

**RESOLUTION NO. 20180809-058**

**WHEREAS**, the health, well-being, and safety of our city is directly connected to the effectiveness of our first responders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Expanded Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (EMCOT), a program of Integral Care, Travis County's Local Mental Health Authority, provides a team of mental health professionals who co-respond with law enforcement or Emergency Medical Services (EMS) when a 911 call involves a psychiatric crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, EMCOT was dispatched to 3,244 crisis situations in Fiscal Year 2017 alone, connecting members of our community with appropriate treatment for psychiatric crises, resulting in a 98% diversion rate from jails and a 75% diversion rate from emergency rooms; and

**WHEREAS**, EMCOT also provides regular training to law enforcement and EMS medics to improve their ability to respond appropriately to individuals experiencing mental health concerns or using drugs or alcohol; and

**WHEREAS**, EMCOT was established in 2013 with funding from the 1115 Medicaid Waiver (Waiver), however, changes to the Waiver have resulted in EMCOT being ineligible for those funds after August 31, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, if the City of Austin approves a budget measure to provide at least 60% of EMCOT's \$1.8 million budget for Fiscal Year 2019, then Integral Care could continue this vital crisis response program; and

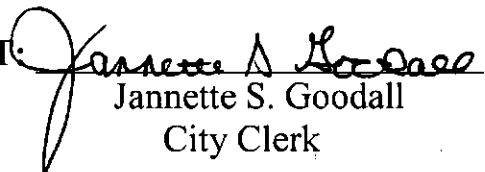
**WHEREAS**, the Travis County Behavioral Health and Justice Advisory Committee, whose mission is to promote justice and public safety, strongly supports the request for EMCOT funding from the City; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

City Council directs the City Manager to identify potential sources of funding for the continuation of EMCOT and to return to Council with the City Manager's findings at the August 29, 2018 Budget Work Session.

**ADOPTED:** August 9, 2018

**ATTEST:**

  
Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk