

RESOLUTION NO. 20130808-063

WHEREAS, major investments in multi-family projects as well as commercial projects help the Austin economy and add inventory to the City of Austin's tight housing and office markets; and

WHEREAS, the City strives to complete permit reviews in a timely manner, but due to the complexity of larger projects and difficulties with inter-departmental coordination, many commercial plan reviews are behind the code-mandated deadlines for completing review; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dallas has developed a program called The "Q-Team," which is an alternate plan review process that allows small or large project applicants to pay for an accelerated or expedited plan review that includes pre-qualification fees and Q-Team fees; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Antonio has the Minor Plans Team, which provides customer consultations on the plan review and submittal process and performs expedited plan review services, such as "walkthroughs" and "10-Day Review," for projects that fall within a prescribed set of criteria for an additional fee; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso Building Permits & Inspections Division offers fast-track plan review alternatives, such as Customized Plan Review (CPR) and Permit by Appointment (PBA), to provide a streamlined cost and time effective option for permit issuance; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Jose has the Coordinated Expedited Review for Planning Applications (CER) process, which is an optional, fee-

based service offered to select small project applicants that meet specific eligibility requirements; and

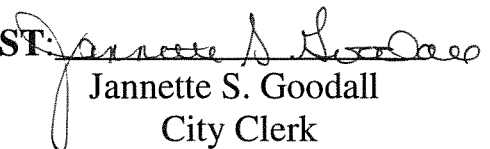
WHEREAS, all City of Austin departments that have responsibility for reviewing plans and permits are instrumental in the timeliness of developments; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to:

1. Consider what types of projects are eligible for expedited review in the Austin community, and whether the Planning and Development Review Department needs to implement any new fees and any new positions deemed necessary to implement and offer such a service.
2. Integrate the research and analysis requirements of this resolution within the department's impending scope of services that seeks to hire a consultant to conduct an organizational and operational analysis in an effort to increase process efficiency, and improve customer service and accurate delivery of timely services, based on processes and performance measures that ensure interdepartmental coordination and responsiveness.

ADOPTED: August 8, 2013

ATTEST: 
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk