

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the area in and around the 78702 zip code (the “Greater 78702 Area”) is composed of some of the City’s most diverse and eclectic neighborhoods, longstanding community networks, and historic community assets; and

WHEREAS, neighborhoods within the Greater 78702 Area are composed of longstanding and new residents, and have experienced some of the greatest pressures and effects of gentrification throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, even in the face of displacement and institutional neglect, community networks and pillar organizations such as Six Square, Austin Revitalization Authority, Austin Area Urban League, Austin NAACP, Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce, Blackland Community Development Corporation, Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation, and Huston Tillotson University have advocated for, preserved, and continued to activate community assets like parkland, privately-owned historic structures, and publicly owned land; and

WHEREAS, the Greater 78702 Area would benefit from a comprehensive approach to planning, preserving, and leveraging these combined assets so that the present and future generations of Austinites can benefit from a complete community; and

WHEREAS, current and future use of City-owned land, infrastructure, planning, and regional investment would be improved by a holistic vision for the Greater 78702 Area; and

WHEREAS, examples of existing publicly owned facilities and property in the Greater 78702 Area include City department facilities, parks, libraries, public

health facilities, neighborhood centers, recreation centers, and school facilities
such as but not limited to:

- Fleet Services property located at 12th and Hargrave,
- Millenium Youth Entertainment Complex,
- George Washington Carver Museum and Genealogy Center,
- Carver Library,
- Terrazas Library,
- Cepeda Library,
- Givens Park and Pool,
- Rosewood Park and Pool,
- Deloris Duffle Recreation Center,
- Doris Miller Auditorium,
- Boggy Creek Greenbelt,
- Parque Zaragoza and Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center,
- Pan American Park, Hillside Theater, and Oswaldo “A.B.” Cantu Pan American Recreation Center,
- Chestnut Pocket Park,
- Metz Park and Rudolfo “Rudy” Mendez Recreation Center,
- Comal Park,

- Edward Rendon Sr. Park Festival Beach, Town Lake Metro Park,
- Properties being improved and expanded upon by the Housing Authority of the City,
- Austin Independent School District (“Austin ISD”) campus facilities (including Blackshear Elementary School, Yellow Jacket Stadium, Zavala Elementary School, Metz Elementary School, Kealing Middle School, Oak Springs Elementary School, Martin Middle School, Eastside Memorial High School),
- Austin Community Collage Eastview,
- Huston-Tillotson University,
- Down’s Field,
- Willie May Kirk Library,
- The Terrace at Oak Springs,
- Connie Yearwood House,
- Plaza Saltillo, and
- historic cemeteries; and,

WHEREAS, examples of privately-owned facilities and properties that contribute to the Greater 78702 Area include but are not limited to properties listed in the East Austin Historic Resources Survey and others such as:

- I.Q. Hurdle House,
- Southgate Lewis House,

- Limerick-Frazier House,
- King-Tears Mortuary,
- The community center located at 1192 Angelina Street,
- Thompson Home,
- Wesley United Methodist Church,
- Simpson United Methodist Church,
- Texas Music Museum,
- 1170 San Bernard Street,
- Colored Teachers State Association of Texas building,
- Ebenezer Third Baptist Church,
- Victory Grill,
- Haynes-Delashwah house,
- Mount Olive Baptist Church,
- Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church,
- Our Lady Of Guadalupe Catholic Church,
- Sing Family House,
- Lung House,
- Hudspeth's Corner,
- Overton House, and
- Herrera House; and,

WHEREAS, local institutions of education with real assets or longstanding ties to the Greater 78702 Area include:

- Huston-Tillotson University,
- Austin Community College,

- Austin ISD,
- The University of Texas at Austin; and,

WHEREAS, regional institutions with real assets or populations serviced in the Greater 78702 Area include:

- Central Health,
- Integral Care, and
- Travis County; and,

WHEREAS, the City is currently in the final stages of redeveloping the last City-owned property along the East 11th Street Corridor in partnership with the City’s Urban Renewal Board and Austin Economic Development Corporation (“AEDC”); and

WHEREAS, this redevelopment effort, commonly known as “Blocks 16 and 18”, will have an impact on the future of development and community benefits in the Greater 78702 Area; and

WHEREAS, the City is partnering with AEDC on other initiatives in the Greater 78702 Area and AEDC could play an important role providing professional expertise in coordinating the many public assets and potential redevelopment strategies; and

WHEREAS, private property owners along East 12th Street have previously produced a vision plan that illustrates the wide variety of community benefits, safer streets, and increased attainable housing possible when an area-wide approach to planning communities is undertaken; and

112 **WHEREAS**, recent amendments to the East 11th and 12th Street
113 Neighborhood Combined Conservation District permitted a greater diversity of
114 uses and development; and

115 **WHEREAS**, the planned demolition and reconstruction of the I-35 corridor
116 will present both great challenges and opportunities for the Greater 78702 Area;
117 and

118 **WHEREAS**, the Texas Department of Transportation (“TxDOT”) has
119 agreed to include certain components in its reconstruction of I-35 that will
120 reconnect Central and East Austin – a disconnect that is a daily reminder of the
121 historic racism and divisions that were inflicted on Austin’s black and brown
122 communities; and

123 **WHEREAS**, a comprehensive approach to planning for the Greater 78702
124 Area could leverage, restore, and preserve its history and community character;
125 and

126 **WHEREAS**, this comprehensive approach, if properly supported, funded,
127 and staffed by the City and its regional partners, would allow for greater
128 community empowerment and service to past, present, and future residents; and

129 **WHEREAS**, tangential initiatives like the Waterloo Greenway, the Austin
130 Convention Center redevelopment project (including the potential for a downtown
131 public market), and Project Connect would benefit from a comprehensive planning
132 effort with the Greater 78702 Area and help ensure equitable transit and trail
133 connectivity; and

134 **WHEREAS**, the Equity-Based Preservation Plan outlines strategies and
135 tools for preserving important buildings, places, and cultural heritage; stabilizing

communities; furthering environmental sustainability; and other goals in this Resolution, in collaboration with community members and organizations; and

WHEREAS, existing historic preservation and cultural activation efforts like the Equity-based Preservation Plan and African American Cultural Heritage District would also benefit from the programmatic support envisioned with a comprehensive planning effort; and

WHEREAS, future public land redevelopment, including redevelopment of the existing Fleet Services facility on East 12th and Hargrave, would benefit from a holistic approach versus an isolated Request for Proposals or planning exercise; and

WHEREAS, efforts to revitalize and improve existing community assets like the Millenium Youth Entertainment Complex would benefit from area-wide programmatic support and long-range plan; and

WHEREAS, existing collaborative-jurisdictional efforts like the Northeast Planning District in Northeast Travis County could provide a template for increased local collaboration in historic preservation, public land development, and community restoration; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to catalogue all publicly owned land and assets, along with the current and potential uses for each; existing and planned public programming; and relevant planning efforts within or affecting the Greater 78702 Area (the “Public Assets”).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to develop recommendations about how the City can coordinate the planning, development, preservation, and activation of the Public Assets and privately held, but publicly meaningful, properties in the Greater 78702 Area (the “Initiative”), including a proposed timeline for the Initiative, funding and other resources that are available for the Initiative, and any resource or funding gaps that will prevent implementation of the Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to include anti-displacement strategies, attainable housing, historic preservation, and local economic opportunity in the recommendations made in relation to the Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to identify any funding, staffing, or other resource shortfalls for existing efforts within the Greater 78702 Area such as but not limited to the African American Cultural Heritage District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to recommend an iterative community engagement and collaboration plan for continuing collaborative, considerate, community driven planning efforts of the Initiative that would include partnership and feedback from:

- existing neighborhood groups,
- community networks with a history of advocacy in the area,
- property owners and multifamily tenants,

- individuals and groups with the clear and distinct goal of increasing diverse participation by those currently historically excluded or neglected by city code or processes in planning for the area,
- small businesses and business groups, and
- arts, cultural, music and preservation efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The recommendations for engagement and collaboration should include recommendations about combining existing advisory boards and strategies to coalesce their efforts in order to provide ongoing direction for holistic stewardship, activation, and support of publicly held assets and initiatives within the Greater 78702 Area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The Initiative should reflect and complement collaborative planning efforts like those recently initiated in the Northeast Planning District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to coordinate this holistic planning effort in the Greater 78702 Area with TxDOT's reconstruction of the I-35 corridor to ensure that, both during and after the construction period, stakeholders including past residents, existing residents, property owners, and businesses are included in planning efforts such as the one envisioned in this Resolution and that their recommendations are incorporated into the long-range vision for the corridor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to return with any initial findings and a recommended implementation plan for the Initiative no later than February 2025 to the Housing and Planning Committee of Austin City Council.

ADOPTED: _____, 2024 **ATTEST:** _____

Myrna Rios
City Clerk

DRAFT