



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Veronica Briseño, Chief Economic Recovery Officer

DATE: April 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Update Regarding Council Resolution No. 20200917-062

The purpose of this memo is to update Council on [Resolution No. 20200917-062](#), which directed the City Manager to explore and identify ways to support and to increase the survivability of those most vulnerable in Austin's hardest hit sectors: childcare, music and arts venues, restaurants and bars. Staff completed the direction from this Resolution.

To date, the City of Austin launched multiple COVID-19 financial assistance programs that supported and increased the survivability of the sectors identified via Resolution No. 20200917-062. These programs include:

- The [Austin Childcare Provider Relief Fund](#) awarded \$6,048,000 in grants to 199 childcare providers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The [Austin Creative Space Disaster Relief Program](#) awarded \$987,943 in grants to 32 for-profit live music venues, performance spaces, art galleries, arts-focused non-profits, and individual artists facing temporary or permanent displacement.
- The [Austin Creative Worker Relief Grant](#) awarded \$3,344,000 in grants to over 1,866 creative sector workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The [Austin Economic Injury Bridge Loan Program](#) awarded \$645,000 in short-term, low interest loans to 19 small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The [Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant](#) will distribute \$5 million in grants to eligible businesses that have operated from a publicly-facing (brick and mortar) business for at least 20 years in an area that is currently within a City of Austin Council District.
- The [Austin Live Music Venue Preservation](#) Fund awarded \$1.48 million in grants to 74 live music venues, with an additional \$3.6 million to be distributed in Spring 2021.
- The [Austin Music Disaster Relief Fund](#) awarded \$1.5 million in grants to 1,500 performing musicians impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The [Austin Non-Profit Relief Grant](#) awarded approximately \$6,027,510 in grants to 356 non-profit organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The [Austin Small Business Relief Grant](#) awarded \$18.6 million in grants to 964 small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, the City of Austin's Economic Recovery Strike Team published [the COVID-19 Economic Recovery and Resiliency Framework](#) on March 23, 2021. The Strike Team also presented the framework to Council during the March 23, 2021 Council Work Session. [View the Strike Team's presentation online](#). Among other things, the framework included opportunities for continuing to support and increase the survivability of Austin's childcare, music and arts, and restaurants and bar sectors.

Please contact me at Veronica.Briseno@austintexas.gov if you have any questions or if I can provide any additional information regarding this update.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager
J. Rodney Gonzales, Assistant City Manager
Sylvia Holt-Rabb, Acting Director, Economic Development Department
Susana Carbajal, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department