

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Sir Swante Palm Neighborhood Park (“Palm Park”) dates back to the 1930s, making it one of the oldest and most historic parks in the city; and

WHEREAS, Palm Park is best known as the playground, community gathering place, and sports field for the adjacent Palm School; and

WHEREAS, since 2016, Austin Parks and Recreation and Waterloo Greenway Conservancy have engaged the community on the future of Palm Park, highlighting the importance of building upon its Mexican-American history and reinvigorating the park as a family-friendly space that celebrates nature, culture, and play; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter House located within Palm Park is one of eight early City park structures still standing built between 1930-1951; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter House is historically important to the community as a critical multi-purpose public space that operated as a community landmark, stage, lending library, restroom facility, and gathering place for families; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter House will be restored, protected, and made fully functional again through Waterloo Greenway’s improvements to Palm Park; and

WHEREAS, the development of the Palm Park design is underway, and groundbreaking is anticipated in 2026, with a park opening estimated in 2028; and

WHEREAS, steps to include historic landmark combining district for the Shelter House structure will eventually be pursued to comply with Austin Historic Preservation Grant funding; and

WHEREAS, prior to zoning the Shelter House structure the entire Palm Park property should first be zoned to reflect the current uses on this property; and

