

21 **WHEREAS**, immediate financial support for individuals remains a critical priority,
22 and another Resolution on the April 9, 2020, City Council agenda aims to address that
23 general need; and

24 **WHEREAS**, in recognition of the unique financial challenges that our music
25 community faces in achieving economic stability, the Live Music Fund was created by
26 Ordinance 20190919-149 and directed the allocation of an amount equal to 15 percent of
27 the 2 percent authorized for expansion of the Convention Center to be used for local music
28 that meets the requirements of Texas Tax Code Section 351.101(a)(4) and that is not
29 funded through the Cultural Arts Fund; and

30 **WHEREAS**, these funds, known as the Live Music Fund, have been the topic of
31 public outreach and deliberations by the Live Music Fund Working Group, comprised of
32 Music Commissioners and representatives of Austin’s music community working together
33 to gather and organize feedback on community priorities; and

34 **WHEREAS**, Economic Development staff have been exploring opportunities for
35 enhancing coordination among Austin’s musicians, live music venues, and music
36 industry professionals and the City’s tourism marketing and promotion efforts; and

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38 **WHEREAS**, this Working Group continues to meet, but to date has not yet
39 formalized recommendations on the use of this fund to assist musicians, and challenges
40 with public engagement may further delay this process; and

41 **WHEREAS**, the City Council affirms the importance of the Live Music Fund
42 Working Group and its role in helping guide future investments of this money and fully
43 commits to reinstating this process and the use of the Live Music Fund as originally
44 envisioned once this crisis has passed; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

46 The City Manager is directed to consider the following possible measures to provide
47 support to local musicians, live music venues, and professionals within music-related
48 industries:

- 49 • Immediate use of the Live Music Fund for an Austin Music Disaster Relief Fund to
50 provide emergency grants to support the most vulnerable local musicians that would
51 be eligible for such grants under Texas Tax Code 351.101(a)(4), with eligibility to
52 be additionally guided by feedback from the Music Commission and nonprofit
53 partners and in a manner coordinated and not overlapping with financial assistance
54 directed by other Council initiatives and guided by the principles of equity,
55 diversity, and inclusion.
- 56 • Explore collaborations among the City’s Music & Entertainment Division, Visit
57 Austin, local venues with production assets, and other potential nonprofit partners
58 to provide a promotional digital interface featuring online music performances and
59 resources for viewing audiences to tip artists and purchase merchandise.

60 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

61 The City Manager is directed to also consider the following possible measures:
62 Immediate use of the Creative Space Assistance Program (CSAP) for a fund that may
63 operate similarly to the Austin Music Disaster Relief Fund, called the Austin Artist
64 Disaster Relief Fund to provide emergency grants to the most vulnerable local artists with
65 eligibility to include assistance with rental costs.

66
67 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2020 **ATTEST:** _____
68 Jannette S. Goodall
69 City Clerk

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