent winter storm event, creating a task force consisting of representatives of certain city boards and commissions to receive public comments and recommendations concerning the response, and declaring the City Council's intent to hold focused work sessions with community members and City staff regarding particular elements of the emergency response. Council Sponsors: Council Member Kathie Tovo, Mayor Steve Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Natasha Harper-Madison, Council Member Alison Alter, Council Member Leslie Pool.

**Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m. without objection.**

**The minutes were approved on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021 on Council Member Kitchen's motion, Council Member Alter's second on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Renteria was off the dais.**