

26 **WHEREAS**, the CBD continues to grow amidst an evolving landscape
27 of policies and initiatives with which the Urban Design Guidelines may not be
28 aligned; and

29 **WHEREAS**, the current guidelines remain focused on projects in the
30 CBD and do little to address design issues with projects in other areas of the
31 urban core or the outlying urban hubs, like Imagine Austin Regional Centers or
32 Planned Unit Developments (PUDs); and

33 **WHEREAS**, since the guidelines were adopted, Council has advanced
34 policies related to affordable housing, connectivity, equity, and environmental
35 initiatives including, but not limited to: the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan,
36 Downtown Austin Plan, Austin Core Transportation Plan (ACT), Austin Strategic
37 Mobility Plan (ASMP), Project Connect, Strategic Housing Blueprint, Vision
38 Zero, the soon to be adopted Climate Equity Plan, the soon to be adopted Historic
39 Design Guidelines, Downtown Vision, East 11th and 12th Urban Renewal Plans,
40 and the ULI National Advisory Services Report on 1-35 Corridor Austin Texas
41 (2020); and

42 **WHEREAS**, an update is needed to both ensure alignment with existing
43 Council priorities and to create a broader range of guidelines that are more
44 applicable to projects in the expanded urban areas of Austin, including projects
45 for which the guidelines are not currently applicable, including infrastructure
46 projects; and

47 **WHEREAS**, the Design Commission is a body appointed by the City
48 Council to provide advisory recommendations to the City Council and assist in
49 developing public policy that promotes excellence in the design and development
50 of the urban environment; and

