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## **RESOLUTION NO.**

**WHEREAS**, following the Civil War, Thomas Wesley Kincheon and his wife, Mary, founded "Kincheonville" – a thriving African American farming community located on approximately 300 acres in what is now Southwest Austin; and

WHEREAS, Kincheonville was among several "freedmen" settlements in the Austin area, offering economic opportunity, community and a modicum of safety to African Americans in the years following emancipation; and

WHEREAS, unique for its time, Kincheonville was an inclusive community, featuring Anglo and Hispanic settlers working in the fields alongside African Americans; and

WHEREAS, Kincheonville became a vital link for Austin's African American community, providing the milk and butter for Tillotson College, which later merged with Samuel Huston College to become Huston-Tillotson College; and

WHEREAS, bordered by what is now Paisano Trail to the north, Davis Lane to the south, Brodie Lane to the west and Longview Road to the east, Kincheonville's population grew to more than 100, featuring a schoolhouse and the chartering of Zion Rest Missionary Baptist Church, a congregation that has remained active on the same site since 1903; and

WHEREAS, in the 1950's, Thomas Kincheon's son and grandson helped develop Southwest Austin through subdividing and platting a portion of family land to create two single family subdivisions, featuring several streets named after family members and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, Plantation Road, built in the 1970's and traversing the original Kincheonville, is an anachronism, with a name that conjures images of the Antebellum South and a longing for an agricultural economy dependent on the forced labor of enslaved African Americans; and

WHEREAS, the institution of American slavery caused and perpetuated brutal physical, mental and emotional abuse, impeding opportunity for equality in all aspects of life for freed slaves and their descendants; and

WHEREAS, the continued public display of street names perceived as honoring a history of enslaving African Americans is antithetical to the stated public policy of the City being a community that is welcoming to all; and

WHEREAS, in response to Council Resolution No. 20171005-031, the Equity Office issued a memo that among other things, designates the renaming of Plantation Road a high priority on a list of assets slated for initial review; and

WHEREAS, Council Resolution No. 20200729-091 relates to City assets with names tied to the Confederacy and white supremacy, directing staff to support a collaborative community education process to identify assets for renaming; and

WHEREAS, remediating symbols of the Confederacy and slavery creates new opportunities to commemorate today's values and the legacy of those we honor in our community's public spaces; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to begin the process outlined in Council Resolution No. 20200729-091, and work with stakeholders such as Council offices, residents and the congregation of Zion Rest Missionary Baptist Church to identify appropriate options for the renaming of Plantation Road.

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56 57 58 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** 

An ordinance to rename Plantation Road is to be submitted to Council for a public hearing, if necessary, and possible action, no later than October 9, 2025.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025 **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Erika Brady City Clerk