

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
0
1

23

4
5
6

7
8
9

0
1
2

3
4
5
6

7

8
9
0
1

22 **WHEREAS**, in 2017, renovations for the interior of the Castleman-Bull
23 House were estimated at about \$2 million; and

24 **WHEREAS**, in 2019 the Austin Convention Center spent \$1.7 million to
25 restore and stabilize the exterior of the Castleman-Bull House; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the Convention Center paid for the renovation from its capital
27 budget, which has a proposed ending balance for Fiscal Year 2023 of more than
28 \$181 million; and

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

34 **WHEREAS**, this historic, city-owned structure has been under-utilized and
35 vacant for the 20 years that the City has owned it; and

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

39 **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin periodically has had conversations about
40 methods and strategies for discouraging Downtown property owners from allowing
41 their properties to stand vacant; and

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

44 **WHEREAS**, the Castleman-Bull's location within the Palm District and
45 adjacent to the Convention Center makes it ideally suited for events, programs, a
46 visitors center, or other public uses; and

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

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

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

54 That the City Manager shall work in conjunction with the Austin Convention
55 Center and the City of Austin Historic Preservation Office to define a scope of
56 work for the restoration and renovation of the Castleman-Bull House consistent
57 with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties
58 that would return it to service.

59 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

60 The City Council, by separate action, allocates \$8 million from the Austin
61 Convention Center funds for interior restoration and such renovations as are
62 consistent with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic
63 Properties.

64 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

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

67 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

68 The City Manager shall ensure that the forthcoming Palm District Plan
69 proposes to integrate the Castleman-Bull House in a meaningful way. If doing so
70 requires additional stakeholder meetings, the City Manager shall hold those
71 meetings in October and provide a memo to Council no later than November 1,
72 2022.

73 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

74 In keeping with the City's process of reviewing facility names associated
75 with the Confederacy, the City Manager shall initiate a community input process to
76 consider the appropriateness of changing the name of the structure and to review
77 alternative recommendations.

78 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2022 **ATTEST:** _____
79 Myrna Rios
80 City Clerk