

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Elisabet Ney Museum is the site of the former studio and portrait collection created by nineteenth-century sculptor, Elisabet Ney; and

WHEREAS, the Elisabet Ney Museum offers its visitors a glimpse into early Texas history and the life of a creative and spirited woman who lived life passionately; and

WHEREAS, The Historic Landscape Restoration component of the Comprehensive Preservation Master Plan for the Elisabet Ney Museum formally recognizes the years covering Ney's residence at the site as the period of significance for the historic site; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2009, the Austin City Council approved a request by the City Manager for the authority to negotiate and execute a Historic Preservation Easement with the Texas Historical Commission covering the Elisabet Ney Museum to ensure that the museum will remain a historic site true to the period of significance; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Landscape Restoration component of the Comprehensive Preservation Master Plan for the Elisabet Ney Museum, which acknowledges the above noted period of significance, was incorporated by reference into the subsequent historic preservation easement; and

WHEREAS, the site continued to grow and evolve as an integral part of Austin in the decades following Elisabet Ney's lifetime, as a robust community gathering space of the Texas Fine Arts Association, a statewide arts organization and museum; and the site was further enhanced by the stone

wall donated by the Violet Crown Garden Club in 1939, the year of Austin's centennial as the state capital, and the crepe myrtles donated by Frank T. Ramsey, a prominent nurseryman in Hyde Park, in memory of his good friend, Elisabet Ney; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the execution of the historic easement, the Centennial Era (c. 1939) was formally recognized as an additional period of significance from a historic perspective; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Austin City Council to ensure that the museum retains its historic character, respects the evolution of the property, and continues to be an asset to the Hyde Park community for many years to come; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

That the City Manager is directed to work with the Historic Landmark Commission and other community stakeholders on potential amendments to the Historic Landscape Restoration component of the Comprehensive Preservation Master Plan for the Elisabet Ney Museum that incorporate reference to the Centennial Era period of significance, including (1) preservation of the historic stone wall and (2) respect for the historic fabric of the landscape of the museum planted during its multiple periods of significance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to present recommendations for potential amendments to the Comprehensive Planning and Transportation Subcommittee by April 1, 2011.

ADOPTED: _____, 2010

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk