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WHEREAS, subsequently the City of Austin and Travis County implemented emergency measures, which included the closing of restaurants and bars as well as “non-essential” businesses to ensure social distancing and a “Stay at Home” order designed to slow the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20200326-091 directed the City Manager to:

- develop programs and consider options to support impacted businesses and workers including those “in the creative, hospitality, service, retail, restaurant, music, child care, construction, and film industries and other associated industries”;
- explore possible funding sources, including the use of Hotel Occupancy Tax funds;
- and

21 **WHEREAS**, immediate financial support for individuals remains a critical priority,
22 and another Resolution on the April 4, 2020, City Council agenda aims to address that
23 general need; and

24 **WHEREAS**, in recognition of the unique financial challenges that our music
25 community faces in achieving economic stability, the Live Music Fund was created by
26 Ordinance 20190919-149 and directed the allocation of an amount equal to 15 percent of
27 the 2 percent authorized for expansion of the Convention Center to be used for local music
28 that meets the requirements of Texas Tax Code Section 351.101(a)(4) and that is not
29 funded through the Cultural Arts Fund; and

30 **WHEREAS**, these funds, known as the Live Music Fund, have been the topic of
31 public outreach and deliberations by the Live Music Fund Working Group, comprised of
32 Music Commissioners and representatives of Austin's Music community working
33 together to gather and organize feedback on community priorities; and

34 **WHEREAS**, this Working Group continues to meet, but to date has not yet
35 formalized recommendations on the use of this fund to assist musicians, and challenges
36 with public engagement may further delay this process; and

37 **WHEREAS**, the City Council affirms the importance of the Live Music Fund
38 Working Group and its role in helping guide future investments of this money; **NOW**,
39 **THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to consider the following possible measures to provide support to musicians and individuals within music-related industries:

- Immediate use of the Live Music Fund for an Austin Music Disaster Relief Fund to provide emergency grants available to local musicians, that conduct performances that would be eligible for such grants under Texas Tax Code 351.101(a)(4) and who have not received funding from the Cultural Arts Fund with eligibility to be additionally guided by feedback from the music commission and nonprofit partners and in a manner coordinated and not overlapping with financial assistance directed by other Council initiatives.
- Provide a portal through City of Austin Music & Entertainment Division to feature live music performances and provide way for viewing audience to tip artists and purchase music.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to consider the following possible measures to provide support for creative artists:

- Immediate use of the Creative Spaces Arts Program (CSAP) for an Austin Artist Disaster Relief Fund to provide emergency grants available to local arts with eligibility to include assistance with rental costs.

ADOPTED: _____, 2020

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk