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**WHEREAS**, after robust community engagement, the Congress Avenue planning process identified protected bike lanes as a strategy for balancing mobility and connectivity options along this critical corridor; and

22           **WHEREAS**, in 2019, Council approved Resolution No. 20190619-186, initiating  
23 a shared streets pilot on Rainey Street to improve safety and mobility in this area on the  
24 weekends; and

25           **WHEREAS**, in response to COVID-19, Austin Transportation Department  
26 worked closely with Austin Public Health and Parks and Recreation Department to close  
27 one lane on Pleasant Valley Road over the Longhorn Dam and a portion of Riverside  
28 Drive between South 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Lee Barton Drive to accommodate increased demand  
29 and limited space for bikes and pedestrians who seek safe and socially-distanced spaces  
30 near urban trails; and

31           **WHEREAS**, Council approved Resolution No. 20200507-062 directing the City  
32 Manager to create a “Healthy Streets” initiative to facilitate safe, socially-distanced  
33 outdoor exercise and active transportation on neighborhood streets; and

34           **WHEREAS**, in May of 2020, the Council received a letter from thirty  
35 organizations, as well as a petition signed by 1,100 individuals, that advocated for the  
36 creation of temporary protected bicycle lanes on Congress Avenue north of Riverside  
37 Drive to the State Capitol; and

38           **WHEREAS**, such temporary infrastructure would allow individuals to bike more  
39 safely Downtown, particularly on the Congress Avenue Bridge where traffic speeds are  
40 high and bicycle riding on the sidewalk does not allow for social distancing and creates  
41 possible conflicts for pedestrians; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

43       The City Council directs the City Manager to work with Downtown businesses  
44 and stakeholders to swiftly establish temporary northbound and southbound protected  
45 bike lanes on Congress Avenue north of Riverside Drive to the maximum extent possible  
46 considering the safety and access needs of all users as well as the project costs and  
47 available funding. Such stakeholders should include Downtown businesses, the  
48 Downtown Austin Alliance, and the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association. The  
49 City Manager is directed to complete this work no later than June 30, 2020.

50       The City Manager is directed to report to Council for it to consider options for  
51 how to wind-down or permanently retain this temporary activation when social  
52 distancing is no longer needed in response to COVID-19.

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56 **ADOPTED:**\_\_\_\_\_, 2020 **ATTEST:**\_\_\_\_\_  
57 Jannette S. Goodall  
58 City Clerk