

## **RESOLUTION NO.**

**WHEREAS**, as the City of Austin expands further into rural areas there is more encroachment upon wildlife habitats; and

**WHEREAS**, interactions with coyotes have become more frequent in recent years, even in central-city neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and its citizens have an interest in strategies and planning for animal welfare programs community-wide; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, the City became the largest city in the United States and the first in Texas to be certified as a community wildlife habitat, and in 2010 the City Council voted for a plan to make Austin a no-kill city; and

**WHEREAS**, in February 2014, the Animal Advisory Commission (AAC) provided recommendations related to coyote conflict management; and

**WHEREAS**, the AAC recommendation stated that education and ‘hazing’ methods are less expensive and are proven methods to help alleviate the potential dangers that may result from coyote/human interactions; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 18, 2014, the City Council Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) Committee voted to adopt the recommendations and

stated that lethal responses will be considered only in the event of an incident or an attack on a human; and

**WHEREAS,** on October 8, 2014, the AAC provided additional recommendations, which included banning the use of leg-hold traps, neck snares and chemical control for trapping coyotes and only allowing for live-release box traps followed by euthanasia at the Austin Animal Center; and

**WHEREAS,** the additional AAC recommendations further defined an incident as a coyote entering a yard and injuring or killing a pet or a coyote biting or injuring a pet on a leash, and defined an attack as a coyote biting or injuring a person without provocation; and

**WHEREAS,** on October 21, 2014, the PHHS Committee voted to adopt the updated recommendations banning leg-hold traps, neck snares and chemical control and only allowing for live-release box traps followed by euthanasia, as well as the definitions of incident and attack; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Austin is currently a party to an interlocal agreement with Travis County under which the City provides general animal services in the County outside of the City's corporate limits, and the City receives wildlife management services, including coyote management, from the U.S.

Department of Agriculture, Texas Cooperative Extension – Wildlife Services (“Wildlife Services”) through the County’s agreement with Wildlife Services;

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to adopt the recommendations of the AAC and the PHHS Committee regarding coyote management, utilizing education and hazing methods as primary methods, and utilizing lethal responses only in the event of an incident or attack.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to provide a progress report to the PHHS Committee on or before May 31, 2015 regarding coyote management efforts, including the number of traps set and the number of animals caught.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to work with Travis County and Wildlife Services to encourage use of the coyote management techniques recommended by the AAC and the PHHS Committee.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2014

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk