

Resolution: Austin Animal Advisory Commission

Whereas, Apple Incorporated plans to build a new \$1 billion plus campus on 133 acres of the Robinson Ranch property located at 6900 West Parmer Lane in North Austin, including 12 buildings eventually housing 15,000 employees. This will become Apple's second largest world campus and eventually will make Apple Inc. Austin's largest single employer; and

Whereas, Current plans for this facility call for the removal of over 2,000 trees with an 8+ inch diameter, including 84 trees of "Heritage Tree" status, meaning that these trees are over 19" in diameter at a level of 4.5' above the ground; and

Whereas, the Apple campus is on a previously approved 2004 Planned Unit Development not subject to the City's Heritage Tree Ordinance, removing from application to this development one of the only protections for mature forest habitat in City of Austin ordinances; and

Whereas, This development will displace a large amount of native wildlife through construction disturbance and habitat destruction; and

Whereas, The City of Austin relies almost completely upon the services of the non-profit Austin Wildlife Rescue to mitigate for displaced and injured wildlife throughout all of the City of Austin Travis County; and

Whereas, Austin Wildlife Rescue took in 6,398 orphaned, sick, or injured animals from across Austin and Travis County in 2018, with over 664 of those animals being transferred from the Austin Animal Shelter. These are animals that the Shelter does not have the resources to care for, meaning they would otherwise most likely have to be euthanized; and

Whereas, These numbers are increasing rapidly every year as Austin continues to grow and as we continue to lose native habitat, and

Whereas, Neither the City of Austin, nor Travis County, nor the business community currently pay any taxes or fees for these services for our wildlife; **Now Therefore,**

Be It Resolved That the Austin Animal Advisory Commission of the City of Austin:

Respectfully requests that Apple Incorporated, with its very deep financial resources, considers providing \$100,000 to Austin Wildlife Rescue while wildlife supporters continue to work on a more permanent public funding mechanism that spreads support more equitably among all Austin developers removing native habitat, or considers any other type of financial support for our vital partner organization. Helping support Austin Wildlife Services at this time will help the Austin Animal Center continue to be the largest no-kill shelter in the world, which is a legally required as well as a valuable moral and financial asset to the City of Austin.