

Status of April 2018 Recommendations to City Council from the High Quality Child Care and Pre-K 3 Resolution Work Group

Recommendation	Status
Policy Considerations	
Development Services Department and the Planning and Zoning Department- explore the current <u>fee schedule and potential fee waivers for expenses associated with opening, expanding, and/or operating high quality child care centers.</u>	<p>In process: On 1/31/18, Council to consider ordinances to amend the Fee Schedule and City Code Chapter 10-3 to waive the following fees for high quality child care centers that accept subsidies- food establishment permits and general environment/licensing inspections.</p> <p>Passed as Res. No. 20181004-36 (sponsor- CM Garza, co-sponsors- Adler, Tovo, Alter, Troxclair. Assigned to DSD, APH helping- examining fees for permitting and inspections. Preliminary proposal presentation at Council work session by 3/5/19 and recommendations for Council consideration on 3/21/19.</p>
Office of Real Estate Services, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, and stakeholders- <u>Develop a policy to include the option and related price estimate for an affordable, high quality child care facility for RFPs, RFAs, and other competitive processes that the City conducts to lease or develop space for projects.</u>	No updates at this time.
Funding Considerations	
Invest in <u>one-time startup costs</u> to set up <u>new Pre-K 3 classrooms, including up to 8 classrooms in AISD and up to 3 classrooms in PfISD.</u>	✓ 3 AISD classrooms funded with end of the year monies in APH budget to open in 2019-2020 school year. \$128,000 for 8 classrooms in COA FY2019 budget. APH working with UWATX to reach out to area districts.
<u>Expand community-based Pre-K partnerships</u> in high quality centers. Partner with TAEYC to provide scholarship funding for eligible child care and Head Start teachers to earn Texas State Teacher Certification through the Alternative Teaching Program (ACC, Huston-Tillotson, Region XIII Service Center). \$41,500 annually with 5 student participants.	No updates at this time.
Invest in a partnership with the ACC Child Care and Development Department to accelerate child care teachers through the CDA Preparation Certificate.	No updates at this time.
EDD, APH, United Way for Greater Austin, Early Matters Greater Austin- <u>consultant to study potential incentive programs and public private partnerships that could be effectively implemented in Austin around quality child care.</u>	<p>✓ In COA FY2019 budget.</p> <p>In process: APH working to hire a consultant for 1/1/19-10/31/19 to work with UWATX, EMGA, and other stakeholders to develop menu of options.</p>

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2018 Bond Consideration																			
Dove Springs Health Center that includes an affordable, high quality child care center onsite.	<p>✓ Passed on Proposition E with 70% of voters approving- <i>The issuance of \$16,000,000 in tax-supported general obligations bonds and notes for planning, constructing, reconstructing, improving, and equipping a neighborhood public health and human services facility in the Dove Springs area; and the levy of a tax sufficient to pay for the bonds and notes.</i></p> <p>To include: Neighborhood Center Services- basic needs services, social work case management, preventive health services, seasonal services; WIC services; Immunization Services; Affordable, high quality child care center to serve up to 75 children.</p>																		
Additional Considerations (with both budget and policy implications)																			
A: Enter into formal discussions w/AISD to use underutilized classrooms in elementary schools to increase availability of affordable, high-quality child care.	Informal conversations have taken place between APH and AISD, and CM Garza exploring next steps to keep this moving forward.																		
<p>B: Continue to support the Income-Eligible Child Care Assistance program available for City employees.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white;">Family Size</th> <th style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white;">Current Income Limit</th> <th style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white;">2019 Income Limit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$59,366</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$68,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$62,710</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$77,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$72,698</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$86,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$81,098</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$92,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$89,498</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$99,750</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Family Size	Current Income Limit	2019 Income Limit	2	\$59,366	\$68,800	3	\$62,710	\$77,400	4	\$72,698	\$86,000	5	\$81,098	\$92,900	6	\$89,498	\$99,750	<p>In process: APH and HRD collaborated to increase reimbursement rates for child care assistance from \$50 to \$100 per week for full-time care and from \$25 to \$30 for after school care. The income eligibility for child care assistance was increased- see table at left. HRD to highlight child care assistance options in New Employee Orientation.</p> <p>Future plans: training for benefit consultants; include a professional development course on early learning and brain development as option for employees to earn a stipend for taking; streamline process and remove barriers for employees to enroll and use child care assistance programs.</p>
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C: Initiate and allocate funding for a planning process to develop a Coordinated Early Childhood Enrollment and Resources and Referral System among high quality child care providers, WFS, school districts, and Early Head Start, and Head Start.	<p>In process: APH applied for and received support from the Pritzker Fdtn. for a 2-year fellow to develop a coordinated early childhood enrollment system. APH is provided matching funds for the fellow. Fellow Mary Jamsek began 8/29/18 and is working with partners to design a system that includes child care subsidies, public Pre-K, and Early Head Start/Head Start to start. TEA included TA and collaboration with Austin on this in Preschool Development Grant application.</p>																		

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D: Develop a policy to achieve higher quality in existing child care provider facilities and/or more high quality child care slots available for children who qualify for subsidies by covering the gap in payment that providers experience for each high quality subsidized slot.	CM Garza exploring next steps to move this forward.
E: Pursue creation of City-owned or leased facilities for high-quality affordable child care, which should include options for contracted and City-run high quality child care services at the facility.	CM Garza exploring next steps to move this forward.
F: Explore options for the Parks and Recreation Department to expand existing programs and/or create new enrichment programs for children 3-5 years old that comply with quality standards.	In process- APH working with PARD to identify options for expanded early childhood programming in PARD facilities, and CM Garza exploring next steps to keep this moving forward.
G: Explore options to alleviate tax burdens for quality child care centers through abatement and/or leasing City-owned property for child care centers.	CM Garza exploring next steps to move this forward.

How ECC could be involved:

- Would ECC like an update from DSD and APH at 2/13/19 meeting about the preliminary proposals for Res. No. 20181004-36 ahead of the presentation at the 3/5/19 Council work session?
- APH may reconvene Resolution Work Group as needing to respond to initiatives. Would like to continue to have ECC representation on the Work Group.
- ECC representative for stakeholder input to the consultant.
- APH can work to give/ask other departments to give updates on work to ECC.
- ECC could consider endorsing considerations for Council action.