

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin invests in multiple programs to encourage more transit and fewer car trips, particularly in areas such as Downtown with limited parking; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has set a goal of achieving a 50-50 mode share split by 2039, whereby fifty percent of commuters would be using modes other than single-occupancy vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the City has engaged in much discussion about the ways that free and/or low-cost parking may in some circumstances encourage car trips in lieu of other forms of transportation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin owns and operates multiple parking garages in the Downtown area; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2011, the City of Austin began installing more paid parking meters throughout the Downtown area, prompting concerns from service industry workers about the removal of free parking options; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin responded by creating the “Affordable Parking Program,” allowing service industry employees and musicians to purchase monthly passes in City-owned garages at the substantially reduced cost of \$35 per month; and

WHEREAS, City garages provide free parking to employees and visitors engaging in city business; and

WHEREAS, most Downtown City-owned garages have excess parking that they can make available to individuals for an hourly or block-period rate; and

WHEREAS, parking fees in City-owned garages get applied toward the costs of operating that facility and, when relevant, toward debt payments; and

WHEREAS, the City has not done cost of service studies to update the pricing in its parking garages, and while assets such as the Seaholm Garage tend to charge higher rates indistinguishable from other garages in the area, the City Hall and Convention Center garages have instituted rates that may not return the cost to provide the service; and

WHEREAS, City Council raised parking garage rates at the City Hall garage to better reflect its costs of maintaining and operating the parking garage and the building; and

WHEREAS, the Convention Center Garages, located near the Red Line train station and bus routes 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 17, and 803 attract many visitors to the Downtown and Rainey Street area, especially during evening hours; and

WHEREAS, the Convention Center has the following rates approved by Council as part of the fees and fines to be set or charged by the City for Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

0 – 30 minutes	Grace Period
30 minutes – 2 hours	\$5.00
2 hours – 9 hours	\$10.00
9 hours – 12 hours	\$15.00
12+ \$3/hour w/max	\$48.00

41 **WHEREAS**, the Convention Center can and does validate parking tickets
42 for free or discounted rates for conventions and events taking place; and

43 **WHEREAS**, parking fee revenue is used to pay off debt related to the
44 Convention Center; and

45 **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has a responsibility to manage and operate
46 its building and facilities in a fiscally responsible manner; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

48 The City Council establishes the following revised fees for the Convention
49 Center parking garage for the Fiscal Year 2023:

0 – 30 minutes	Grace Period
30 minutes – 1 hour	\$10.00
1 hour – 2 hours	\$20.00
2 hours – 3 hours	\$30.00
3 hours – 4 hours	\$40.00
4 hours – 24 hours	\$48.00

50 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

51 The Convention Center shall participate in the City of Austin's Affordable
52 Parking Program.

53 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

54 The City Manager is directed to produce quarterly reports showing the
55 impact of the increased hourly rates and to bring forward action to Council to
56 change those fees, if appropriate. The City Manager shall also include in these
57 reports information detailing the number and total value of validated parking
58 tickets and contracts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall present information to City Council prior to or during Fiscal Year 2024 budget deliberations about parking rates and revenues at the Austin Convention Center and other City-owned garages.

ADOPTED: _____, 2022 **ATTEST:** _____
Myrna Rios
City Clerk