

Late Backup

CM Kathie Tovo

Subject: Item 148

August 8, 2019

REVISED

PART 2

STRIKE: "and resulting 2017 Visitor Impact Task Force related recommendations"

PART 3

The City Council affirms its interest in pursuing Scenario 5 described in the "Frameworks for Placemaking: Alternative Futures for the Austin Convention District," as the general concept that should guide the planning and architectural design of the Convention Center, consistent with Resolution No. 20190523-029. The City Manager is directed to return to Council for approval of a Request for Proposals for architectural services for the expansion; the City Council will vote to approve the future architectural and design plans for a proposed expansion as well as contracts associated with its renovation and construction, all of which will build on the plan described in Part 2.

Part 4

*Hotel and
Finance*

The City Council affirms its commitment to dedicate an amount equal to 15% of the total 9% of the Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue to cultural arts funding and an amount equal to 15% of the total 9% of the Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue to historic preservation. The City Council affirms its commitment to dedicate an amount equal to 15% of the total 9% of the Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue from Texas Tax Code 351 sources to cultural arts funding and an amount equal to 15% of the total 9% of the Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue from Texas Tax Code 351 sources to historic preservation. Accounting for these funds shall occur consistent with collections and applicable bond covenants relating to financing the expansion of the existing convention center. Funding for these additional percentages for arts and for historic preservation will be included in the Austin Convention Center Department's operating budget in accordance with the expansion financing funding plan and will be reflected as transfers from the Convention Center Operating Fund to the historic preservation and cultural arts funds previously established by Council.

Additional Direction

The City Council affirms its interest and intention to partner with Travis County on a range of projects and to continue discussion about how Hotel Occupancy Taxes can best be deployed. The Council affirms its commitment to continue to pursue **Convention Center expansion financing scenarios** ~~plans~~ that would allow the City of Austin to retire its Convention Center debt as soon as **financially** feasible so that the Hotel Occupancy Taxes currently received under Chapter 334 of the Texas Local Government Code for this venue are no longer needed. A **viable financial scenario for retiring Convention Center debt and expanding the Convention Center, would create a pathway which** would enable Travis County to access funding under Chapter 334; the City Council looks forward to a more deliberative conversation about that possibility, alongside the consideration of other **Exposition Center financing scenarios, including bonds and other financing tools available to government entities**. The City Manager is directed to ~~continue ongoing conversations about~~ the Exposition Center, the Palm School, and other partnerships with an update to City Council no later than **December 31, 2019**.

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1 Pool @
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approved w/out
OK.