

RESOLUTION NO. 20130926-075

WHEREAS, the City of Austin supports affordable housing for low-income persons and provides funding to some projects that meet certain requirements; and

WHEREAS, funds available to assist in development of low-income housing projects are awarded based on a variety of factors included in the Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA) application for financing; and

WHEREAS, meeting S.M.A.R.T. Housing requirements is one of the threshold requirements for a project to receive funding, but that policy requires a project to be located within ¼ mile of a bus route, and the RHDA application does not currently specify a maximum distance to a transit stop; and

WHEREAS, the RHDA scoring matrix does give points for locating within transit corridors and provides maximum points for developments in very high opportunity areas, as defined by the Kirwan Institute's Opportunity Map of Austin, which includes access to a transit stop within ½ mile of housing as one of many indicators; and

WHEREAS, the "A" in the S.M.A.R.T. Housing requirements defines the accessibility and visitability standards for building plans and housing units for persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the RHDA application does ask for the number of accessible and adaptable units to be included in a project, but there are no points awarded for projects that will house people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department will be working with stakeholders including the Community Housing Development Organization Roundtable, Accessible Housing Austin, affordable housing developers, and others to review the scoring matrix and propose potential adjustments this fall; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

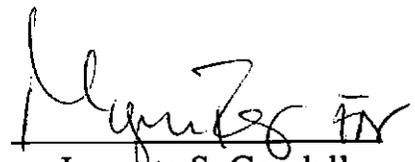
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to explore distance to transit stops and the provision of accessible housing units as criteria to be scored in the Rental Housing Development Assistance application scoring matrix.

The City Manager shall report back to Council when the stakeholder process is complete with any changes that will be made to the RHDA application.

ADOPTED: September 26, 2013

ATTEST:



Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk