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RESOLUTION

3 **WHEREAS**, the City Council approved Resolution No. 20191017-033,
4 declaring the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each year
5 (i.e., the November election day) as “Let Texas Vote Day” in the City of Austin to
6 encourage voting and civic engagement and to honor the sacrifices and struggle for
7 the right to vote throughout the history of the United States and Texas to the present
8 day; and

9 **WHEREAS**, as part of the direction and response to Resolution No.
10 20191017-033, the City Manager amended the City’s Personnel Policies to provide
11 greater flexibility for granting administrative leave for City employees to participate
12 in federal, state, and local elections (including regular, special, and run-off
13 elections); and

14 **WHEREAS**, consistent with the policy direction and declarations made
15 within Resolution No. 20191017-033, the City Council desires to ensure that all
16 residents and City employees have adequate time and opportunity to vote in every
17 federal, state, and local election, including regular elections, special elections, and
18 run-off elections, or to otherwise participate in such elections by advocating for a
19 cause that is important to them and by helping their friends and neighbors get to
20 polling places to vote; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the City’s Boards and Commissions play a critical role in the
22 development of policy for the City and in advising the City Council on City issues;
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, the scheduling of Board and Commission meetings on “Let
25 Texas Vote Day” and other election days might distract attention away from the
26 importance of voting and civic engagement on those days or might otherwise create
27 an obstacle to prevent a City employee, Board or Commission member, or member
28 of the public from voting or participating in the democratic process on election days;

29 **NOW, THEREFORE**

30 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN**

31 That the City Council hereby establishes a formal City policy that Boards and
32 Commission meetings should not be scheduled on an election day for federal, state,
33 or City elections.

41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

42 In order to ensure that City employees, Board members, and Austin residents
43 have adequate time and opportunity to vote or otherwise participate in every federal,
44 state, and City election, the City Council requests that the City Manager and City
45 Clerk work together to pursue a permanent solution that would avoid future Boards
46 and Commission meetings on election days.

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

50 Myrna Rios
51 City Clerk