



## BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

### Commission on Aging

#### Recommendation Number: (20250312-12): In Home Care for Older Adults

WHEREAS, 9.5% of Austin’s population are 65 years of age or over (91,033) and 19.3% of Austin’s population are 55 years or over (185,570)<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS, most Americans want to age in their homes. In fact, in a survey from 2024, 75 percent of U.S. adults aged over 50 years said they would like to reside in their current residence for as long as possible<sup>2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, in home care for older adults is an effective upstream solution for older adults, often preventing them from being unhoused.

WHEREAS, in home care is typically less expensive than assisted living if the older adult needs 40 hours or less of paid home care each week<sup>3</sup>; and

WHEREAS, nationwide over 3 million people received home health care in 2020<sup>4</sup>; and

WHEREAS, Austinites can expect to pay an average of \$4,576 per month for home health care<sup>5</sup>; and

WHEREAS, compared to the other three major Texas cities, the cost of home health care in Austin is higher<sup>6</sup>; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid reimbursement for in home health care in Austin is \$10.60 per hour, which is not a living wage; and

WHEREAS, starting salary at McDonald’s in Austin is \$11.00 per hour<sup>7</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> [Austin Demographic Data Hub | Open Data | City of Austin Texas](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Home care in the U.S. - Statistics & Facts | Statista](#)

<sup>3</sup> [In-Home Care vs. Assisted Living Costs | Seniors Guide](#)

<sup>4</sup> [FastStats - Home Health Care](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Cost of Long Term Care by State | Cost of Care Report | Carescout](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Home Care in Austin, TX | HomeCare.org](#)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission on Aging encourages the Austin City Council to fund and explore all available means to provide reimbursement for in home care for older adults in Austin, including but not limited to adding applicable coverage provisions on in home care to City employee assistance programs or insurance plans.

Date of Approval: March 12, 2025.

Record of the vote: 9 to 0. Motioned by Commissioner Flatau, Seconded by Commissioner Gloria Lugo.

Abstaining: Commissioners Anderson, Bondi, Van de Putte.

Attest:   
(Chair)

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<sup>7</sup> [McDonald's salaries in Austin, TX: How much does McDonald's pay? | Indeed.com](#)