

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin is known as the Live Music Capital of the World, and musicians are crucial and vibrant contributors to the character of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan states that the creative sector, including the music industry, is a cornerstone of the City’s identity and economic prosperity, but that the creative community struggles with quality of life in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, setting an appropriate living wage for musicians differs from other professions because of the significant amount of un-compensated preparation work musicians must do and the relatively short performance times for which musicians are compensated; and

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25           **WHEREAS**, the Austin Music Commission passed Recommendation  
26           20220307-3c in March 2022, recommending that the hourly rate for City musical  
27           performances increase to \$200 per hour per musician; and

28           **WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Department has since adopted and  
29           has been paying this standard rate of \$200 per hour per musician for City musical  
30           performances; and

31           **WHEREAS**, through mechanical and live entertainment musical licensing  
32           programs such as KUT at Airport, Electric Lady Bird, and Music on Hold, the City  
33           also works to fairly compensate musicians; and

34           **WHEREAS**, a standard rate of pay for City musical performances would  
35           assist in raising the universal standard for musical performance pay across the  
36           City; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

39           The City acknowledges the needs of its musicians to earn a living wage in  
40           order to maintain the cultural and artistic fabric of this City. The City intends to  
41           remain the Live Music Capital of the World by supporting the local music industry  
42           and its musicians through regular investments, including by means of paid  
43           performances.

44           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

45           The City places a premium on the talent of its musicians and hereby  
46           establishes its pay rate for musicians for a live City music performance of no less  
47           than:

- \$200 per musician for groups of up to six people
- \$150 per musician for groups between seven and ten people
- \$1500 total for groups of musicians of ten or more

This musician pay rate is to be used by all City departments directly hiring musicians and for awards for live music performance from the Live Music Fund. The Austin Music Commission should regularly review the musician pay rate for future adjustments and make recommendations that consider the totality of compensation and performance opportunities.

In addition to the musician pay rate, the City Manager and Austin Music Commission should also review fair compensation for licensing by the City.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to develop a voluntary program that markets and celebrates community partners that adhere to the City's pay rate for musicians, and events or venues that book artists through the Live Music Fund where artists are paid this rate.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2023    **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Myrna Rios  
City Clerk