

## **RESOLUTION NO.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin is committed to being an innovative organization, and it recently formed an Office of Innovation; and

**WHEREAS**, innovation can be defined in many ways, but a common aspect of innovation projects is that they are new and have uncertain outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, working on a pilot innovation project would foster the creation of cross-departmental teams that with stakeholder engagement could address long-standing problems and facilitate creation of best-in-class programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government found that the procurement process was a rich area for innovative solutions to long-standing problems, and the Small Business Administration (SBA) created a “RFP-EZ” program seeking to redesign certain procurement processes; and

**WHEREAS**, the SBA found that a redesigned federal procurement process increased competition, lowered bid prices, and allowed more small businesses to compete for government contracts due to a less burdensome process, and the City of Austin and local small businesses might benefit from a simplified municipal procurement process; and

**WHEREAS**, a pilot innovation project related to the City's purchasing process could help inform overall innovation program efforts; **NOW**,  
**THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to initiate an innovative pilot project to create a simplified solicitation procedure for an upcoming procurement. This pilot project should include input from stakeholders in the design community and the technology community, as well as staff from the Office of Innovation, the Purchasing Department, and other departments as appropriate. After the pilot is complete, staff should analyze the results of the process and determine whether lessons learned could be applied to future procurements.

The City Manager shall provide a progress report back to Council by August 10, 2014.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2014    **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jannette Goodall  
City Clerk