

1 **RESOLUTION NO.**

2 **WHEREAS**, the City and Travis County (the County) have a long history of  
3 collaboration and partnership on joint initiatives to serve the needs of their residents,  
4 including the establishment of the Austin/Travis County Sobering Center,  
5 participation in the Waller Creek Tax Reinvestment Financing Zone, and the  
6 ongoing operations and maintenance of the Travis County Exposition Center; and

7 **WHEREAS**, a significant way the two entities can work together is to  
8 collaborate on joint planning to maximize the efficient use of land and leverage each  
9 other's resources to provide services for both City and County residents; and

10 **WHEREAS**, simultaneously with the consideration of this Resolution, the  
11 City Council and the Travis County Commissioner's Court (Commissioners Court)  
12 are considering a similar resolution; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the City and the County have jointly expressed a strong desire  
14 to address historic underinvestment, persistent disparities, and structural inequities  
15 in northeast Austin and in eastern Travis County; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the North East Austin District area of the Eastern Crescent (the  
17 District, or the North East Austin District), is comprised mostly of nine census  
18 tracts—22.01, 22.20, 22.21, 22.22, 22.11, 22.13, 22.14, and variously sized portions  
19 of tracts 22.19, 22.14, and 22.15 (originally five census tracts, prior to the 2020  
20 redistricting of census tracts); and

21 **WHEREAS**, the District is bounded by U.S. Highway 183 to the west, U.S.  
22 Highway 290 to the north, Toll Road 130 to the east, and mostly FM 969 to the  
23 south, and is lacking in critical infrastructure, has seen little financial investment,  
24 and has been identified as an area at risk of gentrification; and

25           **WHEREAS**, 30.4 percent of the North East Austin District is located in the  
26 City extra-territorial jurisdiction (the ETJ) as well as in Travis County; and

27           **WHEREAS**, the City Council has previously directed the City Manager to  
28 coordinate, to the greatest extent possible, with the County on the North East  
29 Austin District Plan to ensure synergy between the North East Austin District Plan  
30 and the County’s long range planning efforts; and specifically, for the areas of the  
31 North East Austin District within the ETJ, the City Manager has been directed to  
32 ensure compatibility with relevant County policies, such as the County’s public  
33 improvement district policy—Chapter 481 of the Travis County Code; and

34           **WHEREAS**, the objective of the North East Austin District Plan is to  
35 review past and present inequities as well as disinvestments in services and  
36 infrastructure within the District, address them, and provide guidance for: retaining  
37 existing residents and businesses, creating and maintaining great neighborhoods,  
38 spurring economic development, creating and retaining stable jobs that pay a living  
39 wage, improving connectivity, provide high-quality public spaces, and meeting  
40 community needs; and

41           **WHEREAS**, the North East Austin District Plan is being led by the City’s  
42 Planning Department, which partners with the community, other City departments,  
43 and partner stakeholders to shape a more equitable Austin and uses planning  
44 disciplines and affordable housing resources to prevent the displacement of people,  
45 cultures, and services; and

46           **WHEREAS**, the County is considering a Marshall Plan for eastern Travis  
47 County to identify quality public investments and funding mechanisms to support  
48 communities in eastern Travis County that have faced displacement and systemic  
49 racism that has left people of color falling further behind economically, made them

50 more likely to be in a generational cycle of poverty and less resilient to natural  
51 disasters, weather events, and national or personal economic or health crises; and

52 **WHEREAS**, working with community partners, consultants, and  
53 stakeholders on the Marshall Plan, County staff will work on the key tasks needed  
54 to develop a fiscally sound program that can provide meaningful community  
55 benefits in a timely manner; and initial work will include identifying the  
56 geographic area, establishing the baseline value, modeling potential revenue or  
57 funding scenarios, identifying potential federal funding, addressing any legal issues  
58 that may arise, and establishing a project and finance plan that is both data driven  
59 and community informed by a meaningful public engagement strategy; and

60 **WHEREAS**, the Marshall Plan will be led by the County's Economic  
61 Development and Strategic Investment Office within the Planning and Budget  
62 Office's Equity Framework, and County staff plans to create a community  
63 engagement design that provides community leadership by providing  
64 recommendations, create a cross-County work group to address cross-cutting  
65 issues, align work product, and reduce duplication by building upon plans,  
66 engagement, and projects currently underway or completed; and

67 **WHEREAS**, the County wants to work collaboratively through  
68 coordination with local partners for data collection, research and financial  
69 modeling, engagement of the directly impacted communities, engagement of local  
70 universities, identification of project and funding collaboration opportunities to  
71 create a larger impact, and implementation of holistic solutions which focus on all  
72 aspects of quality-of-life factors; and

73 **WHEREAS**, the Travis County Exposition Center is located on City land  
74 leased to the County via a 50-year lease that expires at the end of 2033; and

75           **WHEREAS**, the Travis County Exposition Center is an important cultural  
76 and tourist attraction for the City and its surrounding community and hosts annual  
77 events such as the Star of Texas Fair, Rodeo Austin, races, and triathlons, as well  
78 as livestock, auto, and craft shows; and

79           **WHEREAS**, the County has identified the need to expand and improve the  
80 Travis County Exposition Center, as well as to secure a longer-term solution  
81 related to facility ownership so that the Travis County Exposition Center can  
82 continue to host events and attract cultural tourism to the City and the County; and

83           **WHEREAS**, City Council Resolution Nos. 20201112-043 and 20220324-  
84 056 directed the City Manager to convene stakeholders in a planning effort for the  
85 North East Austin District, with knowledge and support of the Colony Park  
86 Sustainable Community Plan (Colony Park Community Plan); and

87           **WHEREAS** the Colony Park Community Plan was initiated in 2012 and  
88 incorporates significant community engagement; and

89           **WHEREAS**, per the City Council resolutions, the resulting North East  
90 Austin District Plan should be informed also by Project Connect and the Austin  
91 Strategic Mobility Plan and should establish a cohesive vision and strategic plan  
92 for Walter E. Long Park, Colony Park, Decker Creek Power Station, John Treviño  
93 Jr. Metro Park, the Travis County Exposition Center, and commercial development  
94 at the former Freescale campus; and

95           **WHEREAS**, Colony Park is a community within the North East Austin  
96 District, and the Colony Park Community Plan, and its holistic Eight Community  
97 Pillars consisting of mobility and connectivity, community safety, health care and  
98 wellness resources, open spaces and parks, healthy foods, economic vitality, life-

99 long learning opportunities, and workforce housing, along with City and County  
100 resources, address the inequities and disinvestments in the District; and

101 **WHEREAS**, the Colony Park Community Plan will be a critical model for  
102 the co-creation of the North East Austin District Plan, and the participation of  
103 existing core community organizations such as but not limited to Colony Park  
104 Association Inc., d/b/a Colony Park Neighborhood Association, Colony  
105 Park/Lakeside CDC, Equidad ATX, Austin Revitalization, and RBI will be critical  
106 for successful collaboration within the North East Austin District Plan area; and

107 **WHEREAS**, the North East Community Advisory Committee will be a  
108 group of community residents, stakeholders, and organizations comprised of faith-  
109 based networks, neighborhood associations, homeowner’s associations, mobile  
110 home community representatives, local and small businesses and employers,  
111 school districts, arts and music non-profits and collectives, housing developers, and  
112 other community advocacy groups, convened to share their lived and professional  
113 experiences, knowledge, relationships, and other resources for co-creation of  
114 holistic, sustainable, transformative, and equitable community development;

115 **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

117 City Council directs the City Manager to take the following actions:

118 A) Negotiate and bring forward to the City Council an interlocal  
119 agreement further identifying collaborative work, deliverables,  
120 performance metrics, and shared funding with the County for a  
121 collaborative North East Planning District, and allocating the funding  
122 identified for the North East Austin District Plan for this collaborative  
123 effort.

124 B) Co-create a collaborative area planning effort between the City, the  
125 County and other interested local governments and entities in order to  
126 establish the collaborative North East Planning District to serve as a  
127 pilot program with potential for expansion to southeastern Travis  
128 County as a component of the County's Marshall Plan.

129 C) Support a community-led vision for northeastern Travis County  
130 informed by past efforts and plans that are within the boundaries  
131 identified in the North East Austin District Plan, and expand them  
132 based on data, to shape a holistic vision for northeastern Travis  
133 County.

134 D) Coordinate a collaborative engagement plan for areas in northeastern  
135 Travis County and co-create a North East Community Advisory  
136 Committee including existing stakeholders such as but not limited to  
137 Colony Park Association Inc., d/b/a Colony Park Neighborhood  
138 Association, Colony Park/Lakeside CDC, Equidad ATX, Austin  
139 Revitalization, RBI, and new stakeholders.

140 E) Create an interdepartmental City services work group that collaborates  
141 with a cross-County department work group on a frequency to be  
142 determined.

143 F) Develop a collaborative workplan that includes improvements for  
144 infrastructure, affordable housing, economic redevelopment, and other  
145 community investments in northeastern Travis County that augments,  
146 not supplants, any investments made or anticipated by other  
147 governmental entities or other funding sources, and may include  
148 leveraging publicly owned land, federal funding, and other

149 programmatic resources to support the goals of the collaborative  
150 North East Planning District.

151 G) Provide quarterly updates on progress to the Housing and Planning  
152 Committee.

153

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

155 Myrna Rios

156 City Clerk

DRAFT