

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has a diverse culture including residents that have Limited English Proficiency (LEP); and

WHEREAS, the Federal government defines Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals as, “Individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English”; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13166 was issued by the President on August 11, 2000, and “requires Federal agencies to examine the services they provide, identify any need for services to those with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have meaningful access to them”; and

WHEREAS, the 2000 US Census Bureau ranked Austin in the top 10 of the 100 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas for linguistically isolated households; and

WHEREAS, the Census Bureau defines a linguistically isolated household as, “one in which no member 14 years old and over (1) speaks only English or (2) speaks a non-English language and speaks English "very well"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin provides a wide range of services and engages in many forms of public communication that are meant to be accessible to all residents; and

WHEREAS, Austin Resource Recovery, Austin Energy, and several other City departments have already developed a system that uses a certified translator from the American Translators Association for public communications; and

WHEREAS, there is a benefit for Austin residents and City employees to have a predictable and consistent process for translation services for communication from all City departments; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to develop a plan for a universal city wide translation service protocol and bring back options for Council consideration no later than December 12, 2013.

ADOPTED: _____, 2013

ATTEST: _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk