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WHEREAS, during its deliberations, the City Council expressed a clear intent to create a perpetual fund for ongoing improvements within the District; and

24 **WHEREAS**, staff did not continue funding the Rainey Street District Fund,
25 and the improvements envisioned to preserve the history of the district were never
26 realized; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the Palm District Resolution (No. 20190523-029) reaffirmed
28 the earlier Council intent and directed the City Manager to return to the City
29 Council by June 20, 2019, with an ordinance requiring funds from right-of-way
30 fees, alley vacation sales, and license agreements for developments within the
31 Rainey Street Historic District to be deposited into the Rainey Street District
32 Special Revenue Fund; and

33 **WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 20191114-050 created the Rainey Street
34 District Special Revenue Fund, but a Council majority limited the annual
35 appropriation of this fund at \$200,000; and

36 **WHEREAS**, this fund is reserved for projects that enhance placemaking,
37 promote cultural vibrancy, and celebrate the Mexican American identity, heritage,
38 and history of the Rainey Street Historic District in a manner that engages a
39 citywide audience; and

40 **WHEREAS**, in October 2019, the City Council District 9 office and
41 Council colleagues held a placemaking charette with Rainey residents and
42 members of the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Board, the
43 Rainey Business Association, and other community groups to brainstorm ideas for
44 using the Rainey Street District Special Revenue Fund; and

45 **WHEREAS**, community stakeholders emphasized that the
46 placemaking/placekeeping features along Rainey Street should be human-
47 centered – that they should be focused on honoring and telling the stories of the

Mexican American families who once lived there and built a thriving neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, community stakeholders urged that 64 Rainey Street be used as a visitor’s center to the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center and include statuary, historical markers or plaques, and/or murals representing the historic Mexican American culture of the neighborhood as well as greenery; and

WHEREAS, these placekeeping elements should weave together stories, ethnographies, and photographs – many of which have been used in earlier exhibits, documentaries, and initiatives such as “Our Austin Story”; and

WHEREAS, the following key projects emerged from the process:

- Historic markers;
- Family stories narrated through sidewalk panels;
- Metal *papel picado* artwork that could be affixed to lampposts;
- Mural(s) on the AE substation wall recreating some of Raul Valdez’s murals destroyed with the demolition of the Juarez Lincoln building;
- Art and storytelling elements in the 64 Rainey Street park space; and
- A grand entrance for the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center.

WHEREAS, the pandemic prevented the community and City staff from executing those ideas and appropriating money during previous budget deliberations due to COVID, and the Rainey Street District Special Revenue Fund has continued to grow; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to include in the draft budget for Council consideration and Council approval during budget adoption appropriation of current funds in the Rainey Street District Special Revenue Fund in an amount of up to \$500,000 in the 2022-23 City budget to fund placemaking and placekeeping projects in the Rainey Historic District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to return with an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20191114-050 to authorize Council to appropriate an amount in excess of \$200,000 from the Rainey Street District Special Revenue Fund if there are sufficient funds for this increased appropriation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall collaborate with the Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board to conduct an additional public meeting by October 1, 2022, to receive feedback and to refine the project list generated through the earlier community process. In preparation for this meeting, the City Manager shall use readily accessible City resources to create visual representations to aid community members in reviewing options inspired by the above project list.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Should Council appropriate the funding for this project in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget, the City Manager shall present Council with a summary of the

community feedback, a timeline for the projects, and estimated costs by October 15, 2022. Council expects the projects to be underway immediately following the public meeting.

ADOPTED: _____, 2022 **ATTEST:** _____

Myrna Rios
City Clerk