

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council adopted Resolution No., 20151112-033, directing the City Manager to return to council with options and information relating to the Austin Convention Center's Long-Range Master Plan, and staff have completed a body of responsive work; and

WHEREAS, the eastern area of downtown is home to a number of important landmarks and projects, including, but not limited to, the Neal Kocurek Memorial Convention Center, the Waller Creek Linear Park, the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH), the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican-American Cultural Center (MACC), the Palm School and associated parkland, the East 6th Street District, the Innovation Zone, the redevelopment of the Brackenridge Hospital Site, the Dell Medical School, IH-35, and the Red River Cultural District; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted goals and identified financial needs relative to many of the above resources and projects; and

WHEREAS, a number of financing opportunities exist that could assist Austin in realizing the above objectives and projects that would enhance the eastern area of downtown; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to identify a range of financial options that could achieve these objectives while minimizing the impact on taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, possible funding solutions or tools could include the Waller Creek Tax Increment Financing District, the Hotel Occupancy Tax, a potential Tourism Public Improvement District, new Tax Improvement Financing Districts, new Public Improvement Districts, philanthropic giving, state and federal transportation money, the city's General Fund, and other solutions or tools; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

Council directs the City Manager to provide additional information about the financial needs relative to the following:

- A. people experiencing homelessness in the Downtown area, including those who use the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH);
- B. improvements to the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican-American Cultural Center;
- C. Brush Square and the Historic Downtown Museums;
- D. Red River District Improvements;
- E. Convention Center;
- F. Waller Creek Linear Park;
- G. Palm School and associated parkland;
- H. East 6th Street District; and
- I. other related or area downtown needs or projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council further directs the City Manager to provide an overall economic assessment of the eastern area of downtown and the impact of new investments on the various landmarks and projects in the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Council further directs the City Manager to provide information and assessments

related to the following potential funding options and how these options might further the goals of the City Council for enhancing the Downtown district. The information and assessments shall also include options for how the City Council might use the following potential funding options to offset current General Fund expenditures:

- A. possible geographic and temporal expansion of the Waller Creek Tax Increment Financing District;
- B. the Hotel Occupancy Tax;
- C. Tourism Public Improvement District;
- D. new or expanded Public Improvement Districts;
- E. new or expanded Tax Increment Financing Districts;
- F. state and federal transportation grants;
- G. agreements with short-term rental listing services, property management groups, and operators to collect and remit taxes on behalf of the City
- H. available resources within the General Fund; and
- I. other reasonable financial solutions and tools.

ADOPTED: _____, 2017 **ATTEST:** _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk