




MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Brion Oaks, Chief Equity Officer 

THROUGH: Jason Alexander, Chief of Staff

DATE: March 11, 2022

SUBJECT: **Black Resource and Cultural Center (Resolution No. 20210304-067) – Staff Update**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on [Resolution No. 20210304-067](#), which asks the City Manager to conduct a study and provide a report outlining the economic value of the harm caused through economic, health, environmental, criminal injustice, and other racial disparities and declination of resources by the City and to create a Black resource and cultural center.

In the last update to Council on July 30, 2021, staff indicated the City would be working with the University of Texas in the development of the report. However, the University encountered constraints of its own and our efforts have since shifted to now working with Huston-Tillotson University to serve as that research partner. An agreement is expected to be executed in the coming weeks after which time the research team will begin the process of exploring the archives for relevant material in service to the report's findings. Staff anticipates a preliminary draft report could be available by late spring 2022 and will provide the City Council with an update at that time.

Please contact Brion Oaks (brion.oaks@austintexas.gov), Chief Equity Officer, if you have further questions. Thank you.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Anne Morgan, City Attorney