RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, parks are critical infrastructure in our City; and

WHEREAS, Austin's ranking in the Trust for Public Lands ParkScore's® index of the park systems of the 100 largest U.S. cities has dropped from 37 to 54 since 2020; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 20091119-068, Council established a goal of all residents being within a one-quarter to one-half mile walk of parkland; and

WHEREAS, typical neighborhood and pocket park amenities have minimal impact such as concrete and decomposed granite trails, playscapes, shade structures, benches, picnic tables, multiuse fields, fitness stations, pavilions, waste receptacles, drinking fountains, irrigation and sports courts; and

WHEREAS, the average amount of impervious cover in the City's park system is ten percent; and

WHEREAS, the average amount of impervious cover for typical park neighborhood and pocket park amenities is less than 15 percent of the site area; and

WHEREAS, in Ordinance No. 20250306-037, Council approved a streamlined site plan process for residential infill projects with fewer requirements than that of full site plan review to expedite the construction of new housing units; and

WHEREAS, in Ordinance No. 20221115-048, Council approved an ordinance that modifies and waives certain site plan requirements and processes for the construction of a Transit System Project to facilitate the expansion of high-capacity transit system associated with Project Connect, and

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WHEREAS, Austin Parks and Recreation has prioritized a list of park improvements, renovations, and replacements to be implemented with future bond funding, and the timely completion of the permitting process is critical to delivering these projects on schedule and maximizing the impact of bond dollars; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Council initiates amendments to City Code Title 25 (*Land Development*) to facilitate the development or redevelopment of park amenities on the City's parkland. These amendments should be scaled to allow for the development of typical neighborhood park amenities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to return with a draft ordinance for Council consideration by fall 2026.

ADOPTED: _____, 2026 **ATTEST:** _____
Erika Brady
City Clerk

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