

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Central Texas, known for its quality of life, environmental resources and economic vitality, has seen its population grow by 475,000 within the CAMPO counties between 2000 and 2010 (from 1.284 million to 1.759 million population) and is expected to grow by an additional 380,000 by 2040; and

WHEREAS, to address the transportation needs of a growing Central Texas, it is important for the region to develop a multi-modal approach to expanding and improving its transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, as part of its efforts to address the transportation needs of the region, reconvened its Transit Working Group to consider the potential system design, organization and funding of high capacity transit in Central Texas through 2040; and

WHEREAS, the Transit Working Group of CAMPO has adopted a Project Connect “Vision” plan, illustrated in the attached Exhibit A, that confirms the role and importance of the Lone Star Rail District’s LSTAR passenger rail service as a foundational investment in an integrated high capacity transit system in Central Texas highlighted in Exhibit B (potentially serving up to eight of the region’s cities and also linking to the City of San Antonio and subject to compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements); and

WHEREAS, the Transit Working Group’s “Vision” plan calls for the each of the cities that are served by, and benefit from the System to participate by providing a “fair share” of local funding, including the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin wishes to provide the benefits of LSTAR passenger service to its citizens and has been a member of the Lone Star Rail District since March 25, 1998; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Council affirms its support of the regional Vision adopted by the CAMPO Transit Working Group for high capacity transit and directs the City Manager to provide City Council with an interlocal agreement and ordinances necessary to provide value capture revenues from the station areas as generally illustrated in Exhibit C for the City's share of the LSTAR service costs in sufficient time for the City Council to receive public input and complete its review and considerations of their adoption December 31, 2013

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to work with Lone Star Rail District in the development of the value capture interlocal agreement and ordinances to assure their provisions also meet the needs of the LSTAR project and to include in its consideration of passenger rail service to the City of Austin up to seven station locations as generally illustrated in Exhibit C and that LSRD's consideration include the stations in the rail project's environmental impact study for Federal approval in a Record of Decision.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall place the initial draft interlocal agreements and ordinances on the Council work session or regular meeting agenda for initial presentation and discussion as soon as possible to allow time for adequate consideration and public input for City Council action prior to the December 31, 2013 decision goal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to create a restricted fund so that any revenue increment from value capture sources that is provided by the City of Austin be retained in the fund and to be regularly disbursed or available to the Lone Star Rail District only in the event the passenger rail system becomes operational. Funds from the restricted fund may be otherwise available to the Lone Star Rail District only upon its request and with the approval of the City of Austin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City's support of the LSTAR project is conditional upon support by other local jurisdictions in Central Texas with which the Lone Star Rail District has initiated funding discussions such as the cities of Austin, Buda Kyle, San Antonio, and Hays and Travis Counties and requests the Lone Star Rail District provide their adopted similar resolutions to the City Council as an indication of their support on or before October 31, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

City Manager is directed to use due diligence in the interlocal agreement to ensure availability of funds in event the project is unreasonably delayed.

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