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RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Citywide events that are free and open to the public reflect the City's cultural identity as the 'Live Music Capital of the World' for all Austinites and its visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the economic and social benefits of supporting free community events, attracting visitors, fostering local business growth, and creating opportunities for residents to engage with their city in meaningful ways; and

WHEREAS, the Texas music industry has generated more than \$26 billion in annual economic activity across the state in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City acknowledges the rising costs and challenges faced by community event organizers and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Blues on the Green is a free live music event that has been drawing thousands of attendees from communities all over the city together for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the Blues on the Green experience has evolved into a concert series with a various lineup of bands and genres to reflect the diversity of Austin; and

WHEREAS, Blues on the Green features local food and drink vendors as well as sponsor booths; and

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WHEREAS, Council adopted Resolution No. 20230720-123, establishing the City's standard pay rate for commissioning live music performances; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to identify ways to support and sustain an annual event currently known as Blues on the Green as a free and publicly accessible event that showcases Austin's live music talent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to negotiate with the organizers of Blues on the Green regarding the potential of becoming a City co-sponsored event with commitments to achieve the following goals:

- Sustaining a cherished Austin tradition without interruption,
- Preserving free access to the public,
- Ensuring diverse local musicians are provided performance opportunities, and
- Requiring the City's adopted musician pay scale is observed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to return to Council by February 29, 2024 with a resolution or ordinance for any associated fee waivers, co-sponsorships, or related budget authorizations needed to effectuate these goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to explore and provide recommendations on ways to support and preserve accessible, inclusive, open-to-the-public events and Citywide traditions comparable to 'Blues on the Green' and community festivals.

The City Manager is directed to solicit the input of the Arts, Music, and Quality of Life commissions in developing any recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to identify and utilize partnerships to further expand opportunities for the City to co-sponsor community events, that are centered around locality, diversity, and inclusivity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to create an equitable and accessible application process for City co-sponsorship of free, open-to-the-public, events.

ADOPTED:	, 2024	ATTEST:	
			Myrna Rios
			City Clerk