

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin's parks system is an essential component to fulfilling the City's mission statement of being the "Most Livable City in the Country" by improving overall quality of life, strengthening communities, promoting health and recreation, and protecting the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin recognizes the importance of parks for its citizens and values public input in its decision making process for the use of city parkland; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department often uses master planning processes to engage citizens in helping decide how parks are developed and used; and

WHEREAS, the availability of funding sometimes limits the city's ability to use master planning for all city-owned parkland; and

WHEREAS, significant changes to the use of parkland, such as the relocation of an off-leash dog park or the removal of sports facilities, have broad community impacts and necessitate considerable community dialogue; and

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council is the body that is ultimately accountable to the citizens of Austin for decisions made by the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, it is critically important to establish a public process to allow citizens to provide input to their elected officials on the use of city

parkland when master planning services are not feasible; **NOW,**
THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to make recommendations on a revised public process for the review and consideration of new proposed uses for parkland (1) that has no adopted park master plan, (2) that has no identified use in an adopted park master plan, or (3) for which proposed uses may be inconsistent with an adopted park master plan. The public process shall include consideration by the Parks and Recreation Board and action by the Austin City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to present these recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Board for review and consideration and to the City Council for adoption by June 14, 2012.

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