



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

Recommendation Number: (20250711-011): Austin Disability Festival 2025 & 2026

WHEREAS, October 2025 marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, it is within the scope of this advisory body to promote disability awareness and inclusion within the City of Austin, and the committee intends to host a small fundraising event at Austin City Hall in October 2025; and

WHEREAS, the committee, in collaboration with several other community stakeholders, are planning to host the Austin Disability Festival ("AWEbility Festival") in October 2026, and continuing annually, to promote accessibility, showcase diverse disability communities, honor local inclusion leaders, and foster American Sign Language (ASL) practice as a unifying element; and

WHEREAS, the committee seeks to ensure that these events are successful and represent the perspectives of the residents of Austin.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities encourages the Austin City Council to provide suggestions to ensure the events reflect the diversity and priorities of constituents and other stakeholders, to allocate funds as appropriate to cover festival costs, and to share council members' personal or professional experiences with disability inclusion or community engagement to inspire festival programming and messaging.

Date of Approval: 7/11/2025

Record of the vote: 6-0

Motioned by: Commissioner Arellano

Seconded by: Commissioner Chang

For: Chair Kelly, Commissioners Arellano, Chang, Comer-HaGans, Murphy, and Slade

Against: None

Absent: Vice Chair Meyer, Commissioners Diaz, Franks, Fetonte, and Vassallo

Attest: *Christi Vitela*

(Staff or board member can sign)