

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2
CIVIC CITY YOUTH 2025 RESOLUTION: THE IMPACT WE NEED TO SEE IN OUR
COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Civic City Fellows of 2025 is a group of high school students from across St. Louis who experienced the May 2025 tornado firsthand, and who came together through the Civic City Fellowship to research, reflect, and reimagine what recovery could truly look like; and

WHEREAS, through storytelling, design thinking, and a mixed-methods research approach—combining both qualitative and quantitative data—they developed youth-led recommendations for recovery and a better future in St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, many of the neighborhoods most affected by the storm were already suffering from vacancy, violence, hunger, and neglect—conditions that are not natural, but the result of decades of harmful policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, every child in St. Louis deserves:

- a loving and stable home
- clothes, shoes and basic necessities
- access to free hygiene and feminine products
- fresh, nutritious, affordable, and culturally-affirming food
- safe, walkable, well-lit neighborhoods with well-maintained streets and sidewalks
- safe, reliable, and youth-friendly public transportation
- clean, green, and eco-friendly communities that promote sustainable living
- access to technology and reliable internet
- mental health support, trauma-informed care and school-based counseling
- consistent after-school programs and enriching activities
- youth-centered job training and professional development
- access to bank accounts and financial literacy tools
- free and welcoming public spaces created for youth
- and the chance to grow up without fear of violence or reckless driving; and

WHEREAS, youth voices are often excluded from disaster planning, public health decisions, and long-term city recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Civic City Fellows offer this resolution not only as a list of recommendations—but as a vision for equity, and a love letter to our city. We are the future of St. Louis. Don't just rebuild for us. Rebuild with us.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this City Youth Council Mock Board of Aldermen that the Civic City Fellows and the City Youth Council call on the City of St. Louis to encourage and work with public and private partners to support the following youth-defined priorities:

1. Invest in Safe, Peaceful Neighborhoods
2. Maintain and Repair Roads, Sidewalks, and Crosswalks for Safety
3. Enforce Safe Driving and Traffic-Calming Measures Near Schools, Parks, and Residential Areas
4. Make Public Transit Free, Safe, Reliable, and Designed for Youth
5. Plant More Trees, Expand Green Spaces, and Cool Our Communities
6. Promote Clean Streets, Waste Reduction, and Eco-Friendly Neighborhood Practices
7. Ensure Affordable and Accessible Health Care for All Residents
8. Prioritize Mental Health Support and In-School Counseling
9. Support Local Urban Farms and Community Gardens
10. Advance Affordable Access to Healthy Food Options and Fully Fund School Meal Programs to End Hunger
11. Expand School Activities and After-School Youth Programs
12. Reclaim Vacant Lots and Properties to Build Stronger Homes and Community Centers
13. Respect and Fairly Compensate Essential Workers
14. Guarantee Quick, Equitable and Trauma-Informed Emergency Response
15. Provide Youth and Educators with First Aid, CPR, and Emergency Preparedness Training
16. Ensure Universal Access to Affordable High-Speed Internet and Technology for Education, Work, and Civic Participation

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Civic City Fellows and the City Youth Council call on the City of St. Louis to formally recognize youth as critical partners in the rebuilding and recovery of our city—and ensure that the policies, budgets, and programs shaping our future include the voices of those who will inherit it.

Introduced this 12th day of August, 2025 by:
The Honorable Bella Mashburn, Alderwoman of the 5th Ward

Adopted this, 12th day of August, 2025 as attested by:

Trent Young
Secretary, City Youth Council

Dayanelis Hernandez
President, City Youth Council