

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the Transit Working Group (TWG), a subcommittee of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), has deliberated for nearly 18 months on issues of regional mobility and connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the Transit Working Group has been supported in its deliberations by the Project Connect collaborative planning effort for high-capacity transit initiated by the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, City of Austin, Lone Star Rail District and CAMPO; and

WHEREAS, Central Texas' regional population is projected to double in the next 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Council and the public agree that deteriorating mobility is a serious problem that threatens our region's economic health and quality of life and needs to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, high-capacity transit is an important part of the solution for improving mobility in Central Texas and will also provide new travel options between Central Texas and the San Antonio metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, high-capacity transit includes modes such as Transit on Express Lanes, Bus Rapid Transit, Commuter/ Regional Rail and Urban Rail; and

WHEREAS, the TWG members have determined that the North and Central corridors are the highest priority for regional high-capacity transit

based on travel demand and high ridership potential, land use, economic development, employment and travel patterns, and

WHEREAS, high-capacity transit projects should maximize the use of dedicated rights-of-way and other means of gaining a travel time advantage where financially and physically reasonable; and

WHEREAS, future high-capacity transit projects should strive for a “true alternative” to driving, providing quality competitive trips between and within the CAMPO adopted regional activity centers and seamless connectivity between high-capacity transit components; and

WHEREAS, Council agrees that participating communities in the region should be required to participate financially if they benefit from the regional transit system (“pay to play”); and

WHEREAS, funding contributions from participating communities should be equitable (each pay a “fair share” and/or make “equal effort” in funding); and

WHEREAS, Council finds that the Project Connect effort to plan, fund and operate a regional high-capacity transit system as a “Single System” provides a solid framework that should be further developed; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

The Austin City Council endorses the vision as outlined in the Project Connect process; and encourages the Central and North Corridor project teams and advisory groups to use the TWG Priorities and Recommendations

to be outlined in the forthcoming System Plan to further evaluate and analyze the routes, alignments, modes, funding and organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Project Connect Final Report be submitted to the CAMPO Board of Directors and that the report's findings and recommendations be incorporated to the fullest extent possible in the CAMPO 2040 Plan, especially including projects identified for implementation under the anticipated initial funding availability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That Project Connect should continue its efforts to inform area agencies, organizations and the public about the TWG's recommendations and Project Connect efforts on high-capacity transit for Central Texas.

ADOPTED: _____, 2013 **ATTEST:** _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk