

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Montopolis Negro School is located at 500 Montopolis Drive and is owned by KEEP Investment Group, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Montopolis Negro School is the last remaining of 42 “Negro Schools” in Travis County, a vestige of segregated education in the Austin community; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Landmark Commission and Planning Commission both expressed a desire to preserve the property; and

WHEREAS, the property’s owner has expressed a willingness to sell the property to the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the Montopolis Negro School is of undeniable historic significance and should be preserved by any means possible; and

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council passed Resolution 20170831-060 with a unanimous vote, calling for a significant increase in the allocation of Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue for FY18, a portion of which may be available for purchase of historic properties for preservation; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to negotiate acquisition of the property and return to Council with a status of the negotiation or a request for authority, by January 31, 2018, to acquire the property upon which the Montopolis Negro School sits if an agreement can be reached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to use Chapter 351 Hotel Occupancy Tax funds, or other lawfully available funds, to complete this purchase, if it can be completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to prepare a plan for restoration, management, operation, and funding of the property as a historic asset and museum that would attract tourists and convention delegates. Included in that plan should be an option for the City partnering with a nonprofit or community entity that would operate and/or maintain the property to attract tourists and convention delegates. A stakeholder process involving historic preservation professionals should occur to ensure the proper and correct preservation of the property and its grounds for all future generations of Austinites.

ADOPTED: _____, 2017

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk