



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20230705-004

Date: July 5th, 2023

Subject: Community Investment Budget proposal

Motion by: Mariana Krueger

Second by: David Sullivan

RATIONAL:

WHEREAS, marginalized communities in Austin are disproportionately threatened by food apartheid and insecurity, heat islands and limited access to green space, climate change and its resultant natural disasters, pollution and poor health, and housing instability and homelessness;

WHEREAS, the City of Austin, to varying degrees, has acknowledged these inequities and pledged to curtail them, including through the implementation of the Austin Climate Equity Plan and the first-ever Austin/ Travis County Comprehensive Food Plan;

WHEREAS, in order to achieve a more equitable city and see the fruition of these plans and other equity-oriented policies, the City must appropriately fund them with input from the community at-large;

WHEREAS, Equity Action has organized a broad coalition of support for an FY2024 Community Investment Budget after public input, thorough research, and endorsements from more than 40 organizations and individuals, including the Sierra Club (Austin Regional Group), Black Lives Veggies, Austin Environmental Democrats, Save Our Springs Alliance, Fruitful Commons, Sunrise Movement Austin, and others;

WHEREAS, the Interim City Manager and his office will soon draft a proposed FY2024 budget for City Council's approval;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Commission may advise City Council on matters of environmental importance, including as they relate to funding initiatives related to the environment and intersecting issues;

THEREFORE, the Environmental Commission recommends that the City Manager's office incorporates the entirety of the Community Investment Budget proposal into the forecasted, baseline FY2024 budget.

Vote: 9-0

For: Kevin Ramberg, Perry Bedford, Jennifer Bristol, Richard Brimer, Hanna Cofer, Mariana Krueger, Haris Qureshi, Melinda Schiera, David Sullivan

Against: None
Abstain: Collin Nickells
Absent: Peter Einhorn

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KEVIN RAMBERG". The letters are in all caps and have a cursive, slightly slanted appearance.

Kevin Ramberg, Environmental Commission Chair