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**WHEREAS**, the Plan identifies several geographic focus areas; and

21       **WHEREAS**, one such focus area, the Cypress and Shoal Creek Project, begins  
22 where Shoal Creek flows into Lady Bird Lake and continues northward to West 5th  
23 Street; and

24       **WHEREAS**, the Cypress and Shoal Creek Project aims “to create a series of  
25 inviting public spaces and improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and connectivity in the  
26 rapidly transforming area of west Downtown Austin, located south of West 6th Street  
27 between Nueces and Seaholm Drive”; and

28       **WHEREAS**, a key feature in this focus area is the historic, wooden railroad trestle  
29 bridge spanning Shoal Creek just south of the new bicycle/pedestrian bridge; and

30       **WHEREAS**, with support from the Austin Parks Foundation and Spring  
31 Condominiums, the Shoal Creek Conservancy commissioned a structural and reuse  
32 evaluation study of the railroad trestle bridge, which was constructed in 1876 and then  
33 reconstructed in 1925; and

34       **WHEREAS**, the study concluded that the railroad trestle bridge could be  
35 rehabilitated and repurposed as a public space; and

36       **WHEREAS**, the goals for the Cypress and Shoal Creek Project focus area  
37 include:

- 38       • Preserve and repurpose the railroad trestle bridge.
- 39       • Construct the new, main trail to pass under the existing West 3rd Street
- 40       bridges.

- Interpret the history of the Waterloo Settlement and its relationship with the railroad and Austin's communities of color.
- Improve or replace the contemporary 3rd Street bicycle/pedestrian bridge to provide a better, wider paved surface and possibly connect to the railroad trestle bridge to form a public plaza that joins the Lance Armstrong Bikeway and the Shoal Creek Trail.
- Ensure that the Trail can safely accommodate all ages and abilities.
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian safety along West Avenue, including the bridge that runs along West Avenue over Shoal Creek, just north of the Independent Condominiums at the 3rd Street and West Avenue intersection.
- Re-vegetate the creekscape with native, riparian trees, and grasses.
- Program nature tours and volunteer work days to learn about and maintain the Creek Corridor.
- Reconnect the improved Central Library reach of the Shoal Creek Trail from its current endpoint between 2nd and 3rd Streets to the new Trail improvements between West Avenue and West 5th Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation strategies articulated in the Plan for this focus

area call for:

- Integrating the Cypress Street Public Plazas concept into the improvements fronting the Independent Condominiums and 3rd + Shoal residential projects within the 3rd Street right-of-way.
- Managing public parking, public space programming, and security within the entire Seaholm/Lower Shoal Creek District.
- Extending the existing Seaholm Tax Increment Financing District term and purpose, extending its geographic area eastward to Nueces Street, and using this funding to implement projects such as:
  - the restoration and reuse of the railroad trestle bridge;
  - construction of the main Trail passing under the railroad trestle bridge;
  - the removal of the switchback ramp; and
  - the creation of the public plaza between West Avenue and Shoal Creek.

**WHEREAS**, the City has previously expressed interest in several individual goals and elements of the Cypress and Shoal Creek Project focus area, such as the creation of a Public Plaza Program (Resolution No. 20181018-037), addressing shifting modes of transportation by incentivizing transit use (Resolution No. 20181213-044), and accelerating the timetables for planned bicycle, scooter, transit, and tier one urban trail infrastructure projects (Resolution No. 20190328-040); and

**WHEREAS**, as the City moves forward in achieving robust sustainability goals and multimodal and transit independence, completing the Cypress and Shoal Creek

79 Project will provide enhanced connectivity, cohesion, and conviviality in a dense and  
80 dynamic portion of Downtown; and

81 **WHEREAS**, while private support will help fund this Project, advancing these  
82 goals and implementation strategies for this Project will require cross-collaboration  
83 between many City Departments; and; **NOW, THEREFORE:**

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

85 City Council directs the City Manager to prioritize the completion of the Cypress  
86 and Shoal Creek Project, working in partnership with the Shoal Creek Conservancy and  
87 the Downtown Austin Alliance, and to streamline City processes, wherever applicable,  
88 so the final project can be accessed by multimodal users in the near future.

89 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

90 City Council directs the City Manager to conduct a feasibility and financial  
91 analysis of the extension of the Seaholm Tax Increment Financing District's term,  
92 purpose, and geographic area eastward to Nueces Street to help partially fund the  
93 Cypress and Shoal Creek Project improvements.

94 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

95 City Council directs the City Manager to provide Council no later than the end of  
96 this fiscal year: (1) a detailed update, in memorandum format, of the progress of the  
97 Cypress and Shoal Creek Project and (2) a feasibility and financial analysis of the  
98 extension of the Seaholm Tax Increment Financing District.

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101 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

102

Jannette S. Goodall

103

City Clerk

DRAFT