

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 20190808-025**

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

4 The South Congress Preservation and Improvement District Service and

5 Assessment Plan and Budget update for 2020, attached as Exhibit A, are approved.

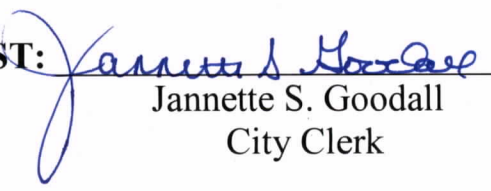
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9 **ADOPTED:** August 8, 2019

10 **ATTEST:**


Jannette S. Goodall

City Clerk



EXHIBIT A

South Congress Preservation and Improvement District 2020 Service Plan

INTRODUCTION

During Fiscal Year 2020, South Congress Improvement Association (SCIA) will initiate and implement its mission to:

- Protect and strengthen the business, culture, arts, and entertainment environment of South Congress;
- Preserve South Congress as a vibrant mixed use district so that locals and visitors will utilize its diverse offerings;
- Communicate the concerns of the South Congress community to local and state entities;
- Support initiatives on issues of public policy that affect the community;
- Continue to grow South Congress in its stature as an important economic and cultural asset to the community for today and future generations.

SERVICE AREAS

Public Safety

Work with the City to identify, communicate, and address issues of concern to the District. The focus will include programs to:

- Continue safety partnerships in the public and private sectors that includes the hiring of off-duty officers to walk the district during special events like first Thursdays.
- Continue to partner with the Merchants Association to host quarterly forums with the APD district rep to discuss best practices of improving security and reducing shoplifting
- Will be entering in a contract that will provide 32 hours per week of a dedicated South Congress ambassador (at a cost of \$71,374 annually)

Infrastructure and Physical Environment (Focus on Maintenance and Near-Term and Longer-Term Improvements)

Coordinate strategies, plans, and partnerships for physical improvements in the district such as signage, sidewalks, gateways, etc. The focus will include programs to:

- Continue to participate in all levels of the South Congress Parking Study approved by City Council on 6/14/2018; managed by DAA.
- Clean the structures and surface infrastructure (public and private space)

- Will be expanding litter removal services, periodic sidewalk washing and prompt, efficient graffiti removal throughout the district with 32 hours per week of dedicated cleaning services (at a cost of \$71,374 annually)
- Implement phase one of an alley activation project to clean up and enhance the district's alleyway (this would include vegetation and trash removal, wall muraling and dumpster locations)
- Create systems of order to unify the district
 - Public area lighting (tree lighting and other opportunities)
 - Renew contract for street banners, supplying 19 double sided poles
 - Transportation systems (taxis, valets and TNC drop off/pick up zones and pedicab operational zones)
 - Create and install district way-finding signs
 - Public Restrooms (identify a location for a public restroom and explore best practices for public restrooms through the downtown restroom pilot program)
 - Explore costs of maintenance
- Advocate for longer-term improvements
 - Develop a specific consensus plan and identify funding for South Congress streetscape that respects the unique nature of the district, including vehicle lanes and flow; sidewalk width and material; and street parking
 - Enhance landscaping
 - Maintain coordination with the City on physical infrastructure upgrades, such as utility lines and alleys
 - Continue to collaborate with other organizations, such as CapMetro, to create programs that encourage public or alternative transportation methods to the district

Marketing/Fundraising/Economic Development

Promote the economic health of the district and the association through strategic partnerships, marketing and public relations, and events and other fundraising opportunities.

- Partner with the Merchants' Association to promote the district with the South Congress (SoCo) brand, and events that bring a diverse market to, and take advantage of, the unique nature of the district
 - Continue work with Social Media Director to promote businesses in Public Improvement District (PID)
- Encourage business-to-business mentorships
 - Promote existing resources and incentives for business success through our partnership with the Merchants Association
 - Serve as an ombudsman for businesses and property owners within the district
- Pursue financial sustainability to increase resources and effectiveness
 - Produce new events and help to current events within the district
 - Develop and maintain current partnerships with other organizations and businesses for promotional and funding opportunities
 - Improve the district common area management, such as sidewalk vendors, parking, and valet parking options
- Create and maintain communication for effective interaction with residents, the City, and

the community at large, including the following methods:

- Continue to improve an informational website
- Continue to collaborate with adjacent Neighborhood Associations
- Media relations that educate
- Monthly meetings with Merchants Association
Direct outreach to owners & operators
- Continue to enhance special events like first Thursdays
- Enter into our second year of district wide holiday activations (purchased holiday lighting in 2019)
- Continue the partnership with Merchants Association and Souly Austin on a comprehensive district plan

Administration

- Contract oversight for Service Areas
 - City of Austin and Travis County administrative fees
 - Contract compliance for SCIA contract, including bookkeeping and reporting SCIA
- Membership/PID Residents
- Special-topic meetings
 - Annual membership meeting
 - A complete and current database of property owners, both members and nonmembers
 - Membership program expansion for non-property owners with an interest in the district

SUMMARY

With the initiatives described in this service plan, South Congress will continue to progress toward realizing the vision of a vibrant, mixed-use district offering shopping, restaurants, and entertainment that is a source of cultural and economic pride for Austinites.

South Congress Public Improvement District
Exhibit A
May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021
PID Service Plan Budget

Revenues: 2020-2021

City Revenue:		
PID Assessments	\$	\$265,317
Interest and Late Payment Penalties	\$	\$3,338
Prior Year Revenue Collections & Reserve	\$	\$30,193
City Fee In Lieu of Assessment	\$	\$2,679
Less Administrative Fees for 2020-2021	\$	<u>(\$2,729)</u>
Total Revenues:	\$	298,799

Expenses: 2020-2021

Programs:		
Public Safety (25 %)	\$	74,700
Infrastructure / Physical Improvements (Maintenance & Improvements) (25%)	\$	74,700
Marketing / Fundraising / Economic Development (25%)	\$	74,700
Administration (including City and County Fees) (25%)	\$	<u>74,700</u>
Total Expenses:	\$	298,799