RESOLUTION NO.

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2	WHEREAS, the first City Council under the 10-1 governance system
3	commenced a practice of voting on agenda items by raising hands; and
4	WHEREAS, Council currently uses a raised-hand process, and there may
5	be improvements or best practices that ensure reliable record-keeping and convey
6	results to the public in a timely and efficient manner; and
7	WHEREAS, at its first meeting of 2015, the new 10-1 Council unanimously
8	approved Resolution No. 20150129023 to create a Council-appointed Task Force
9	on Community Engagement, which was charged with developing
10	recommendations to improve community engagement in the City of Austin; and
11	WHEREAS, in March 2016, the Task Force submitted a 115-page report
12	with five central themes; each theme included a set of recommendations to improve
13	and enhance community engagement; and
14	WHEREAS, one recommendation called for Council to use electronic
15	voting on all agenda items; and
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16	WHEREAS, during a Government That Works For All briefing at the
17	December 11, 2018 Council work session, a discussion on electronic voting
18	reflected a lack of consensus on whether to continue with a raised-hand voting
19	practice, transform to electronic voting, or employ a combination of both; and
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WHEREAS, other city councils in large Texas cities rely on either
electronic voting or voice vote, with the cities of San Antonio and El Paso
consistently utilizing electronic votes on all agenda decisions; NOW,
THEREFORE,

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

7 The City Manager and the City Clerk are directed to work together to identify 8 best practices for timely, immediately visible (or audible, such as via roll call), 9 transparent, and efficient voting procedures in Council chambers, types of 10 technology available for electronic voting, including fiscal implications, and 11 options for archiving recorded votes that are easily accessible to the public; and to 12 report back to Council with findings and recommendations by the end of May.

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ADOPTED:

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2019 **ATTEST**:

Jannette S. Goodall City Clerk