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- WHEREAS, acquired by the City of Austin in 1965, Walter E. Long Metropolitan
- 4 Park is a regional park located in east Austin, situated just west of State Highway 130,
- 5 consisting of 3,695 acres of parkland, including the 1,165 acre Lake Walter E. Long,
- 6 approximately 765 acres of preserved habitats, and the Travis County Exposition Center
- 7 grounds; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, after receiving voter approval, the City entered into a fifty-year lease
- 9 agreement with Travis County in 1983, regarding a 128-acre portion of this land, and the
- 10 Travis County Exposition Center was built on this parcel; and
- 11 **WHEREAS**, the lease agreement with Travis County on the Exposition Center will
- 12 expire in December 2033; and
- WHEREAS, the City receives no ad valorem taxes from this 128-acre parcel, and
- 14 no revenue from the lease of the property; and
- 15 WHEREAS, there has been discussion about the need to improve or rebuild the
- 16 current structures because of concerns about public health and safety; and
- 17 WHEREAS, while the City does not currently incur expenses related to the
- 18 operation and maintenance of this property, the City could bear responsibility for such
- 19 expenses in the future; and

- 20 WHEREAS, the Exposition Center has been home to Rodeo Austin, formerly
- 21 known as the Star of Texas Fair & Rodeo, since its construction in 1984, and Rodeo Austin
- 22 occupies the property for six weeks every year; and
- WHEREAS, Rodeo Austin has indicated an interest in a public-private partnership
- 24 with Travis County for the purpose of creating a venue in the Eastern Crescent that would
- 25 produce revenue and provide employment opportunities; and
- WHEREAS, the execution of this partnership and the contemplated improvements
- 27 could be simplified if management of the site rested with Travis County rather than the
- 28 City of Austin; and
- WHEREAS, the Walter E. Long Metropolitan Park and the Johnny Trevino District
- 30 Park are currently undergoing the master planning process and the Exposition Center could
- 31 have revenue designated specifically to the Parks and Recreation Department to activate
- 32 their master plans; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

- 34 The City Manager is directed to develop and present options to Council that would
- 35 allow for the redevelopment, renovation, and activation of the Exposition Center and the
- 36 surrounding 128-acre site.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

- These options shall be presented to Council within six months from the date of this
- 39 resolution so that in the case the Council selects an option requiring voter approval, it can

40	e presented to Austin voters at the next available uniform election date, pursuant to
41	hapter 253 of the Texas Local Government Code.
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43	
44	ADOPTED:, 2018 ATTEST:
45	Jannette S. Goodall
46	City Clerk
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