

On April 13, 2021, the City, in agreement with property owners to the west of the Austin Convention Center, has exercised the right to end negotiations for a western expansion of the Austin Convention Center. Despite the best efforts of all parties, the final proposal was unable to deliver the programmatic requirements and exceeded anticipated costs.

As a result of this decision, the Austin Convention Center has begun due diligence efforts on the remaining options for expansion. The department anticipates reevaluating expansion within the current site of the Austin Convention Center that would not only deliver a larger more efficient facility within a smaller footprint but will also realize the goals of the UT Study, the Austin Convention Center Master Plan Update, and the Palm District Resolution.

This calls for reimagining the Austin Convention Center as an active, community-oriented civic building that enhances the culturally rich fabric of the Palm District. The Department anticipates the first steps in this planning process to take approximately 6-7 weeks to complete.

The Austin Convention Center Department is committed to bringing forth a revised expansion plan that follows the guidelines and mandates laid out in the UT Study, the Austin Convention Center Master Plan Update, and the Palm District Resolution ([Council Resolution no. 20190523-029](#)). The department will present the new plan and financing model to the City Council in summer 2021.

Our vision is to build upon the strengths that make Austin extremely attractive as a place to meet and convene. The expansion of the Austin Convention Center is moving forward to nearly double the available rental space and position the center to compete for the next tier of convention business and build the convention center of tomorrow.