



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Adrienne Sturup, Director, Austin Public Health *Adrienne Sturup*

**THROUGH:** Stephanie Hayden-Howard, LMSW, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** August 2, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Resolution No. 20221208-059 - Staff Update on an Intergenerational Resource and Activity Center

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### Background

On December 8, 2022, City Council passed [Resolution No. 20221208-059](#) directing the City Manager to partner with City departments and the Intergenerational Resource and Activity Center (IRAC) Advisory Group to:

- A. 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 neighborhoods.
- B. Work with the IRAC Advisory Group to identify licenses, certifications, and funding resources, 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; and
- C. 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 (PARC).

This memorandum serves as an update on staff progress and next steps.

### Work to Date

In response to part C shown above, Austin Public Health (APH) and Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) staff have engaged with individuals in the early childhood and aging communities and other stakeholders to gather input about initiating a pilot IRAC partnership program at either the Nash Hernandez Building, Mendez Recreation Center, George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center, or Dittmar Recreation Center.

Staff launched an online survey on May 10, 2023, to gather data about residents' opinions toward a dedicated site for intergenerational programs at one of these four locations. The survey closed on June 25, 2023, and an analysis of the results is in progress. In addition, staff held five community engagement

opportunities between May 18 and June 16, 2023, at the Dittmar, Dove Springs, Mendez, and Montopolis Recreation Centers. On June 20, 2023, staff held a virtual community meeting to provide the community with more information about the proposed IRAC and its proposed locations and gather feedback and input. Staff is compiling feedback from the virtual community meeting and the survey to create a findings report. Additional information and resources related to these community engagement efforts can be found at: <https://www.austintexas.gov/intergenerational>.

In response to part B, APH has met with select members of the IRAC Advisory Group who focus on childcare to better understand their vision for the childcare program and intergenerational programming, relevant childcare licensing requirements, and financial feasibility and sustainability for a childcare program. APH staff and IRAC Advisory Group members also met with Texas Health and Human Services Child Care Regulation staff to discuss licensing, background checks, and safety considerations and requirements for operating a childcare program within an IRAC.

### **Next Steps**

Staff will continue meeting with select IRAC Advisory Group members to refine a plan that will make the childcare program successful. This plan will then be shared with the full IRAC Advisory Group so they can consider how the needs for the childcare program will work in cooperation with the plans, services, and spaces for older adults.

Staff also plan to begin attending the monthly IRAC Advisory Group meetings to stay apprised of the group's plans, as well as attend any meetings of an IRAC working group set up by the Commission on Aging to explore the proposed IRAC plan.

Finally, APH understands that the services for older adults may operate as an Adult Day Care which is subject to Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Chapter 98 (Day Activity and Health Services Requirements). Staff is analyzing the legal considerations related to the operation of a Day Activity and Health Services program on City property.

As this work progresses, staff will provide quarterly memos to Council with updates on the status of the work with the IRAC Advisory Group toward the implementation of an IRAC.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (512) 972-5010 or [Adrienne.Sturup@austintexas.gov](mailto:Adrienne.Sturup@austintexas.gov), or Kimberly McNeeley at 512-974-6722 or [Kimberly.McNeeley@austintexas.gov](mailto:Kimberly.McNeeley@austintexas.gov).

cc: Jesús Garza, Interim City Manager  
Anne Morgan, City Attorney  
Kimberly McNeeley, Director, Parks and Recreation Department