



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading for the City Council Meeting of March 18, 2025
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of March 25, 2025

DATE: March 4, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

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University of Texas at Austin's Home to Texas Program
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CAPTION:

Ordinance approving the Home to Texas Internship Program project between the Corpus Christi B Corporation (Type B) and the University of Texas at Austin for a job training project comprising a nine-week summer internship for Corpus Christi students enrolled at UT Austin and a contribution to a \$5,000.00 scholarship upon completion of the job training internship; appropriating \$12,500.00 from the unreserved fund balance of the Corpus Christi B Corporation Economic Development fund; and amending the budget.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance approves the Home to Texas Internship Program project between the Type B Board and the University of Texas at Austin to support a nine-week summer internship for local Corpus Christi students enrolled at UT Austin. The ordinance appropriates \$12,500.00 from the Type B Economic Development Fund; and amends the FY 2024-25 budget accordingly.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Home to Texas program, led by the University of Texas at Austin, is a scholarship-funded summer initiative designed to connect first-year UT Austin students with their hometown communities through internships and research experiences. The program provides students with professional development opportunities while encouraging them to explore local career prospects, fostering long-term community engagement and talent retention.

This internship is exclusively available to UT Austin students who are originally from Corpus Christi. Only students currently enrolled at UT Austin are eligible to apply, ensuring the program directly benefits local talent studying at the university. This program differs from internship opportunities at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and Del Mar College, which offer similar initiatives but are open to a broader pool of students. Home to Texas specifically aims to re-engage UT Austin students with their hometown community, reinforcing local workforce connections. Each student selected for the program participates in a full-time, nine-week

internship with a local employer and conducts research on community challenges and opportunities. Students also enroll in a summer research and professional skills course and attend an end-of-program community event.

Funding for the program is structured as follows:

- Each student receives a \$5,000 scholarship upon completing their internship. UT Austin contributes \$2,500 per student, and the remaining \$2,500 per student will be funded through Type B Economic Development.
- With an anticipated five students participating in the program in Corpus Christi, the requested funding total is \$12,500 from Type B Economic Development Fund.

During the 2-10-25 Type B Meeting, the board held a public hearing and approved a motion authorizing an agreement in the amount not to exceed \$12,500.00 for the University of Texas at Austin's Home to Texas Program.

The Home to Texas program aligns with the City's economic development goals by fostering local workforce development, reversing talent emigration, and strengthening connections between students and the Corpus Christi business community.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council may choose to fund a lesser amount or decline funding for the proposed program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The financial impact is an amount not to exceed \$12,500.00 from the Type B Economic Development fund.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1146 -Type B Economic Development
Organization/Activity:	15020 -Small Business Projects
Mission Element:	57
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	530000 -Professional Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends to approval of the University of Austin's Home to Texas Program agreement in an amount not to exceed \$12,500.00 to be funded by the Corpus Christi B Corporation in FY 2025.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
PowerPoint Presentation