

RESOLUTION NO. 20200312-040

WHEREAS, the Downtown Austin Design Guidelines were adopted by the Austin City Council on May 18, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Austin Design Guidelines, which were superseded in 2009 by the Urban Design Guidelines, establish a vision for a safe, dense, vibrant Downtown Austin with “great streets” as a key component; and

WHEREAS, the Great Streets Master Plan was adopted by Council in 2001 with the goal of implementing “streets for people” and realizing the values of authenticity, history, safety, diversity, density, and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, developments participating in the Downtown Density Bonus Program (DDBP) must commit to providing streetscape improvements along all public street frontages consistent with the Great Streets Standards as part of the minimum “gatekeeper requirements” of the DDBP; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDoT) declined to grant permission for Great Streets improvements located in the TXDoT right of way for two projects desiring to participate in the DDBP; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Density Bonus Program does not have a provision for fee-in-lieu under such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Council is currently in the process of updating Austin’s land development code, which includes staff recommendations to the Downtown Density Bonus Program as outlined in the May 2019 memo; and

WHEREAS, because these projects are currently in review, swift action is required to capture the opportunity to collect a fee-in-lieu and allow these projects to participate in the Downtown Density Bonus Program; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

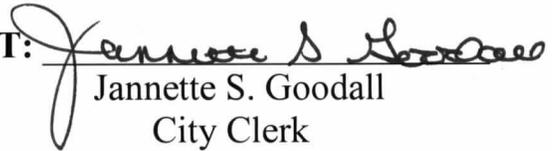
The City Manager is directed to bring forward a recommendation for creating a fee-in-lieu option for the Great Streets requirement of the Downtown Density Bonus Program for projects unable to provide such streetscapes due to other jurisdictional opposition to their construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to bring forward a recommendation for establishing a fund into which such fees-in-lieu can be deposited and creating an administrative process for allocating these funds only for the provision of Great Streets within the areas of Downtown included in the Great Streets and Downtown Density Bonus Program boundaries.

ADOPTED: March 12, 2020

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk