

RESOLUTION NO. 20090430-032

WHEREAS, Community Land Trusts (CLTs) were created more than 30 years ago in response to the rising costs of housing, limited space for new construction, a growing number of abandoned buildings, and an aging housing stock; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of a Community Land Trust is to provide access to land and housing to people who are otherwise denied access, increase long-term community control of neighborhood resources, empower residents through involvement and participation in the organization, and permanently preserve affordability of housing; and

WHEREAS, CLTs are successful tools that have been used in other parts of the country to provide affordable housing with more than 200 community land trusts nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the Committee Substitute to Senate Bill (CSSB) 1205 was authored by Senator West and has been voted out of the full Senate and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means; and

WHEREAS, CSSB 1205 establishes a CLT model in state statute and allows cities and counties to create a CLT, including CLTs operated by a local housing finance corporation or a city-certified community housing development organization; and

WHEREAS, CSSB 1205 also provides for equitable property valuation for CLT property as well as an optional municipal or county tax exemption for the property within the CLT; and

WHEREAS, local community advocates including Housing Works, People Trust, Habitat for Humanity, the Texas Association of Community Development Corporations, the Texas Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies and the Texas Municipal League all registered in favor of the bill; and

WHEREAS, passage of CSSB 1205 will assist the City of Austin's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development's efforts to create and utilize CLTs as a means of providing affordable housing; **NOW**,


THEREFORE,

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

The Legislative Program is hereby amended to support passage of CSSB 1205, its companion legislation, or legislation that is substantially similar to CSSB 1205.

ADOPTED: April 30, 2009

ATTEST:


Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk