

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Skillpoint Alliance (Skillpoint) has been partners with the City of Austin (City) since Skillpoint's inception as the Capital Area Training Foundation in 1994, and the City has invested over \$6 million in Skillpoint over the last 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Skillpoint developed a Strategic Partnership with the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) to deliver on-site Empower Computer Proficiency training, and the partners are currently in discussions to expand their collaboration in the coming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the City's Public Works Department contracts with Skillpoint to deliver their NEXT Intermediate Job Training to incumbent street and bridge workers as well as other department employees to assist them with eligibility for wage increases and the opportunity to apply for other jobs as they become available in Public Works, and Skillpoint provides similar training to incumbent employees at the Austin Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, Skillpoint convenes over 200 Austin industry partners and business leaders to assist in offering relevant project-based learning to K-16 students as well as industry certified curriculum for training adults for Central Texas jobs that will put them and their families on a career pathway to self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, Skillpoint delivers Empower Computer Literacy classes in their downtown lab, the only City funded lab in downtown Austin, and the lab has been selected by the City Council to be a site for the Google Fiber Community Connection Program; and

WHEREAS, in addition to their downtown location, Skillpoint is looking for a location to house their headquarters that will include a STEM innovation center, a NEXT Intermediate Training Center, a Workforce Training Center, an Empower Computer Proficiency Lab, an Early Childhood Development Training and Daycare Center, and a Skillpoint Entrepreneur/Mentor Lab; and

WHEREAS, in their new location, Skillpoint will continue to exemplify their holistic vision that includes practices such as zero waste, energy efficiency, and relevant job training based on the current labor market indicators with an eye toward emerging technologies; and

WHEREAS, Council has previously approved exploration of using City-owned land to house a nonprofit that serves the Austin community with passage of Resolution Number 20131212-077 for Ecology Action, an innovator in waste diversion programs; and

WHEREAS, construction sites generate approximately 60% of the waste buried in landfill sites, and Austin has adopted a zero waste plan and is committed to reducing the amount of trash sent to landfills by 90% by 2040; and

WHEREAS, BONE Structure (BONE) is a revolutionary construction system that produces zero waste on construction sites, and the company has expressed interest in partnering with Skillpoint to build their first structure in Austin; and

WHEREAS, Skillpoint is in discussions with BONE and intends to use their services to build a zero waste building in Austin; and

WHEREAS, Skillpoint will train their Gateway graduates in the BONE Structure zero waste building methodology and build their own building; and

WHEREAS, the City may have properties that would be well suited for this project; and

WHEREAS, Austin Housing Finance Corporation is currently developing a master plan for the Colony Park Sustainable Community Initiative, a 208 acre City-owned property in east Austin funded through a three million dollar HUD grant, with the goals of serving as an economic catalyst for the broader project area (census tracks 22.01, 22.02, 22.08, 22.11, 22.12), supporting sustainable and equitable development, and supporting capacity building and community transformation goals, **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to enter into discussions with Skillpoint Alliance regarding their future facility needs and possible lease of City property, including in the Colony Park area, and bring recommendations to Council no later than October 16, 2014.

ADOPTED: August 7, 2014 **ATTEST:** _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk