



# AUSTIN MOBILITY

## Comprehensive Air Quality Program Recommendations

02-06-2013



DRAFT



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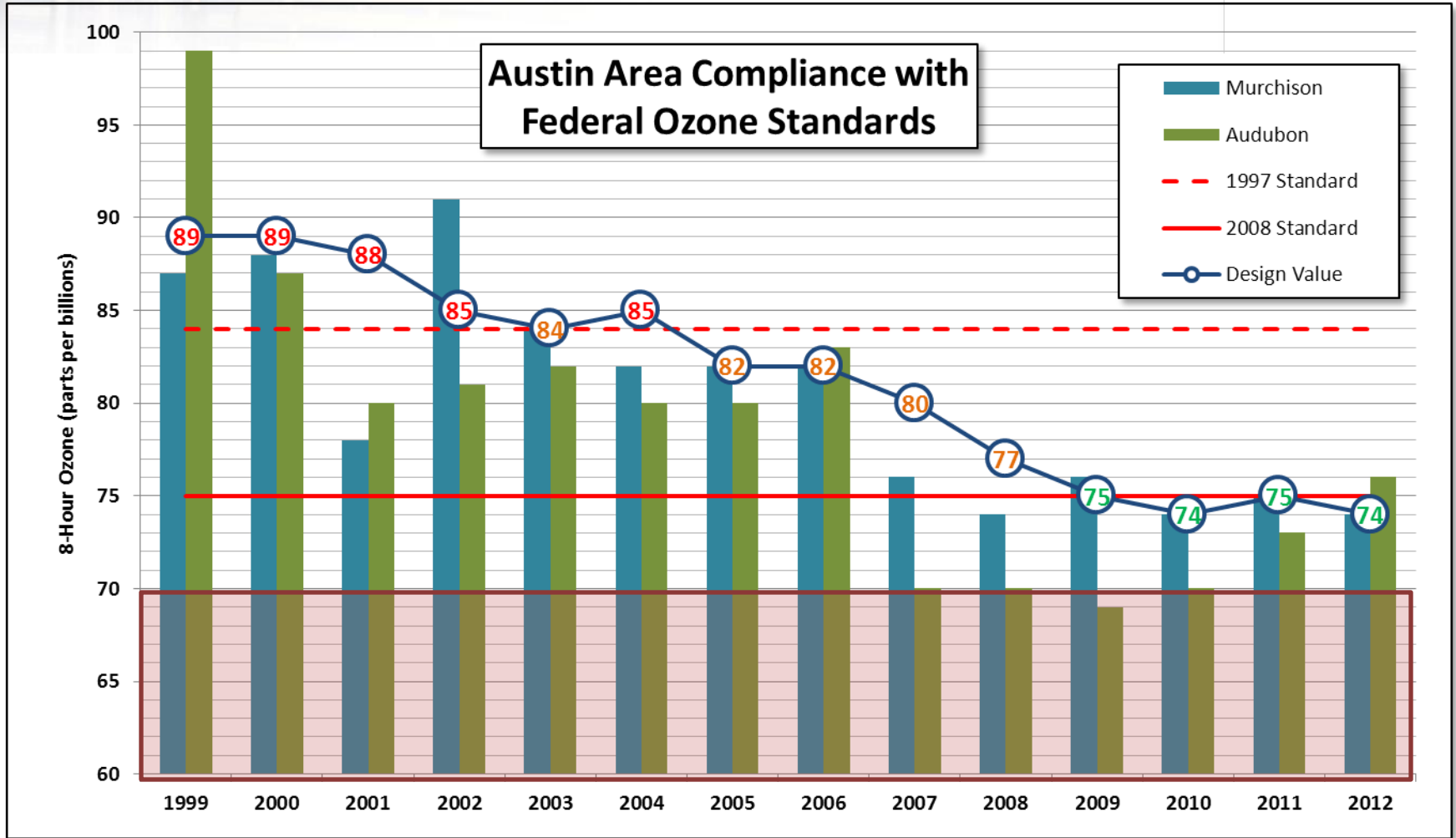
## Responding to Council resolution no. 20120524-077

Staff was directed to work with stakeholder groups and analyze best practices for enforcement, education, planning, analysis and technical assistance in order to determine the costs of expanding the City's air quality program.





# STATE OF AIR QUALITY IN CENTRAL TEXAS





# Scope of Resolutions 20120524-077

- Task 1: Analysis National Best Practice AQ Programs
- Task 2: Consult with Stakeholder Groups
- Task 3: Review CoA Legal Authority in Chapter 382
- Task 4: Recommend for CoA Air Quality Program
- Task 5: Conduct Funding Analysis





## Recommendation overview

- Outreach
- Enforcement and Administration
- Data collection
- Technical assistance
- Regulatory authority





# MARKETING AND OUTREACH

**Finding:** The public is largely unaware of the City's air quality outreach efforts.

## Recommendation:

- Marketing of incentives to reduce air pollution
- Radio, TV and social media components
- Warning signs in high traffic areas
- Partnerships with schools
- Apps and interactive websites
- Local artists, musicians and sports heroes
- A focus on the health benefits of clean air

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*“People need to realize that sitting in a car, waiting on traffic, creates more pollution than any other source in our region.”*  
*-Rick via Speakupaustin*





**Finding:** A two or three day special event could push our regional monitors into non-compliance

## Recommendation:

- Requiring large special events to have an air quality mitigation plan
- An ordinance requiring employee trip reduction plans from companies with more than 100 employees





# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**Finding:** Stakeholders from all groups overwhelmingly advocated for small business technical assistance

## Recommendations:

- Assisting with the interpretation of environmental regulations
- Helping companies with required reporting requirements
- Providing resources to help with technical questions
- Sharing best practices for reducing air pollution

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*“The City should create a plan to reach out to small business and have a greater partnership to help them understand their impact on our air.”*  
-Richard L.







# PLANNING AND ANALYSIS

**Finding:** Our Air Quality data is threatened by a lack of funding for our regional partners

## Recommendation:

- Reemphasizing air quality as a focus of the Environmental Board
- Encouraging the legislature to distribute air quality funds back to local areas
- Working with regional partners to establish a stable funding source for the Clean Air Coalition (CAC)





# REPORTING, DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

**Finding:** Budget shortfall could affect the quality of regional air quality data.

## Recommendations:

- Providing financial support for the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG)
- Conduct an analysis of off-road pollution created at construction sites

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*“Use heavy duty fleets to collect data, many of them already have tracking systems that report idling, speeds, etc. which can be useful to understand emissions.”*

*-Andrew H.*





## NEXT STEPS

- City Council Presentation scheduled for March 3, 2013
- Issue RCA to initiate implementation phase of recommendations
- Conduct funding analysis to estimate resource requirements in FY14 budget
- Grow City of Austin's Air Quality program and staff while reinforcing regional efforts





QUESTIONS?

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