



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Joint Sustainability Committee

Recommendation 20190828-3A

WHEREAS, the annual carbon sequestration benefit of the use of carbon dioxide mineralization concrete in Central Texas, if universally utilized, would be an estimated 36,000 metric tons of CO₂, equivalent to tens of thousands of acres of preserved forest; and

WHEREAS, the carbon dioxide mineralization concrete's net cost is the same as standard concrete; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin aims to be climate neutral by 2050 and the increase in carbon sequestration locally and regionally will help us to attain that goal; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has the opportunity to be a leader in the state in utilizing carbon dioxide mineralization concrete technology; and

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide mineralization concrete has been proven successful in other cities and regions; and

WHEREAS, local suppliers are already beginning to make the investment in integrating this technology into their facilities.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Joint Sustainability Committee recommends supporting the utilization of carbon dioxide mineralization concrete or other lower-carbon concrete products for all future Austin infrastructure projects.

CONDITIONS: Continue to work with the City Engineer's Office to confirm the feasibility of utilizing this and other low-carbon concrete products in City Capital Improvement Projects; continue to work with applicable departments and suppliers to ensure the feasibility of attaining these products and work with them to develop a plan for rolling out use; and, continue to explore other lower-carbon cement product options.

Record of the vote: Motion to approve by Commissioner Coyne, second by Commissioner White, Motion passes on a 10-0 vote.

Date of Approval: August 28, 2019

Attest: 

Zach Baumer, Staff Liaison