

RESOLUTION NO. 20070308-028

WHEREAS, the Austin Climate Protection Plan contains a component identified as the Community Plan that will develop a comprehensive plan for reducing GHG emissions from sources community wide; and

WHEREAS, natural spaces and native landscapes provide sinks for sequestration of GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, native landscapes require significantly less maintenance, thereby reducing GHG emissions and other pollution from motorized lawn care equipment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Water Conservation Task Force has identified the use of native plants and native landscaping as important to water use reduction efforts in the proposed City of Austin Water Conservation Program; and

WHEREAS, the use of native plants and native landscaping result in protecting and enhancing the wildlife that contributes to a sustainable and healthy Austin environment, and

WHEREAS, community education is a fundamental part of getting the community of Austin to support ongoing clean air, clean water and water conservation initiatives, and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation is preeminent nationally in areas of education and assistance to the public in developing, and advocating for, natural areas, native landscapes and the creation of animal habitat; and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Federation Habitat Community Certification program provides an excellent template for implementing sound natural space, native landscape and habitat development programs; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

That it is the will of the City Council of the City of Austin that Austin become certified as a National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Council directs the City Manager to appoint a National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat Team and Team Leader and to register a City of Austin Habitat Community Project with the National Wildlife Federation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Council directs the City Manager to return to Council in 60 days after the formation of the Community Habitat Team with a draft

certification plan for the City of Austin and a report on any anticipated expenses related to completing this Certification Plan for approval and adoption by Council.

ADOPTED: March 8, 2007 **ATTEST:** Shirley A Gentry
Shirley A Gentry
City Clerk