RESOLUTION NO.

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2	WHEDEAS Article V Section 1 of the City Charter stragges the			
2	WHEREAS, Article X, Section 1, of the City Charter stresses the			
3	importance of the provision of parks and recreational facilities; and			
4	WHEREAS, provision of adequate parks and recreation facilities plays a			
5	major role in achieving the six key City goals established in the Imagine Austin			
6	Comprehensive Plan: 1) preserving our livability; 2) expanding transportation			
7	choices; 3) tackling the ethnic divide; 4) protecting our natural resources; 5)			
8	promoting prosperity for all; and 6) collaborating regionally; and			
9	WHEREAS, parks provide recreational opportunities, create community,			
10	preserve the City's character and natural resources, increase transportation			
11	opportunities, and keep Austin beautiful; and			
12	WHEREAS, parkland provides relief from urban life, green space to those			
13	who do not have access to a yard, opportunities to gather and recreate, and			
14	numerous physical and mental health benefits; and			
15	WHEREAS, investing in parkland in historically underserved areas is			
16	investing in the physical and mental wellbeing of those residents; and			
17	WHEREAS, accessibility to parks, trails, and recreational opportunities is			
18	identified as a key Council priority within Strategic Direction 2023 and the City			
19	continues to underperform on our goals; and			
20	WHEREAS, high-quality parks, trails, natural spaces, and recreational			
21	opportunities are critical for physical and mental wellbeing as well as maintaining			
22	a healthy work-life balance; and			

WHEREAS, feedback from surveys collected during the development of
the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) Long Range Plan detailed a high
interest in access to outdoor pools as well as a separate interest in reducing fees
that may prevent low-income residents from participating in PARD programs and
spaces; and

WHEREAS, PARD's Long Range Plan documents that outdoor pools also
provide important public health benefits during heatwaves and help ensure that all
children have an opportunity to learn how to swim; and

WHEREAS, the PARD Aquatic Vision Plan recommends that our aquatic
system provides a variety of aquatic opportunities with neighborhood pools
remaining free and fees for community and regional pools based upon the socioeconomic conditions of the surrounding market area; and

35 WHEREAS, in response to record-breaking heat, the City waived fees at 36 certain pools and extended pool operations in 2023; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to implement a pilot project this swim season that would explore opportunities to responsibly improve aquatic facilities access by waiving, reducing, or restructuring user fees at one or more City aquatic facilities during the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 swim season.

42 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

43 The City Manager is directed to consider geographic and socio-economic
44 factors when determining which site(s) shall be included in this pilot project this
45 swim season.

46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

47 The City Manager is directed to hold PARD harmless for any financial48 impact this one-time fee reduction may have on the department.

49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

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50 The City Manager is directed to use information gleaned from this pilot to 51 make recommendations to Council for any pilot extensions or permanent changes 52 that might be made to aquatic fees in the future.

54	ADOPTED:	, 2024 ATTEST:		
55			Myrna Rios	
56			City Clerk	
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