

A RESOLUTION

No. _____

SUSPENDING THE APPLICATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AS REQUIRED TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED RECEIPT OF FEDERAL FUNDING

WHEREAS, the President’s Executive Order 14173 of January 21, 2025, requires the head of every federal agency to include in every contract or grant award a term requiring the counterparty or recipient to certify that it does not operate any programs promoting “DEI” in violation of applicable federal anti-discrimination laws; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Worth (the “City”) receives approximately \$40.6 million in federal grants annually; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice (the “DOJ”) has established a Civil Rights Fraud Initiative for the purpose of investigating and prosecuting violations of the federal False Claims Act by recipients of federal funds operating DEI programs in violation of federal civil rights laws; and

WHEREAS, the DOJ has further encouraged private parties to similarly pursue actions under the applicable provisions of the False Claims Act; and

WHEREAS, in light of recent United States Supreme Court decisions, as well as the application of those decisions by federal courts with jurisdiction over the City, and the federal government’s interpretation and application of those decisions, the City recognizes a need to suspend and reevaluate certain programs to avoid the risks and costs of potential challenges to its diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager is reviewing, evaluating, and making any necessary administrative changes to City programs, policies, and practices to ensure compliance with federal grant requirements; and

WHEREAS, through this review specific ordinances and resolutions have been identified that need to be suspended to comply with recent interpretations of federal law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS, THAT:

The City Council of the City of Fort Worth (the “City Council”) hereby suspends the application and enforcement of the following ordinances:

- a. Chapter 20, “Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations”, Article X “Minority and Women Business Enterprises” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Worth; and
- b. Chapter 2, “Administration”, Article IV “Departments Under Control of the City Manager”, Division 2 “Department of Diversity and Inclusion” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Worth.

The City Council hereby instructs the City Manager to allocate the responsibilities for civil rights enforcement and the remaining functions of the Department of Diversity and Inclusion that are compliant with federal law to appropriate City departments.

The City Council hereby suspends the application and enforcement of the following provisions of the following resolutions:

- a. Section 12.1 of the City of Fort Worth General Tax Abatement Policy as adopted by Resolution No. 6100-05-2025;
- b. Section 5.1 of the City of Fort Worth Economic Development Program Policy for Grants and Loans Authorized by Chapter 380, Texas Local Government Code as adopted by Resolution No. 5722-03-2023; and
- c. Section 8 of the City of Fort Worth Policy, Guidelines and Procedures for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones as adopted by Resolution No. 5723-03-2023.

This Resolution shall be effective from and after its passage by the City Council.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2025.

ATTEST:

By: _____
Jannette Goodall, City Secretary