

RESOLUTION NO. 20140626-092

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,

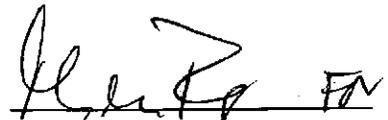
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

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: June 26, 2014

ATTEST:


Jannette Goodall
City Clerk