RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT OF LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, Downtown Austin is the very heart of our community; and

WHEREAS, Downtown Austin is and should always be welcoming, inclusive and diverse; and

WHEREAS, members of the LBGTQ+ community as residents, workers, professionals, employers, creatives, entrepreneurs, and visitors contribute to Downtown's vibrancy and vitality; and

WHEREAS, June 28, 2023, marks the 54th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising in New York City, which sparked the gay rights movement, and June is the nationwide month to recognize and celebrate the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer/Questioning, and Plus (LGBTQ+) community; and

WHEREAS, celebrating Pride Month each June raises awareness and provides support and advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community, and is an opportunity to become educated, engage in dialogue, strengthen alliances, and build understanding; and

WHEREAS, the Austin PRIDE Parade to be held on August 12, 2023 on Congress Avenue will culminate a week of activities celebrating pride and equality; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ+ community currently faces mounting discrimination, intolerance, and hate that at times results in increasingly hostile and dangerous environments for LBGTQ+ people; and

WHEREAS, by protecting the rights of every individual, we enhance and strengthen the value of everyone throughout our entire society enabling all to live openly, equally, and without fear;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Austin's Downtown Commission that the City of Austin shall continue to reaffirm each June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning, and Plus (LGBTQ+) Pride Month; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City of Austin's Downtown Commission shall urge the City Council to take all steps necessary to continue to maintain and enhance a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance while ensuring that Downtown continues to be a safe, welcoming environment that embraces and celebrates our diverse community.