

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin owns and leases a variety of parking facilities across the city, including downtown, which are offered free of charge to city employees; and

WHEREAS, the City and others encourage alternative transportation, and a growing number of City employees are choosing not to use their parking spaces every day; and

WHEREAS, in some parts of the city, such as downtown, unused city-owned parking spaces are so valuable that they can be leased or sold to the general public; and

WHEREAS, parking cash-out is a program in which an employee is offered a financial incentive not to use their employer-provided parking space so that this space may be leased or sold to the general public; and

WHEREAS, in places where the demand for public parking is high, the revenue generated by the sale of the parking space can offset the payment to the employee, creating a revenue-positive program for both the employer and the employee, and making more parking available to the general public; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 20110113-039 directed the City Manager to examine ways to reduce City of Austin employee single-occupancy vehicle trips by creating a pilot parking cash-out program, which was implemented in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 20121213-062 directed the City Manager to implement a permanent parking cash-out program for city buildings in areas with managed parking by October 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for implementing a broader parking cash-out program, city staff contracted with HWA Parking for the City of Austin Downtown Parking Management Study, Task 1, dated January 10, 2014, which is a comprehensive parking inventory of each city-owned or leased garage/surface lot; and

WHEREAS, Task 2 of the study, to be submitted at an undetermined later date, is a financial and operational analysis for the City's Town Lake Center, One Texas Center, Palmer Events Center, City Hall, Austin Convention Center (2nd Street), Austin Convention Center (5th Street), and Waller Creek Center parking garages; and

WHEREAS, in Task 1 of the study, HWA made a series of recommendations on how the City of Austin can make better use of its

parking assets to serve the public and create a revenue stream that can be directed toward city services or public benefits; and

WHEREAS, Task 1 of the study also pointed out a need for uniform management of and control equipment in the studied facilities and that there would be a cost incurred to update the equipment in each garage; and

WHEREAS, due to disparate management and faulty or lacking control equipment, hundreds of city-owned parking spaces are sitting empty during nights and weekends when they could be in use and producing revenue that could be directed toward city services or public benefits; and

WHEREAS, there are parts of the downtown area that could make use of increased off-street parking facilities; and

WHEREAS, making city-owned parking available to the public allows the opportunity for specialized parking for service-industry workers and musicians, who may have particular parking needs not being met by the private parking market; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to establish a plan for the Parking Enterprise to assume management of some or all city-owned parking facilities, per the City of Austin Downtown Parking Management Study, Task 1.

The City Manager is further directed to bring a financing strategy to make garage equipment operational, incrementally, as each facility is prepared to be opened to the public, including the possibility of borrowing against future revenues to bring each garage up to the appropriate standard.

These plans, as well as a date when a parking cash-out, as described in Resolution 20121213-062 will be implemented, should be reported to Council by October 1, 2014.

ADOPTED: _____, 2014

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk