



South Central Waterfront Advisory Board

September 19, 2022

RE: City Council Resolution Number - 20220915-090

To Mayor and City Council:

Our board is very appreciative of the extensive conversation's Council has had regarding the development of the South Central Waterfront Regulating Plan. We applaud the diligence with which Council has worked to ensure staff brings forward a plan that is in the best interest of the community at large, fulfills the intended community benefits, and more importantly, is attainable.

As Council is aware, our board was created *"to provide continuity and communication among stakeholders and advocates as the South Central Waterfront Plan moves toward implementation and to provide recommendations to the city council regarding plan implementation."* Our stated work as outlined in the City's charter is the following:

The board shall:

- (1) serve as an advisory body to the city council and city manager regarding policies and projects in the South Central Waterfront district;*
- (2) serve as stewards for the South Central Waterfront Vision Framework Plan;*
- (3) maintain liaison relationships with city staff and other boards and commissions; and*
- (4) perform additional functions as required by the city council.*

Our board has worked tirelessly for the past six years with the goal of fulfilling its charter and implementing the South Central Waterfront Vision Plan. For the city to receive the maximum benefit of our efforts, we will need city staff that is involved in the various work elements being analyzed and drafted to work with the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board (SCWAB) in a consistent manner to achieve the goals that Council has outlined both prior and at its most recent meeting. For this reason, we are asking Council to direct the City Manager or their assignees to provide monthly updates to the appropriate working groups of the SCWAB. These monthly updates should consist of the latest working versions, including draft versions of any financial, regulating, and governance plans that are being drafted as well as a memo explaining in detail any consultant work that has been performed to date. We request that any backup material for these meetings be posted along with the agenda in a timeframe that allows the commissioners and the public to review and provide meaningful feedback.

Given the importance of this area and its potential impact on substantial community benefits outlined in the Vision Plan, we feel this regular dialogue is imperative to provide both transparency and public accountability that an undertaking of this magnitude requires.

Sincerely,

Samuel Franco,
Chair, South Central Waterfront Advisory Board

Recommendation by the board -vote count (6-0) in favor of sending this letter to the Austin City Council.