EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL **REGULAR MEETING**
MINUTES **SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026**

The Early Childhood Council convened in a regular meeting on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Freeland called the Early Childhood Council Meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Vice Chair Freeland and Members Alvizo, Beauchemin, Cárdenas, Latham-Sikes, McIllwain, Menard, Navarro, Sears, and Rivas

Board Members in Attendance Remotely:

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Early Child Council Regular Meeting on June 10, 2026.
   The minutes from the Early Childhood Council regular meeting on June 10, 2026, were approved on Member Navarro's motion, Member Latham-Sikes's second, on an 8-0 vote. Members Menard and Sears were absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Presentation by Child Inc regarding Early Head Start and Head Start enrollment and locations. Presentation by Angela Lampkin, Executive Director at Child Inc.
   Angela Lampkin, Executive Director at Child Inc, presented enrollment trends, federal funding information, and program locations for the 2026-27 school year for Child Inc Early Head Start and Head Start.

2. Austin ISD Pre-K and Head Start updates from Yvette Cárdenas, AISD Executive Director of Academic Programs.
   Yvette Cárdenas provided an update on Pre-K and Head Start enrollments for the 2026-27 school year.

3. Update regarding September 24, 2026, City of Austin proclamation honoring Cathy McHorse, former chair of the Early Childhood Council.
Member Alvizo provided an update on a joint city and county proclamation honoring Cathy McHorse at 9 a.m. at Austin City Hall on September 24, 2026.

4. Discussion regarding Early Childhood Council membership and ideas for making meetings more accessible and welcoming for community members.
Members discussed feedback received from Go Austin Vamos Austin regarding meeting accessibility. Some members volunteered to review the suggestions and to bring to a future Early Childhood Council meeting date some ideas for possible action regarding meeting accessibility and membership.

5. Update regarding the proposed fiscal year 2027 budget and early childhood social service contracts.
Member Navarro gave an update regarding potential social service contract reductions.

6. Discuss Early Childhood Council member attendance at the Generation ATX event "Growing Up Austin" on August 20, 2026.
Members discussed which members plan to attend the August 20th Generation ATX event in order to avoid a quorum of the Early Childhood Council.

7. Raising Travis County implementation updates from Hilda Rivas, Travis County Health & Human Services Research & Planning Division Senior Planner.
Hilda Rivas provided updates on the status of the Raising Travis County small business grants.

8. Updates from the June and July Joint Inclusion Committee (JIC) meetings.
Member Alvizo provided an update regarding "infants, children, and pregnant people" being listed in a JIC recommendation passed at the July meeting. Recommendation 20260722-005: Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget & November 2026 Bond Recommendations for Pilot Knob Library & Austin Resilience Network Site.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

9. Briefing from Austin Public Health about the National League of Cities Prenatal-to-Three Impact Lab; the Austin-Travis County Family Child Care Educator Network; and the National Breastfeeding Month city proclamation on August 27, 2026. Briefing by Caitlin Oliver-McLaughlin, Austin Public Health.
Caitlin Oliver-McLaughlin provided an update on upcoming roundtable sessions related to the Prenatal-to-Three Impact Lab; implementation and funding for the Family Child Care Educator Network; and a National Breastfeeding Month proclamation.

10. Briefing about updates from related local early childhood groups such as Austin Chapter of the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, Child Care Regulation, Success By 6 Coalition, and Workforce Solutions Capital Area. Briefing by Caitlin Oliver-McLaughlin, Austin Public Health.

Caitlin Oliver-McLaughlin provided an update from United Way for Greater Austin regarding the annual Family Child Care Conference on August 15, 2026.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Members listed the following future agenda items:

- **Possible action related to making Early Childhood Council meetings more accessible.**
- **Possible action related to the Early Childhood Council alternate liaison to the Joint Inclusion Committee.**

Vice Chair Freeland adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the October 14, 2026, meeting on Member Latham-Sikes's motion, Member McNary's second on an 8-0 vote.