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21           **WHEREAS**, the Convention Center paid for the renovation from its capital  
22 budget, which has an approved ending balance for Fiscal Year 2023 of over \$181  
23 million; and

24           **WHEREAS**, according to the Jamail & Smith website, the Castleman-Bull  
25 House exterior renovation was intended to create “the first fixed-front porch in the  
26 Promiseland Project movement, also known as America’s Front Porch,” an  
27 initiative to create spaces “where all people from every walk of life, can sit  
28 together, talk, and listen to each other, as neighbors,”; and

29           **WHEREAS**, this historic, city-owned structure has been under-utilized and  
30 vacant for the period of time that the City has owned it; and

31           **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has a vested interest in ensuring that all  
32 quadrants of its Downtown remain active, vibrant places where visitors and  
33 residents alike want to spend time; and

34           **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has periodically had conversations about  
35 methods and strategies for discouraging Downtown property owners from letting  
36 their properties stand vacant; and

37           **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin should model this practice with its own  
38 facilities; and

39           **WHEREAS**, the Castleman-Bull’s location within the Palm District and  
40 adjacent to the Convention Center makes it ideally suited for events, programs,  
41 and/or a visitors center; and

42           **WHEREAS**, restoration of the Castleman-Bull House will help further the  
43 goal of transforming this quadrant of Downtown into more active, vibrant  
44 pedestrian uses; and

45           **WHEREAS**, without timely restoration to the interior of the building, the  
46 City risks losing this valuable asset within the Austin Convention Center portfolio;  
47 **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

49           The City Council, by separate action, allocates \$8 million from the Austin  
50 Convention Center funds for interior renovations of the Castleman-Bull House.

51 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

52           The City Manager is directed to provide an updated estimate for interior  
53 renovations of the Castleman Bull House no later than November 1, 2022.

54 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

55           The City Manager shall ensure that the forthcoming Palm District Plan  
56 proposes to integrate the Castleman-Bull House in a meaningful way. If doing so  
57 requires additional stakeholder meetings, the City Manager shall hold those  
58 meetings in October and provide a memo to Council no later than November 1,  
59 2022.

60  
61 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2022   **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

62  
63 Myrna Rios  
64 City Clerk