

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, homelessness is identified as a strategic outcome indicator in “Austin Strategic Direction 2023” and was identified by the City Council as the top priority for the city’s Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the “Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint” Key Actions include “Investing in Housing for Those Most in Need,” which calls for Austin to adopt a balanced approach to provide affordable housing resources; and

WHEREAS, Permanent Supportive Housing services are appropriate for those who qualify as chronically homeless and have a disability while Rapid Rehousing services are more appropriate for those experiencing short-term homelessness or need less extensive support or intervention to stabilize into housing; and

WHEREAS, according the most recent “Homelessness in Austin/Travis County: Current Needs and Gaps Report” (March 2019) by Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, based on vulnerability 59% of households experiencing homelessness require Rapid Rehousing Services, 38% require Permanent Supportive Housing Services and 3% require Minimal Housing Assistance and minimal support; **NOW THEREFORE,**

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

As part of the City’s on-going work with its consultants, the City Council directs the City Manager to work with Continuum of Care system providers to: 1) create another service enrollment opportunity through the Coordinated Entry system for households

whose homelessness can be ended by short-term, time-limited financial assistance and case management services, generally lasting no less than three months and no more than two years; and 2) target increased funding for rapid rehousing for those same households.

The City Council directs the City Manager to increase funding for Permanent Supportive Housing for households requiring longer and more intensive support including permanent subsidies. The City Manager shall set a level of funding that will increase the number of people served by Permanent Supportive Housing to the greatest extent possible.

The City Council intends for these funds to pay for case management, wrap-around services and financial support for rental and other needs associated with Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to assess the feasibility of city-funded housing vouchers to support individuals exiting homelessness. The feasibility assessment should address ways a voucher program could be tailored to serve a variety of vulnerable populations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall report the status of the items requested in this resolution when the 2021 budget is delivered to council in July.

ADOPTED: _____, 2020

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk