

RESOLUTION NO. 20131212-075

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2013 Council approved Resolution 20130620-055 directing the City Manager to assess the public health risk from the transport of hazardous materials through Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager was further directed to determine an appropriate process and potential timeline in the event the City chooses to pursue a designated route for the transport of hazardous materials and report back to Council on all findings; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager issued a memorandum on November 26, 2013 identifying requirements under state law to develop a Non-Radioactive Hazardous Materials Route (hazardous materials route or routes) given that Austin's population has now exceeded the 850,000 threshold; and

WHEREAS, the report includes:

- Preliminary context regarding the public health risk of transporting hazardous materials through Austin;
- A process and timeline for designating hazardous materials route(s) including cost participation and collaboration, route analysis and proposal, local public hearing submission, review, consultation with other States and Indian tribes, authorization and approval, and route signing plan;

- Staff recommendations to establish such routes and to launch the formal process to establish such routes in FY14 per the State and Federally defined process; and

WHEREAS, developing the report was a collaborative effort between the Austin Fire Department and the Austin Transportation Department with input from Austin Resource Recovery, the Departments of Watershed Protection, Health, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management, as well as the Texas Department of Transportation, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and Travis County; and

WHEREAS, the departments will continue to work together with regional partners to ensure transportation safety in Austin remains a top priority; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends that the City initiate the formal process to establish hazardous materials routes in FY14 for Austin, including a routing analysis and public outreach per the State and Federal defined process; and

WHEREAS, routing designation must be completed within 18 months of the notice given under federal requirements; and

WHEREAS, the report also identified a need for more information to accurately assess the public health risk and recommends conducting a Commodities Flow Study; and

WHEREAS, Austin's last commodities flow study was conducted in 1999 and included 32 roadway segments in Austin and Travis County, and Williamson County is in the early stages of conducting a Commodities Flow Study; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Fire Department is coordinating with regional jurisdictions to identify and recommend a funding source and implementation strategy for a Commodities Flow Study; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

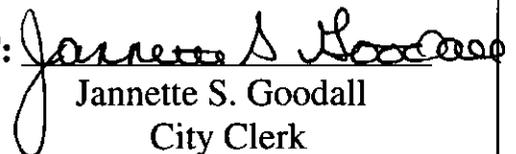
That City Council directs the City Manager to launch the formal process to designate Hazardous Materials routes in Austin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to keep Council apprised of the coordination effort with regional jurisdictions, identification of funding sources, and implementation strategy for initiation of a Commodities Flow Study.

ADOPTED: December 12, 2013

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk