

RESOLUTION NO. 20221208-059

WHEREAS, Austin currently has gaps in intergenerational services for low-income seniors and children, particularly in low-income zip code areas; and

WHEREAS, Austin currently only has one operating adult daycare center and insufficient services for senior case management; and

WHEREAS, research on Austin's fast-paced senior population growth projects an incoming disproportionate increase in the number of low-income and nursing home-eligible seniors; and

WHEREAS, intergenerational care provides families a forward-thinking solution towards caring for both young children and older adults under one roof; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20181018-0941 instructed the City to provide intergenerational adult daycare services for low-income seniors and look into the feasibility of implementing an Intergenerational Day Center (IDC) at a City-owned facility; and

WHEREAS, the Holly Shores/Edward Rendon Sr. Park at Festival Beach Vision Plan recommends the use of the Nash Hernandez Property as a shared community space, and utilization of the Nash Hernandez Property for a community use would meet the goals of the Imagine Austin Plan; and

WHEREAS, research published in 2020 by the LBJ School of Public affairs, in collaboration with St. David's Foundation, Central Health, and Austin Public Health, brought to light the many benefits of intergenerational programming, including:

1. Social: reduce level of social isolation and depression in seniors and ageism in children; and
2. Physical: increase seniors' mobility and levels of empathy for both age groups; and
3. Respite: provide respite for caregivers with young children and older parents; and
4. Economic: both age groups share space and programs that prevent competition for funding; and

WHEREAS, the Nash Hernandez Property was brought for consideration to the IDC Advisory Group for several reasons, including:

1. Potential to serve low-income seniors at the Rebekah Baines Johnson Center, located within a quarter-mile of the Nash Hernandez Building; and
2. The Nash Hernandez Building is surrounded by green space and trail connectivity, and is within close proximity to the Festival Beach Food Forest, Fruitful Commons, Hatchery Park, Urban Roots, and the Butler Hike and Bike Trail, all of which provide ample opportunities for environmental education; and
3. The Nash Hernandez Property has potential to provide both indoor (9,600 square feet) and outdoor (1,250 square feet) space requirements to serve 50 seniors and 25 toddlers and preschoolers; and
4. The Nash Hernandez Property is centrally located in the 78702 zip code area, which is a historically underserved and underrepresented neighborhood, and can also serve as an asset for the entire Austin community; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20220616-089 directed the City Manager to look into the feasibility and fiscal impact of an Intergenerational Resource Activity Center (IRAC) program at the Nash Hernandez Building; and

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2022 staff provided a response to Council Resolution No. 20220616-089 that recommended renovating the Nash Hernandez Building to serve PARD's administrative needs and to instead pursue a pilot IRAC partnership program at one of the following facilities, George Morales-Dove Springs Recreation Center, Mendez Recreation Center, or Dittmar Recreation Center; and

WHEREAS, the IDC Advisory Group has secured commitments to make the Nash Hernandez Property ADA-accessible and secured operational funding commitments for the IRAC pilot program at the Nash Hernandez Property from Family Eldercare and Meals on Wheels of Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Austin community, including Open Doors Preschool, University of Texas Austin's Priscilla Flawn Child and Family Laboratory, the Texas Aging and Longevity Center, Chariot (formerly Drive-A-Senior), St. David's Foundation, Austin Groups for the Elderly (AGE), and other partners, have rallied behind the notion of an IRAC and sent letters of support that highlight the need and potential positive impact that these services can have on our Austin community; and

WHEREAS, although the Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) has identified the Nash Hernandez Building as the future site of office space for PAR staff, Resolution No. 20220616-087 directed the City Manager to conduct a study of office space occupancy rates at City-owned facilities as a result of increasing

remote work schedules and other changes in office space needs, and provide recommendations to Council; and

WHEREAS, the work directed in Resolution No. 20220616-087 has the potential to increase office availability for City personnel, such as PARD staff, and effectively increases available space for community-use in shared community-spaces, such as the Nash Hernandez Building; and

WHEREAS, locating an IRAC at the Nash Hernandez Building has the potential of it becoming a hub of innovation for the City as Austin works to become one of the age-friendliest cities in the nation; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to partner with City departments and the IDC Advisory Group to work towards the implementation of an IRAC that will address the need for resources and provide a better quality of life for the fast-growing senior and low-income population of Austin, while also addressing the needs of childcare in the 78702 zip code area and surrounding areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to work with the IDC Advisory Group to identify licenses, certifications, and funding resources, including, but not limited to, public private partnerships, creative financing options, revenue generation at the property, and other potential means required for an IRAC, and return to Council with proposals that have been reviewed to ensure compliance with any requirements, legal or otherwise, necessary to fund an IRAC at the Nash Hernandez Building.

The City Manager is directed to conduct community stakeholder engagement meetings to gather input on initiating a pilot IRAC partnership program at Nash Hernandez Building and at the locations recommended by the Parks and Recreation Department.

ADOPTED: December 8, 2022

ATTEST:



Myrna Rios
City Clerk