

RESOLUTION NO. R-2025-158

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING BOUNDARIES AND STANDARDS FOR THE CREATION OF THE SOUTH END DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Bastrop desires to honor and preserve the rich African American heritage of the community; and

WHEREAS, the area historically known as the South End has been a center of cultural, social, and spiritual life, home to many of the City's Black churches, the Kerr Center, and most recently the African American Cultural Center and Freedom Colonies Museum; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that formal recognition of the South End District will further community pride, support cultural preservation, and encourage volunteer efforts to assist residents, enhance public art, and improve neighborhood amenities; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City that no additional architectural or overlay restrictions shall be imposed upon residents as part of this designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, THAT:

The South End District is hereby created, with boundaries generally described as Water Street, Chestnut Street, Highway 95, Gutierrez Street, Paul C Bell Street, Jasper Street, and Newton Street.

Its purpose is to honor African American heritage and promote neighborhood vitality through initiatives such as public art installations and murals — including depictions of the 13 Freedom Colonies — as well as monument and street signage identifying the District, and community-driven projects like home repair assistance, credit and homeownership support, and continued operation of the food pantry.

The District will be guided by volunteers working in collaboration with City staff, with funding for art and related initiatives pursued through grants, the Arts and Cultural Committee, or other appropriate sources.

This designation does not create any architectural, zoning, or other regulatory overlay requirements that could place an undue burden on residents. Initial expenditures, including upgraded street signage, shall not exceed \$5,000, with any additional costs subject to available grant matches or alternative funding. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Bastrop this 23rd day of September 2025.

APPROVED:



Ishmael Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michael Muscarello, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney
Denton Navarro Rocha Bernal & Zech, P.C.

