

1 **RESOLUTION NO.**

2 **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has long been at the forefront of combating  
3 climate change by creating policies that reduce carbon emissions, improve the  
4 environment and quality of life for residents, and protect our natural resources,  
5 biodiversity, and ecosystems; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the origins of these policies include Resolution No. 20070215-  
7 023, which initiated critical efforts over the past fifteen years to develop goals and  
8 procedures that position Austin as the leading city in the nation in the effort to  
9 reduce and reverse the negative impacts of global warming; and

10 **WHEREAS**, subsequent existing and current draft policy plans include, but  
11 are not limited to, the Austin Climate Equity Plan, Strategic Direction 28 (SD28),  
12 the Rain to River Strategic Plan, the Austin Urban Forest Plan, and the Climate  
13 Resilience Action Plan for City Assets and Operations; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in December of 2022, the United Nations' Convention on  
15 Biological Diversity met in Montreal, Canada for the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties  
16 (COP15) and invited individual nations across the globe to collaborate on an  
17 agreement to address the root causes of climate change, including nature and  
18 biodiversity loss, as well as pollution and waste; and

19 **WHEREAS**, since 1972, the United Nations Environment Programme  
20 (UNEP) has acted as the international authority for the global environment, setting  
21 protective standards and promoting the implementation of sustainable development  
22 within the United Nations system; and

24           **WHEREAS**, municipalities across continents play an increasingly important  
25 role in tackling the climate crisis by collaborating with organizations like the  
26 UNEP to increase community resilience and protect natural resources and native  
27 ecosystems through shared goals and standards; and

28           **WHEREAS**, at COP15, roughly 190 countries agreed on environmental  
29 goals and targets called the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: 23  
30 Targets, which include, among other targets, increased preservation and restoration  
31 of natural habitats to help prevent a mass extinction event; and

32           **WHEREAS**, the United States of America is one of two invited countries  
33 that did not sign on to the COP15 agreement, and yet, the Council acknowledges  
34 the important and critical work of the UNEP and COP15 and strives to adopt goals  
35 that align with our policies that support the community's values; **NOW**,

36 **THEREFORE**,

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

38           The City Manager is directed to analyze elements from the Kunming-  
39 Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: 23 Targets produced at COP15 with the  
40 goal of aligning Strategic Direction 28 with applicable elements of the 23 targets  
41 and report back to Council as part of the SD28 adoption schedule already in  
42 progress.

43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

44           The City Manager is directed to analyze elements from the Kunming-  
45 Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: 23 Targets with the goal of aligning the  
46 City's relevant existing and proposed plans, including, but not limited to, the  
47 Austin Climate Equity Plan, the Rain to River Strategic Plan, the Austin Urban

48 Forest Plan, the Climate Resilience Action Plan for City Assets and Operations,  
49 and Imagine Austin, with applicable elements of the 23 targets and report back to  
50 Council with the analysis and recommendations necessary for alignment no later  
51 than September 15, 2023.

52 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

54 Myrna Rios  
55 City Clerk

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