

20 **WHEREAS**, he was recognized for his work on the Blunn Creek Nature Preserve
21 by the Student Service Council of St. Edward’s University for his lasting contribution to
22 the attainment of social justice for all in April 2008; and

23 **WHEREAS**, he received the Austin Land Steward award by Save Barton Creek
24 Association Awards in November 2017; and

25 **WHEREAS**, René was recognized by Mayor Adler for his trailblazing work
26 managing the Austin Nature Preserve System in March 2019; and

27 **WHEREAS**, he gave his career to Austin’s nature preserves while also
28 volunteering as a preserve guardian, monitoring Blunn Creek Nature Preserve for many
29 years; and

30 **WHEREAS**, René’s work also included the eradication of millions of invasive
31 species over his 20 plus years serving the nature preserves as noted in a December 2005
32 Austin Chronicle article stating, “the city of Austin is home to roughly 1 gazillion waxleaf
33 ligustrum plants, and only one René Barrera.”; and

34 **WHEREAS**, René helped to protect and restore native habitat while educating
35 many of his fellow citizens about their community and the natural world; and

36 **WHEREAS**, with Rene’s passing the City of Austin has lost a steward, educator,
37 and mentor who was quick to explain the importance of protecting the natural world in an
38 ever-changing urban environment, **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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40 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

41 City Council directs the City Manager to initiate proceedings under City Code
42 Section 14-1-39 for the renaming of the Indiangrass Wildlife Sanctuary to the Louis René
43 Barrera Indiangrass Wildlife Sanctuary.

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47 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2019

ATTEST: _____

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Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

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DRAFT