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WHEREAS, the City Council of Austin is committed to ending the spread of hate, bigotry, and harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, or any other protected characteristic as defined by law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Austin wishes to affirm its commitment to cultivating an inclusive community, including within Austin operations and institutions; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of our community is beneficial to all within it, making us stronger and more resilient; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, the January 6, 2021 domestic terrorism incident at our
24 nation's Capitol does not reflect the values of Austin; and

25 **WHEREAS**, ADL's (the Anti-Defamation League) report on Murder
26 and Extremism in the United States in 2019 found that domestic extremists
27 killed at least 42 people in the United States in 17 separate incidents in 2019,
28 making 2019 the sixth deadliest year on record for domestic extremist-related
29 killings since 1970; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the ADL report found that the extremist-related murders of
31 2019 were overwhelmingly (90%) linked to right-wing extremists, with all but
32 one of the incidents tied to right-wing extremism, and 81% of extremist-related
33 murders in 2019 committed by white supremacists specifically; and

34 **WHEREAS**, disinformation, misinformation, and online conspiracy
35 theories such as QAnon are spreading and inspiring real-world violence; and

36 **WHEREAS**, the City Council of Austin supports the peaceful exercise of
37 free speech, free assembly, and freedom to worship safely for all people; and
38 **NOW THEREFORE,**

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

- 40 1. The City Council of Austin affirms its ongoing commitment to cultivating
41 an inclusive, safe, and just society and culture that values the diversity of
42 our community, works to ensure equitable opportunities in all major facets
43 of society, and celebrates both our individuality and commonality.
- 44 2. The City Council of Austin denounces the January 6, 2021 domestic
45 terrorism incident at our nation's Capitol.

- 46 3. The City Council of Austin denounces anti-government extremism, white
47 supremacy, racism, antisemitism, misogyny, Islamophobia, anti-LGBTQ+
48 hate, ableism, ageism and all hateful speech and bias-motivated violent
49 actions in our community.
- 50 4. The City Council of Austin denounces extremist conspiracy theories,
51 misinformation, and disinformation that cultivate an alienated and
52 mistrustful electorate, undermine democratic institutions and processes,
53 and increase the likelihood of violence.
- 54 5. The City Council of Austin denounces attempts to exploit governmental
55 procedure and basic government functions for personal political gain.
- 56 6. The City Council of Austin commits to fostering an environment within
57 Austin operations and institutions that does not tolerate anti-government
58 extremist, white supremacist, racist, antisemitic, misogynist,
59 Islamophobic, anti-LGBTQ+, ableist, and other hateful speech and
60 actions.
- 61 7. The City Council of Austin commits to countering hate and extremism
62 through engagement with community leaders, governmental transparency
63 and public information-sharing regarding efforts to fight extremism, and
64 the investigation and prosecution of those who commit criminal acts,
65 consistent with civil liberties protections.

67 8. The City Council of Austin urges residents to join us by adopting these
68 values in their own lives, calling attention to these harms, and denouncing
69 hate and extremism to help keep us all safe.

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72 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2021 **ATTEST:** _____
73 Jannette S. Goodall
74 City Clerk
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