

Economic Development Corporation

# Rally Austin Update

10.2.2024 Urban Land Institute Affordability Council



### MISSION

Facilitating equitable development for economic growth while preserving Austin's unique culture.

#### LEADING INVESTMENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY, AS A COMMUNITY

Rally will focus its efforts to unite and drive progress across three critical areas of development in Central Texas:



ARTS, MUSIC & CULTURE





# VISION

A culturally resilient and economically integrated Austin where diverse communities thrive without risk of displacement.



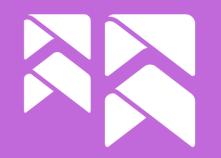


## OUR COMMUNITY AT WORK

#### **Board of Directors**

Collaboration of community leaders and nominating bodies who represent local organizations and asset holders.





# **CULTURAL TRUST**



# **Program Priorities**

- Facilitating the acquisition and preservation of existing as well as the creation of new cultural arts and music venues available for use by organizations and the public benefit
- Achieve diversity, equity and inclusion, including by addressing past inequities experienced by underserved, under-represented, and marginalized individuals and groups.
- Provide **permanent affordability** for cultural and creative purposes.
- Create a sustaining pipeline of Cultural Trust infrastructure as funding sources continue to become available.



Creative offerings such as Theater, Dance, Visual Art are also in crisis.



# Initial Funding Sources 2022-2024

12 M Creative Spaces Bond Fund	<ul> <li>G.O. Tax Bond requirements</li> <li>Acquisition &amp; Development</li> <li>Complex deal structure required for City investment</li> </ul>	Additional funds to leverage public funds (project by project)
2.4 M HOT Iconic Venue	<ul> <li>Acquisition, development, and means necessary to secure the space</li> <li>Requires 'Tourism' function</li> <li>'Historic Zoning' for property tax relief</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Philanthropy</li> <li>Loans-traditional</li> <li>Loans-CDFI</li> <li>Social impact investments</li> <li>Grants</li> <li>AHFC/LITC</li> <li>[NMTC]-future</li> <li>Chapter 380 Agreements</li> </ul>
5 M COA Budget — Iconic Venue	<ul> <li>15 M total over many years</li> <li>More flexible than HOT funds</li> <li>Council approval not required</li> </ul>	

#### **Projects Approved, 7 Organizations, 6 Locations**

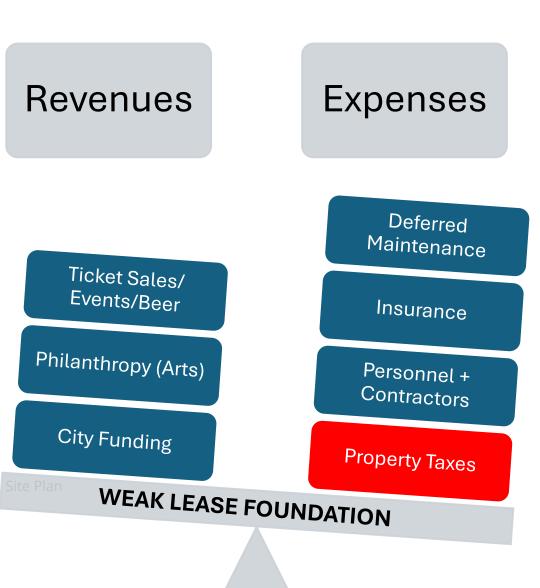


Rally Austin



## Current Affordability Equation

- Increases in Property Taxes in particular have been a burden
- Leases are generally 5 years or less, with significant market increases at Lease transition



# Need Adjustments/New Tools to stabilize

- <u>Secure longer term leases or</u> IF POSSIBLE ability to secure land
- <u>Enable supplemental revenue</u>: increased capacity, increased utilization of space through capital improvements
- Find ways to provide <u>property tax</u> <u>exemptions</u> to mitigate the unpredictable:
  - Short term
  - Long term

