

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin regularly enters into contracts for the procurement of goods and services of many kinds, including for construction and commodities; and

WHEREAS, through its procurement activities, the City has a substantial impact upon the economy of the Austin area; and

WHEREAS, small businesses employ a substantial percentage of the area's workforce; and

WHEREAS, the City benefits from better quality of work, service and price when the number of vendors and contractors that bid on City contracts increases; and

WHEREAS, various other public entities currently authorize bid preferences and set-asides for firms that meet certain business size limitations; and

WHEREAS, Texas state law does not explicitly authorize such bid preferences or set-asides for small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Texas municipalities would benefit from having a local option to create a small business procurement program including a bid preference program and a set-aside program; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is interested in creating a pilot program that could include a small business bid preference program and a set-aside program in construction and commodities procurement; and

WHEREAS, the City Council will solicit input from the public prior to creating such a policy or program; **NOW THEREFORE**;

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

That the City's Legislative Program is amended to pursue the necessary changes in state law to give cities the authority to create and implement a small business procurement program.

ADOPTED: _____, 2007

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk