



22           **WHEREAS**, this program can also save money, improve training and  
23 response times, and enhance recruitment and retention efforts; and

24           **WHEREAS**, OCMO has estimated that the Paramedic Practitioner Program  
25 saved approximately 840 hours in ambulance time, which amounts to  
26 approximately \$1.05 million in savings, and is particularly important given the  
27 significant staff shortages in EMS; and

28           **WHEREAS**, to continue the success of the critical work of this program and  
29 OCMO's other duties, OCMO and EMS require additional resources for the  
30 Paramedic Practitioner Service Line; and

31           **WHEREAS**, we currently employ four Paramedic Practitioners and would  
32 need four more to expand to 24 / 7 coverage; and

33           **WHEREAS**, another program that results in savings to our community is  
34 the Collaborative Care Communication Center (C4), an EMS program that  
35 responds to low-acuity calls from patients that do not require transport by an  
36 ambulance or to emergency room; and

37           **WHEREAS**, this EMS program helps provide appropriate triage, resulting  
38 in cost savings to the City, patients, and broader healthcare system; and

39           **WHEREAS**, the C4 program allows our ambulances to be ready and  
40 available for more extreme health emergencies; and

42           **WHEREAS**, this program also plays an important role in our opioid  
43 response efforts; and

44           **WHEREAS**, during natural disasters or high call volume events, the C4  
45 program plays a pivotal role in the 911 system; and

46           **WHEREAS**, the C4 program currently operates from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. every  
47 day of the week; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

49           The City Council recognizes the importance of the Paramedic  
50 Practitioners and the Collaborative Care Communication Center (C4) and seeks  
51 to expand these programs to operate 24 / 7, and the City Manager is directed to  
52 achieve this goal no later than Fiscal Year 2024-25.

53 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

54           The City Manager is directed to engage other relevant entities and  
55 stakeholders in the local medical system, including but not limited to Central  
56 Health and our local hospitals, to determine if these entities are able and willing to  
57 contribute to these critical, cost-saving investments in our local healthcare  
58 ecosystem and is further directed to explore other opportunities for further  
59 collaboration and cost recovery. Should these conversations regarding funding and  
60 expanding the Paramedic Practitioner and C4 programs be fruitful, the City  
61 Manager is directed to return to Council with a budget amendment for approval

62 and any related agreement as soon as possible.

63  
64 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

65 Myrna Rios  
66 City Clerk  
67

DRAFT