

Posting: Approve a resolution affirming Council's commitment to support workers and directing the City Manager to develop and incentivize a qualified, local workforce in certain Convention Center contracts.

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the closure of the Austin Convention Center has had a significant impact on the local workforce that supports its operations and events, in addition to the tourism and out-of-town business that the Austin Convention Center attracts and the secondary economic activity that it attracts for local businesses; and

WHEREAS, the reopening of the Austin Convention Center provides an opportunity for the City of Austin to leverage its contracting authority to secure quality jobs and maximize the use of the local workforce when contracts for services are re-solicited; and

WHEREAS, supporting the local workforce through the Austin Convention Center provides direct and indirect economic benefits to the City and its residents and can provide career pathways for residents seeking apprenticeship and training experience in the skilled trades that support Austin Convention Center operations and event production such as rigging, technicians, decorating, and carpentry; and

WHEREAS, the Entertainment Technician Certification Program (ETCP) is a nationally recognized program that certifies various technical disciplines within the entertainment industry that directly affect the health and safety of crews, performers, and audiences, and ETCP Recognized Labor Providers reduce risk and promote workplace safety through certifications and commitments to established best practices; and

WHEREAS, Austin has an established history of supporting the local workforce, exemplified by current City policy that already requires several labor

standards through contracting, including the City's Living Wages requirement, worker's compensation insurance, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration training requirements; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

City Council affirms its commitment to support workers and workforce stability by engaging qualified contractors which provide quality jobs with high standards for labor utilized on City projects and facilities ensuring safety and continuity of business without disruption at the Austin Convention Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to, through the solicitation process and to the greatest extent feasible, give preference to, incentivize, and/or otherwise prioritize:

- applicants that utilize local workers who reside within the City or Greater Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area, and
- applicants that utilize ETCP Recognized Labor Providers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to explore apprenticeship utilization for solicited work that includes skilled trades such as rigging, technicians, decorating, and carpentry.

ADOPTED: _____, 2026 **ATTEST:** _____

Erika Brady
City Clerk