

**RESOLUTION NO. 20221208-067**

**WHEREAS**, Council has consistently identified ending homelessness as a top priority and has allocated funding from a variety of sources accordingly; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20100325-053 prioritizing the funding for permanent supportive housing (PSH) that targets the most vulnerable populations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20140320-048, which directed a joint funding solicitation that awarded capital, rental subsidies, and service funding to Austin's first Housing-First PSH; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20141002-043, which stated that PSH is the primary intervention to end chronic homelessness in Austin and set an initial target for PSH units; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20161103-045 directing the City Manager to work with other government entities to establish shared priorities for the redevelopment of their real estate portfolios, including PSH; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20171109-089, dedicating funds from the downtown density bonus program towards low-barrier PSH vouchers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20180809-061 directing the funding of the 2018 affordable housing bond, including using the number of PSH units as criteria for allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No. 20210520-039 amending the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint to unlock over 3,000 homes by 2024 through a combination of site-based PSH and securing rental units through tenant-based incentives; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution No.s 20130808-063 and 20210930-162, directing the City Manager to develop criteria for an expedited permit and site plan review for PSH; and

**WHEREAS**, the City adopted Resolution 20220817-013, which directed the implementation of a 2022 Affordable Housing Bond, including direction to fund such projects and/or programs based on guidelines and metrics that include the number of PSH units for those transitioning to permanent housing based on the City's designated prioritization and referral method; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's designated prioritization and referral method is managed in collaboration with the local Continuum of Care (CoC), which is a regional planning body that is federally designated to coordinate housing and services funding for people experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's CoC coordinates a Homelessness Response System (HRS) that makes priority decisions based on the Austin Prioritization Assessment Tool to create equity in housing referrals through Coordinated Entry; and

**WHEREAS**, deeply affordable units that help with homelessness prevention may qualify as PSH without accepting referrals from the CoC that helps to provide housing for people currently experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has dedicated funding to tenant-based Rapid Re-housing and PSH programming for people experiencing homelessness that requires clients to find an apartment to lease to use their rental assistance, and there are currently over 500 households with that tenant-based resource looking for an apartment to use their housing subsidy in the Austin rental market; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 8, 2022, Austin voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition A to provide \$350 million in new funding for planning, designing, acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving and equipping affordable housing facilities for low and moderate income persons and families, and acquiring

land and interests in land and property necessary to do so; funding loans and grants for affordable housing, and funding affordable housing programs, as may be permitted by law; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to achieve the community goals of addressing homelessness and scaling up the HRS, greater coordination and prioritization of available resources is required.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to conduct a review of affordable housing funding, density bonus programs, policies on the redevelopment of city-owned land, and homelessness service operations for the development of recommendations for policies and procedures that will prioritize the delivery of deeply affordable housing and supportive services in the HRS from all appropriate funding sources, as permitted by law, including, but not limited to:

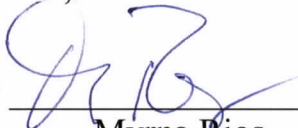
- prioritizing the use of joint funding solicitations that award capital, rental subsidies, and service funding;
- dedicating a minimum amount or percentage of affordable housing capital funding to subsidize site-based CoC and PSH units, both of which are set aside for individuals referred through the HRS's Coordinated Entry System;
- prioritizing affordable housing projects funded or secured through the City or the Austin Housing Finance Corporation that seek to maximize the number of units accepting referrals via the Coordinated Entry System;
- revising funding and program policies, underwriting guidelines, and/or scoring of proposals to prioritize projects including greater proportions of CoC units, and/or allow for deeper per-unit subsidies for those units; and



- providing incentives to market rate and affordable housing owners and/or property managers to make existing and available units accessible to tenant-based PSH and rapid re-housing as a part of the HRS by committing to accepting referrals from the Coordinated Entry System.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

The City Manager is directed to engage with stakeholders, including affordable housing developers and service providers within the HRS and other housing providers, including but not limited to, representatives from the Austin Apartment Association and Austin Board of Realtors, in the development of these recommendations and report back to Council with policy or rule changes, including any action that Council needs to take, by April 1, 2023.

**ADOPTED:** December 8, 2022 **ATTEST:**   
Myrna Rios  
City Clerk