



26           **WHEREAS**, the Austin Public Schools system operated under City  
27 oversight from 1874 to 1954, after which it was separated and established as the  
28 Austin Independent School District (AISD); and

29           **WHEREAS**, the first written policies that cover the joint use of school and  
30 parkland were adopted by Council on December 1, 1960, and established outdoor  
31 space at a school that is available with recreational amenities responding first to the  
32 student population, then to the neighborhood, with the public able to access them  
33 during non-school hours; and

34           **WHEREAS**, AISD began the condemnation of the City's undivided interest  
35 in school properties beginning in 2020, including approximately 95 acres located at  
36 Andrews, Barrington, Doss, Hill, Houston, Norman-Simms, Oak Springs, Rosedale  
37 Pecan Springs, and Wooldridge campuses; and

38           **WHEREAS**, AISD has additional property interest and joint use parks in  
39 Barton Hills, Cook, Cunningham, Gullet, Kealing, Lucy Road, Odom, Ortega,  
40 Pillow, Reilly, Sanchez, St. Elmo, and Williams campuses; and

41           **WHEREAS**, AISD is currently considering additional school closures and  
42 possible sales for sites acquired or managed jointly with the City; and

43           **WHEREAS**, the City has park deficiencies in all Council districts and is  
44 currently achieving only 70% of its goal of providing all residents access to parks  
45 and open spaces (live within one-quarter mile in urban core and within half-mile  
46 outside of urban core); and

47           **WHEREAS**, City parkland is at risk of being lost through condemnation by  
48 other government entities, and while some federal, state and local protections exist,  
49 they do not currently require replacement value of the parkland, preserve the full

50 legal interest of the City of Austin, nor lay out a clear process for City consultation  
51 on mitigation efforts; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

53 The City Manager is directed to develop a consistent and transparent process  
54 for managing condemnations of City owned land which is now, or shall hereafter  
55 be, dedicated for park purposes and that protects the City's legal and financial  
56 interests while seeking to maximize shared community value.

57 This City process will provide procedural protection for parkland in  
58 condemnation proceedings and should:

- 59 • post the appropriate discussion and/or action item on a Council agenda, and  
60 provide notification to the Environmental Commission, the Parks and  
61 Recreation Board, and any partner entity with a stewardship agreement  
62 regarding a property or interest that is subject to condemnation;
- 63 • initiate an appraisal of land plans and valuations independently from the  
64 condemning entity;
- 65 • provide opportunities for Austin Parks and Recreation to review and deliver  
66 input regarding an analysis of alternatives as well as appraisal assumptions  
67 and conclusions;
- 68 • direct inclusion of reverters, or rights of first refusal, if the condemned land  
69 is used for anything other than the public use for which it was condemned;
- 70 • direct a review of properties subject to a reverter, or right of first refusal, by  
71 the strategic facilities governance team and Austin Economic Development  
72 Corporation (d/b/a Rally Austin);

- 73 • include a plan for replacement of the parkland or park features within a
- 74 nearby area; and
- 75 • develop a transparent consultation process with condemning entities and
- 76 clearly document how mitigation funds are prioritized and how projects are
- 77 selected for funding.

78 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

79 The City Manager is directed to explore the benefits of engaging in a City-  
80 initiated condemnation process in parallel with the condemner's process in limited  
81 instances when there are heightened needs for protecting the public's interest in the  
82 land at issue, such as condemnations that cross a certain size or monetary threshold  
83 or would result in an area becoming park deficient.

84 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

85 The City Manager is directed to present Council with the established process  
86 detailing the protections for parkland in condemnation proceedings by May 28,  
87 2026, and initiating amendments, as needed, to any Joint Use Agreements between  
88 the City and AISD consistent with this resolution.

89  
90 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2026 **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
91 Erika Brady  
92 City Clerk