



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Commission on Aging

Recommendation Number: 20240312-13: Home Delivered Meals for Older Adults

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2023/2024 the City of Austin removed funding for home delivered meals from the Safety Net Funding; and

WHEREAS, prior to that, the City of Austin had consistently funded home delivered meals for older adults and people with disabilities since the 1970's; and

WHEREAS, Austin's older adult population represents 10.8% of the total population¹ and the median age of Austin's older adults is 72.7 years²; and

WHEREAS, greater than 30% of Austin's older adult population include groups that are historically underserved:

- Asian older adults represent 7.4% of 105,467 Austin's older adults,
- Black older adults represent 8.6% of 105,467 Austin's older adults,
- Hispanic older adults represent 20.5% of 105,467 Austin's older adults,
- Non-Hispanic or White older adults represent 60.8% of 105,467 Austin's older adults³; and

WHEREAS, of Austin's older adults, 27.6% are individuals living with a disability and 9.5% are living below poverty.⁴

WHEREAS, despite Austin's increase in the older adult population, increasing at a growth rate of 64.7% between 2010 and 2020 (from 55,695 in 2010, or 7.0% of population to 91,733 in 2020, or 9.5% of the population)⁵ City funding of older adult programs is less than of other cities of comparable size; and

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2022 1-year estimates and 2020 decennial census.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2022 1-year estimates

⁵ <https://demographics-austin.hub.arcgis.com/apps/a4e31fc68d37449b8e3c044e249699bc/explore>


WHEREAS, people who are unable to prepare their own meals or are enduring economic hardships, home delivered meals are an upstream solution, helping them to stay in their homes, living with dignity and independence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission on Aging encourages the Austin City Council to fund home delivered meals in the amount of \$700,000.

Date of Approval: March 12, 2025.

Record of the vote: 10 to 0. Motioned by Commissioner Flatau, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson.

Abstaining: Commissioners Bondi, Van de Putte.

Attest: 
(Chair)