RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council is committed to continuing to combat and undo racist and racially discriminatory policies; and

WHEREAS, Austin City Code § 4-9-11 prohibits consumption of alcoholic beverages in public streets, sidewalks, or parks inside six “Designated Areas” that are defined in Austin City Code § 4-9-1(B).

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20191205-062 directed the City Manager to prepare a report about the City’s restriction on consuming alcoholic beverages in the Designated Areas; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager’s report detailed the municipal history of the City’s no-public consumption ordinances and concluded that the Austin City Council has the authority to amend the City Code to remove any or all of the Designated Areas; and

WHEREAS, Designated Areas 2, 5, and 6 are the only Designated Areas located east of I-35—the symbolic barrier that solidified the segregation of white residents and Black and Latino residents; and

WHEREAS, Designated Areas 2, 5, and 6 are the only no-public consumption areas that include historically Black and Latino communities and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of ordinances creating Designated Areas 2, 5 and 6, and the subsequent expansion of Designated Area 2, precipitated significant controversy inside the Austin City Council and throughout the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the fact that a person can legally and responsibly publicly
consume an alcoholic beverage in the City of Austin in overwhelmingly white
single-family residential areas, but cannot do so in historically Black and Latino
single-family residential areas, presents a blatant equity issue; and

WHEREAS, the number of citations given for violations of Section 4-9-11
have sharply declined in the past five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, the Public Safety Commission
unanimously recommended that the Austin City Council remove all City
Code prohibitions on public consumption of alcoholic beverages, NOW,

THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to prepare an ordinance to amend Section 4-9-1(B) of the Austin City Code to remove Designated Areas 2, 5, and 6.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

When appropriate, the City Manager is directed to collaborate with the Public Safety Commission and the Austin City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to provide an update on the progress of this resolution by October 1, 2020.

ADOPTED: ____________, 2020       ATTEST: __________________________

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk