

RESOLUTION NO. 20231109-027

WHEREAS, Austin is experiencing tremendous growth in the North Burnet/Gateway and Domain area; and

WHEREAS, Council adopted the North Burnet/Gateway Vision Plan in 2006 and the North Burnet/Gateway Regulating Plan in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Council has since adopted multiple amendments to the North Burnet/Gateway Regulating Plan, identified as Ordinance Nos. 20120322-088, 20130425-104, 20140828-159, 20180412-051, 20180628-088, 20190620-112, 20190808-101, 20221027-044, 20230209-049, and 20231019-056; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the North Burnet/Gateway area's older industrial, office, and warehouse structures is changing in favor of mixed use development with housing density, office spaces, and vibrant store fronts for small retail business; and

WHEREAS, a new report titled "Austin Life Sciences Sector: a Powerhouse Emerging at a Pivotal Crossroads" provides that the life sciences sector in Austin has grown tenfold from 2017 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, "Opportunity Austin 5.0" (*OA5*), a five-year economic development strategy prepared by Ernst and Young for the Greater Austin Economic Development Corporation was published on June 12, 2023, to provide a roadmap to enhance economic resilience and "help Greater Austin thrive as a leading US market for investment and job creation, while enhancing its competitive position on a global stage."; and

WHEREAS, OA5 notes that life sciences are an emerging industry within the greater Austin area, however, the overall growth potential of the industry is limited by lack of available wet lab space; and

WHEREAS, OA5 provides that the development of a centralized innovation district could be a solution to accelerate the growth of the life sciences sector throughout the Greater Austin area; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports a comprehensive amendment to the North Burnet/Gateway Regulating Plan to allow for the creation of a Research and Sciences Mixed Use District within the North Burnet/Gateway area; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Council initiates amendments to City Code Title 25 (*Land Development Code*) to amend the North Burnet/Gateway Regulating Plan to create a new subdistrict called the Research and Sciences Mixed Use Subdistrict and to establish a new set of uses, including but not limited to, life sciences, lab, and biomed uses, and to establish development regulations and standards applicable to said district.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

City Council waives any requirement that the Codes and Ordinances Joint Committee consider and make a recommendation prior to the City Manager scheduling this Code amendment for public hearing at the Planning Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

City Council directs the City Manager to process Code amendments necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in this resolution and return with a draft ordinance for City Council consideration by February 29, 2024.

ADOPTED: November 9, 2023

ATTEST:



Myrna Rios
City Clerk