RESOLUTION NO. 20230816-017

WHEREAS, Austin is currently in a housing crisis and is facing record high rents and home values, while wages have not grown in proportion with the cost of living for our working class families; and

WHEREAS, City Council is committed to creating and preserving affordability for all Austinites; and

WHEREAS, Austin voters approved an historic \$350 million housing bond in 2022, showing strong support for the efforts to achieve an Austin affordable to everyone; and

WHEREAS, the use of the coordinated entry system prioritizes clients who face the greatest risk of harm, death, or medical complications if their homelessness were to continue, and is recognized as a necessary best-practice for providing a data-driven, coordinated and collaborative response to homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Prioritization Assistance Tool was developed locally to improve on the Vulnerability Index (VI-SPDAT), and is now nationally recognized for its innovative approach to addressing the racial and gender inequities in the original vulnerability index, and, in light of the fact that Black people are almost six times as likely to experience homelessness in Austin/Travis County as their white counterparts, it is recognized that the use of the coordinated entry system and, Austin Prioritization Assistance Tool, is vital to any attempt to provide racially equitable access to housing for persons exiting homelessness; and WHEREAS, the 2022 housing bond is a unique opportunity to secure capital for permanent supportive housing in alignment with the coordinated entry system; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager's proposed budget allocates \$10 million of the 2022 housing bonds to fund permanent supportive housing; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL:

The City Manager is directed to fund a minimum of \$10 million of permanent supportive housing projects through the 2022 housing bond in Fiscal Year 2023-24.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

A project funded from the \$10 million set aside by this Resolution must agree to coordinate with the Continuum of Care and to participate in the Coordinated Entry system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

If a permanent supportive housing project is currently in the process of applying for funding from the 2022 housing bond, the project is not precluded from receiving 2022 housing bond funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

This direction does not preclude the City Manager from funding more than \$10 million of permanent supportive housing projects in the future, including but not limited to the 2022 housing bond.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

If the City Manager does not expect to be able to meet the minimum allocated in this resolution by the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2023-24, the City Manager is directed to return to City Council for further direction.

ADOPTED: <u>August 16</u>, 2023 ATTEST:

Myrna Rios City Clerk