

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the City of Austin continues to experience economic growth and demand for skilled workers; and

WHEREAS, an adequate supply of educated and skilled workers is critical for Austin to maintain a competitive advantage in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is committed to helping create a variety of job opportunities for Austinites from different socio-economic backgrounds and with varying skill levels; and

WHEREAS, federal funding and other grants are available for innovative partnerships that leverage existing community resources and City programs to create job opportunities for the economically disadvantaged and others with barriers to employment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin also directly funds workforce development programs that are administered by local organizations and have demonstrated positive results and a high return on investment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is considering using the East 11th and 12th Street Development Strategy as a framework for development in the area, but the

scope of work for the “Strategy” does not expressly address community workforce development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin seeks to promote economic development in East Austin that benefits local residents by providing job readiness and industry-specific skills development; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurship training can create job opportunities and new businesses by and for East Austin residents; and

WHEREAS, a pilot workforce development program could help enable East Austin residents to participate fully in the commercial revitalization occurring and expected to happen in their neighborhood; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

The City Manager is directed to:

1. Work with stakeholders including Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Workforce Solutions- Capital Area Workforce Board and local workforce development organizations, small business alliances, local chambers of commerce, and community leaders to develop a pilot multi-track workforce development program that incorporates:
 - a. Job readiness training,

- b. Interaction with local workforce development program providers and small business owners, and
 - c. Education about programs available for participants to continue in entrepreneur training, industry-specific training, and/or continued education.
2. Consider current and future workforce development contracts administered by the City's Department of Health and Human Services that may be able to incorporate this initiative within existing programs.

The City Manager is further directed to provide City Council with a progress report on or before May 15, 2012, and to present the pilot program at a City Council work session prior to August 16, 2012.

ADOPTED: _____, 2012 **ATTEST:** _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk