

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, Proposition B of the 2018 Bond package included \$12M in funding for Creative Space, per Council Resolution No. 20180809-061, whereas the City Manager was directed to recommend “a proposed process, description, and criteria for Creative Space Acquisition and Improvements...developed in consultation with the Arts and Music Commissions and in compliance with the use of bond funds.”; and

WHEREAS, in a memorandum dated April 3, 2020, Economic Development Department (EDD) staff provided a detailed response on actions directed in City Council Resolution No. 20180809-061 to recommend “a proposed process, description, and criteria for Creative Space Acquisition and Improvements... developed in consultation with the Arts and Music Commissions and in compliance with the use of bond funds.”; and

WHEREAS, in a memorandum dated May 14, 2020, EDD provided additional clarity about the types of projects the City would consider through a multi-party solicitation process.

WHEREAS, EDD will release a Request for Information to advertise the opportunity to serve as operator of a future facility(ies) to potential landowners and operators, and whereas EDD anticipates issuing the Request for Information within 3-4 weeks from a memo dated July 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20180215-082 directed the City Manager to, among other things, analyze and provide next steps for collaboration and support of an “Austin Cultural Trust” that could create spaces that support artists and arts organizations, preserve historic and iconic cultural buildings and spaces for creative and cultural uses, and function in a way that provides for cultural assets to exist in all parts of the City; and

WHEREAS, Cultural Arts Funding Programs support projects and activities in all disciplines that provide quality arts and cultural programming to the Austin community including the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), reinforcing the artistic and cultural industry to promote Austin as an exciting, vibrant, and diverse cultural destination for visitors and tourists; and

WHEREAS, Throughout 2019 and 2020, in partnership with MJR Partners, Cultural Funding staff engaged in a Cultural Funding Review Process, and during this review, the City of Austin has invited stakeholders from Austin’s cultural community to inform the development of funding programs and procedures that can better support our diverse creative communities.

WHEREAS, Austin Parks and Rec’s Rosewood Park, seated on a 13.9 acre tract of land located at 2300 Rosewood Ave, Austin, TX 78702 has continuously served East Austin’s Black community since its establishment in 1929, and includes the Doris Miller Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, the Doris Miller Auditorium, has served a critical function in providing recreational and educational resources to East Austin’s black community since 1942, including hosting live music shows featuring Ella Fitzgerald, Ike and Tina Turner, and some of Austin’s first Hip-Hop shows including longtime Austin musician Terrany Johnson (Tee-Double); and

WHEREAS, there is a desire from vendors and nonprofits currently working within the Doris Miller Auditorium, including the Notes4Notes 501c3 nonprofit, to bring needed capital improvements to the existing space so that Doris Miller may once again host top-tier live music, arts and educational events for the East Austin community;

WHEREAS, the Austin Texas Musicians REACH committee has identified the need for capital improvements and programming at Doris Miller Auditorium, and presents this proposal for \$1M of \$12M Creative Spaces Bond monies to improve Doris Miller Auditorium and to explore usage of existing and underutilized buildings on the Rosewood Park campus to serve as a music and creative arts hub for East Austin's Black community,

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to evaluate the following strategies, and if feasible, to implement immediately:

- Capital improvements to Doris Miller Auditorium, including audio, lighting, and interior (See Exhibit A)
- Programming for the Doris Miller Auditorium, including creation of a hub for music, arts and cultural nonprofits and businesses that serve East Austin's underserved youth and community (See Exhibit A)
- Exploration of capital improvements and usage of other existing and underutilized buildings on the Rosewood Park campus to serve as a music and creative arts hub serving East Austin's Black community

Adoption of this resolution serves as an endorsement by the City Council for The Doris Miller Auditorium's application for the City's \$12M Creative Spaces Bond program..

ADOPTED: , 2020 ATTEST:

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk