RESOLUTION NO. 20081106-048

WHEREAS, the City Council has established a goal of achieving 700 megawatts of energy efficiency savings by 2020 under the Austin Climate Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has nationally leading energy codes in place to achieve high levels of efficiency in new construction; and

WHEREAS, in order to have a significant impact on community-wide energy use in the coming decades, it is imperative that efficiency savings be achieved in homes and buildings constructed prior to the implementation of current energy codes; and

WHEREAS, cost-effective energy efficiency improvements are proven to increase housing affordability and lower business operating costs; and

WHEREAS, Austin Energy has a proven track record of employing energy efficiency as a strategy to avoid the need for additional electric generating capacity, thereby helping to keep electric rates lower for all Austin Energy customers; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution No. 20071213-064, the Council directed the City Manager to establish the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Task Force to identify and recommend City Code revisions to implement cost effective energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades to Austin homes and buildings; and
WHEREAS, the task force has issued its final report, dated September 17, 2008, to the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Council has enacted an ordinance creating Chapter 6-7 of the City Code, intended to adopt and implement various recommendations contained in the final report; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to additionally adopt various performance measures and participation targets contained in the final report and establish directives to the City Manager to implement such recommendations; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

1. The term “cost-effective improvements” means those energy efficiency improvements recommended by an energy audit under Chapter 6-7, up to a total cost of one-percent of the sale price or appraised value – as deemed by the City Manager to be appropriate – for residential facilities, that will likely generate a return in electric bill savings equal to or greater than the cost of the improvements, after applicable rebates, within seven years.

2. A goal is established that cost-effective improvements shall be made, prior to or within one-year of closing, to at least the following percentages of residential facilities that are sold:

   a. between June 1, 2009 and June 1, 2010: 25%;

   b. between June 1, 2010 and June 1, 2011: 45%;
c. between June 1, 2012 and June 1, 2013: 65%; and

d. after June 1, 2013: 85%.

3. A goal is established that cost-effective improvements shall be made to 80% of all multifamily dwelling units within the following time frames:

a. by June 1, 2011, for facilities built before 1970;

b. by June 1, 2013, for facilities built during the period from 1970 through 1979;

c. by June 1, 2015, for facilities built during the period from 1980 through 2000; and

d. by June 1, 2017 for facilities built during the period from 2000 and thereafter.

4. To advance progress toward the goals for multifamily facilities, the City Manager is encouraged to evaluate and, if feasible, to offer the following increased rebates for energy efficiency improvements that have a pay-back period greater than three years and that are made within the following time-frames:

a. 150% of the standard rebate amount for multi-family facilities from June 1, 2009 until June 1, 2011; and
b. 125% of the standard rebate amount for multi-family facilities from June 1, 2011 until June 1, 2013.

5. The City Manager is directed to gather and rank energy usage data on a per-square-foot basis for all multifamily facilities, and to make such data publicly available on-line to the extent permitted by law.

6. The following goals are established with respect to commercial facilities within the City:

a. Before June 1, 2014:

i. 40% of interior commercial square footage will be contained within commercial facilities that (1) have a score of at least 50 under the Energy Star Portfolio Manager rating system (or an equivalent score under such other rating system as may be adopted for use by the City Manager), or (2) have achieved a 20% improvement in energy efficiency above an already existing score of 50; or

ii. 80% of interior commercial square footage will be contained within commercial facilities that (1) have improved their scores by at least one half of the difference between their initial score and a score of 50 under the Energy Star Portfolio Manager rating system (or an equivalent score under such other rating system as may be adopted for use by the City Manager), or (2) have
achieved at least a 10% improvement in their initial energy efficiency score.

b. Before June 1, 2016, 80% of interior commercial square footage will be contained within commercial facilities that (1) have a score of at least 50 under the Energy Star Portfolio Manager rating system (or an equivalent score under such other rating system as may be adopted by the City Manager), or (2) have achieved a 20% improvement in energy efficiency above an already existing score of 50.

7. The goals established in this resolution apply to facilities that receive service from Austin Energy. In calculating compliance with any of these goals, the City Manager shall not include facilities excluded from the application of Chapter 6-7.

8. The City Manager is directed to develop and implement such policies and procedures as may be reasonably required to further the goals adopted by this resolution.

9. On or near June 1, 2011, the City Manager shall provide a report to the City Council containing the data gathered and analyses made while implementing this resolution and Chapter 6-7, including the level of achievement made toward the goals of this resolution and
recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the programs established by this resolution and Chapter 6-7.

ADOPTED: November 6, 2008  ATTEST: Shirley A. Gentry
Shirley A. Gentry  City Clerk