

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council adopted a Climate Protection Plan (Resolution 20070215-023) aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption through a variety of methods, including community outreach; and

WHEREAS, the City Council charged Austin Energy with achieving 700 MW of new savings through energy efficiency and conservation efforts by 2020; and

WHEREAS, maintaining an energy efficient downtown Austin skyline that ensures adequate night visibility to prevent an aviation hazard helps further the conservation goals laid out in the Climate Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has developed the “Earth Hour” program aimed at encouraging residents and employees worldwide to turn lights off for one hour to promote energy conservation; and

WHEREAS, Austin groups, including the Moondays Project, the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA), the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association (DANA), and the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), participated in Earth Hour and are participating in subsequent light conservation efforts on or around Earth Week, beginning April 17th, 2009; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

The City Council directs the City Manager to participate with community stakeholders, including the Moondays Project, the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA), the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association (DANA), and the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), in an effort to

- turn off all non-essential lights in Austin for Earth Week activities from Friday, April 17th, 2009, at 9:00 PM Central Daylight time until Monday, April 20th, 2009

at 7:00 AM Central Daylight Time, while ensuring adequate night visibility to prevent aviation hazards; and

- discuss ways to reduce non-essential light use, particularly at commercial buildings before and after normal business hours.

The City Manager is directed to review all electricity use practices at city-owned buildings and recommend measures to reduce light and energy use when buildings are unoccupied. The City Manager is directed to return with recommendations within 90 days.

ADOPTED: _____, 2009

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk