



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Trisha Tatro, Director, Austin Convention Center Department

DATE: June 21, 2023

SUBJECT: 2nd Staff Update to Council Resolution 20220915-054

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a 2nd update on Council Resolution [20220915-054](#) related to the Convention Center's Castleman-Bull House (House). The resolution directed the City Manager to work with the City's Historic Preservation Office to define a scope of work and cost estimates for the restoration and renovation of the Castleman-Bull House. It further directed the City Manager to conduct community engagement meetings to discuss possible public uses of the building.

Castleman-Bull House Cost Estimates and Scope of Work

The first [update](#) to Council in November 2022 noted that staff had begun the work to fulfill the directives of the resolution by consulting with a firm via the City's architectural rotation list to assist with community engagement and design. However, after analyzing the extensive community engagement required for this effort, staff has determined that development of a comprehensive engagement plan prior to any other work is critical to ensure an informed decision on any change in utilization of the House. The outcomes from the community engagement effort will direct restoration and renovation efforts. Staff is working with the Austin Community Engagement team from the Corporate Public Information Office to lead the community engagement effort inclusive of a comprehensive stakeholder list and surveys.

Staff is committed to beginning the engagement work by June 2023. Once the scope of the work is developed, the selected firm will provide their scope of work and cost estimates and begin their work. Staff will report to Council on the outcomes of the engagement effort to include proposed utilization of the House, and recommendations for how to achieve the determined utilization and required restoration and renovation efforts.

Staff is available for any questions. I can be reached via email at trisha.tatro@austintexas.gov or by phone at 512-404-4218.

cc: Jesús Garza, Interim City Manager
Veronica Briseño, Assistant City Manager