RESOLUTION NO. 20160623-xxx

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20160128-067 directed the City Manager to explore options and locations for the provision of safe, durable, 24-hour free public toilets Downtown; and

WHEREAS, the public discussion generated by the Council resolution has revealed strong support for having public restrooms available in Downtown Austin for the myriad of users who would benefit; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2016, City staff provided the results of stakeholder meetings and staff research into potential options and locations to the Council's Health and Human Services Committee; and

WHEREAS, models vary in terms of requirements related to cleaning and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the best restroom options offer basic amenities but do not provide a welcoming environment for inappropriate uses; and

WHEREAS, among the options provided were mobile as well as permanent facilities; and

WHEREAS, staff recommended securing a mobile option as a near-term solution and using that experience to help inform placement of a more permanent option; and

WHEREAS, mobile models such as San Francisco's Pit Stops and Comfort Station can be made available in wheelchair-accessible models; and

WHEREAS, staff estimates that it would take approximately 90 days from the date an order is placed for a permanent facility such as a Portland Loo to be

delivered, but the City procurement process could add as much as eight months more; and

WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to conduct additional stakeholder meetings to determine the best location for a permanent facility, and having a mobile facility on a temporary basis could provide valuable information on potential locations; and

WHEREAS, the mobile models similar to San Francisco's Pit Stops are estimated to cost about $6,000 per month and $64,000 per year in cleaning, and the Portland Loo will cost from $90,000 to $140,000 to purchase and install and $25,000 per year to clean two times per day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, insufficient access to restroom facilities in the Downtown area has contributed to a situation posing a significant public health and safety risk where individuals must relieve themselves in streets and alleys; and

WHEREAS, the role of public health is to prevent illness, injury, and disease by protecting the community from environmental hazards and epidemics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the City Manager is directed to take steps to immediately procure two wheelchair-accessible public toilet facilities, similar to San Francisco's Pit Stops program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That due to the severity of the public health and safety crisis, the City Manager is directed to find ways to expedite the procurement process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to continue discussions with Downtown stakeholders to determine the most promising location for a permanent public toilet facility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to identify a funding source and initiate the procurement of a public toilet facility such as the Portland Loo for permanent installation Downtown and to return to the City Council for approval of this purchase as soon as feasible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to work with City Hall Building Services staff to proceed with the changes necessary for City Hall's outdoor restrooms to be open extended hours.

ADOPTED: _____, 2016 **ATTEST: _____**

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk