

RESOLUTION NO. 20160204-038

WHEREAS, Austin is internationally recognized for its vibrant art and music culture; and

WHEREAS, multiple City task forces and housing reports have recommended using public land for affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, Artspace is a nonprofit organization that develops affordable live/work units for artists and their families, as well as non-residential space for artists, arts organizations, and creative enterprises; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 the City's Economic Development Department commissioned Artspace to conduct a housing market analysis in partnership with Austin Playhouse and with funding provided through grants from Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts; and

WHEREAS, the resulting study, "Survey of Artists" Space Needs and Preferences and Survey of Arts, Creative, and Cultural Organizations and Businesses, consisted of two online surveys in 2012 and 2013 of 770 individual artists and representatives of 145 organizations and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the surveys identified a need for live/work space for artists making at or below 60% the area median income; and

WHEREAS, the Artspace model has multiple phases, two of which the City has already completed; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department has set aside funding in the amount of \$75,000 toward the predevelopment costs of an Artspace project; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has been asked to sell land at 4711 Winnebago Lane, managed by Austin Resource Recovery; and

WHEREAS, 4711 Winnebago Lane is zoned industrial and is located in an area with an increasing number of residential developments; and

WHEREAS, 4711 Winnebago Lane could offer a unique opportunity for the City to enter into a public-private partnership to create affordable live/work space for artists whose studios must be located in industrially-zoned locations; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the City Council expresses its support for the development of the Austin Resource Recovery (re)Manufacturing Hub as a vital component of our Zero Waste Master Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager return to the City Council on February 25, 2016, with multiple options other than rate increases to replace the component of the (re)Manufacturing HUB financing plan currently proposed by the sale of the tract located at 4711 Winnebago Lane.

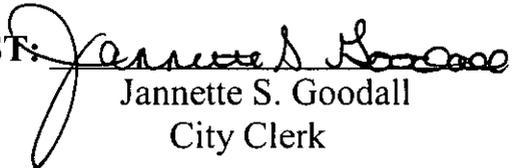
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to explore the feasibility of developing a live/work project with Artspace;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is additionally directed to consider the City-owned tract located at 4711 Winnebago Lane as a potential location for this project and to report back to the City Council no later than March 3, 2016.

ADOPTED: February 4, 2016

ATTEST: 
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk