



**Joint Subcommittee  
Austin City Council  
Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees  
Travis County Commissioners Court**

Joint Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 16, 2025

11:30am – 1:30pm

Austin City Hall – 301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Austin, TX 78701

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**Joint Subcommittee Members in Attendance:**

**Austin (AISD School District)**

Kathryn Whitley-Chu, AISD Board Trustee, District 4, Vice-President

Arati Singh, AISD Board Trustee, At-Large, Place 9

Superintendent Matias Segura

Edna Butts, Director, Intergovernmental Relations and Policy Oversight

**City of Austin**

Kirk Watson, Mayor

Jose Velásquez, Council Member, District 3

Stephanie Hayden-Howard, Assistant City Manager

**Travis County**

Jeff Travillion, County Commissioner, Pct 1

Bridgid Shea, County Commissioner, Pct 2

Kirsten Siegfried, Chief Deputy, Health and Human Services, attended on behalf of Pilar Sanchez, County Executive for Travis County Health and Human Services & AgriLife Extension

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Watson at 11:45am

**I. Public Comment**

No speakers signed up for public comment.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The March 3, 2025 minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Commissioner Travillion, and a second by Commissioner Shea.

### III. Legislative Updates

Edna Butts, Director, Intergovernmental Relations and Policy Oversight, Office of the General Counsel provided updates for AISD. Mayor Watson clarified that basic allotment costs are different from the new allotment for basic costs. Commissioner Shea asked what the total funding for the allotment for safety is (it increased from \$10-\$20 per student) and if the increase covered the full cost. Superintendent Matias Segura stated that it covers the costs for some districts, but AISD's model is different, and it does not cover the full cost of their model.

Julie Wheeler, Travis County Intergovernmental Relations, provided updates for Travis County.

Carrie Rogers, City of Austin Intergovernmental Relations Officer, provided updates for the City of Austin.

Mayor Watson stated that one of the benefits of the water storage bill is that it created an opportunity to have a region wide discussion on the topic. Austin Water is continuing to work on this, and it created beneficial regional cooperation. Additionally, Mayor Watson mentioned that both the County and City had a discussion on homelessness which was beneficial.

Commissioner Shea stated that the state has a responsibility to care for the mentally ill and should provide more funding. Mayor Watson stated that Senator Parker's work was along those lines. While his bill didn't pass, it was a good start.

Commissioner Travillion stated that different communities have different drivers.

Trustee Whitley-Chu stated that this is difficult time for school districts, and she hopes that our community can collaborate to help our kids.

### IV. Budget Priorities

Katrina Montgomery, Interim Chief Financial Officer provided an update on AISD's budget priorities.

Commissioner Travillion stated that it would be helpful to have a delta report that shows a starting point and what has changed since the budget has passed regarding the current reality.

Commissioner Shea stated that it is critical for the public to know what cuts have already been made in addition to the changes that happened from the state level.

Mayor Watson asked that they also portray things such as property tax growth so people can see the relationship.

Commissioner Travillion stated that it's important to document what's happening at the neighborhood level because it's important for kids to have access to transportation and learning.

Commissioner Shea asked if any of the new state funding is subject to recapture.

V. After-school care/Child-care Update

Korey Darling, HHS Research and Planning Director, provided an update on after-school care/child care.

Commissioner Shea asked what the timeline is for the short-term investments. Korey stated that they are trying to get the services out quickly, but each have a slightly different timeline. Some will be in front of Commissioners Court during this summer and some will be in the fall.

Commissioner Shea stated that the legislature expanded pre-k from a half day to a full day but didn't provide funding. She asked how that will be funded. Superintendent stated that funding is still in the works.

Mayor Watson asked what the status is of getting the basic contract with Workforce Solutions into place. Korey stated that some changes at the federal and state levels changed the way it was funded, however they have a contract modification coming to commissioner's court on June 17 which will help move the contract forward.

Commissioner Travillion stated that it is important to use key performance indicators and to expand existing things on the ground giving the City and the County an opportunity to work together with our ILAs.

Mayor Watson stated that these ILA programs and working with the City ought to be the low hanging fruit because they are the programs already in existence. He stated that it is now important to expand or enhance these programs because it can occur relatively quickly.

VI. Discussion related to collaboration between local entities regarding cost or service sharing

Genesis Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager, provided an introduction regarding a framework for cost sharing collaboration.

Commissioner Travillion stated that they have a committee structure and will make it available to the City to help with coordination. Additionally, he stated that during Mayor Watson's first administration they had a lot of collaboration and he's interested in using this opportunity to do that again.

Commissioner Shea stated that there was a previous proposal for the joint use initiatives and stated that we still utilize that collaboration and have a good model for existing shared practices and funding through interlocal agreements.

Superintendent Segura stated that he'd caution only looking at what we've done. He's interested in learning about best practices in the country including things like operations and maintenance.

Trustee Whitley-Chu stated that a lot of children stay home from school when their parents go to work and there isn't childcare available for younger children.

Commissioner Travillion stated that the state previously created a program that utilized asset maps to help deploy resources to areas in need. This is an example of best practices that he's interested in exploring.

**VII. Standing items**

- a. Unfinished business:
  - i. No items were mentioned for future meetings.
- b. Future meeting dates:
  - i. The Mayor asked people to watch for emails from their staff liaison to schedule the next meeting date.

**VIII. Mayor Watson adjourned the meeting at 1:24pm.**