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Center and a design team from Asakura Robinson led community stakeholders through several scenario planning exercises; and

WHEREAS, the Palm District is a vibrant historic hub of downtown where the past is honored, culture is celebrated, and the future is shaped; and

WHEREAS, the Palm District Plan includes a preferred scenario that significantly increases mixed income housing; supports strategic placement of goods and services; supports the Palm District’s creative and innovation industries; supports entertainment and hospitality industry; supports Project Connect and Waterloo Greenway trail expansion by proposing a transit circulator; and promotes opportunities to expand the Palm District’s retail and commercial environment and create more open and green space related to the potential Interstate 35 Cap & Stitch; and

WHEREAS, City Council initiated amendments to City Code Title 25 (*Land Development Code*) to create and apply a cultural district overlay in Resolution Nos. 20220728-094 and 20220901-089, and the City Manager is currently working to identify additional incentives and regulatory changes that would build on work underway and support preservation and enhancement of cultural space, cultural arts and heritage uses, historic structures, and cultural and heritage tourism-related activities in the district; and

WHEREAS, the Palm District Plan includes recommendations identified through the planning process by agency, organization, and community stakeholders that the City and others should take to move toward the desired outcomes identified; and

WHEREAS, the Palm District Plan identifies two important steps needed to codify the guidance provided in the Plan: 1) to amend the Downtown Austin Plan to incorporate the changes included in the Palm District Plan and to reconcile any

discrepancies created by its adoption; and 2) to implement parts of the Palm District Plan by initiating amendments to City Code Title 25 (*Land Development Code*) to ensure that properties adjacent to Waller Creek develop in a way that supports the function and design of Waterloo Greenway; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. _____ adopted the Palm District Plan as an element of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Council initiates the following: 1) amendments to the Downtown Austin Plan to ensure consistency with the Palm District Plan, and 2) amendments to City Code Title 25 (*Land Development Code*) to implement the Palm District Plan, including targeted amendments relating to setbacks and development standards for properties adjacent to Waller Creek. The City Council further directs the City Manager to engage stakeholders along Waller Creek and to analyze any impacts of the authorized code amendments. The City Council further directs the City Manager to process these amendments to accomplish the purposes set forth in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to identify an implementation governance structure for the Palm District Plan that will work collaboratively with existing governance entities overseeing work in the district. City Council recommends the following entities and representatives participate in this process: City of Austin, Downtown Austin Alliance, Waterloo Greenway Conservancy, University of Texas at Austin, Central Health/Innovation District, East Sixth Street Improvement District Association, Austin Transit Partnership, Red River Cultural District, Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, Fifth Street

Mexican American Heritage Corridor, Palm School, and other place making and cultural arts-related entities operating in the Palm District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to evaluate incentives for cultural space preservation and creation in the Palm District as part of any future updates to the Downtown Density Bonus Program. As the City Manager evaluates incentives, City Council encourages the City Manager to engage with cultural arts-related entities operating in the district.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to report on progress related to implementation of the Palm District Plan and identification of a governance structure by March 31, 2024.

ADOPTED: _____, 2023 **ATTEST:** _____
Myrna Rios
City Clerk