

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin encourages and promotes bicycle ridership as an viable, green, alternative means of recreational and commuter transportation and recognizes it as a valuable piece of the transportation mix of a growing metropolitan city; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2008, the City Council approved a resolution supporting the recommendations of the Street Smarts Task Force aimed at encouraging cycling and making Austin the first city in Texas to be ranked Gold by the League of American Bicyclists, and

WHEREAS, since 2006, reported bicycle theft has increased an average of 16.65% per year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin aspires to remain one of the top bicycle friendly cities in the United States, and wants to lead in innovative programs that drive down bicycle theft and increase bicycle recovery;

WHEREAS, the City of Austin can aid in discouraging bicycle theft and increasing recovery through voluntary registration; educating cyclists about safe storage techniques, including how to properly secure a bicycle; ongoing communication with the bicycling community; and investigating cutting-edge bicycle identification technologies; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

That the City Manager is directed to create a City of Austin bicycle theft response program. This program should include, at a minimum:

- A free, voluntary bicycle registry program in a web-based format accessible to all users;
- An evaluation of Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) bicycle tagging programs to assess the costs and benefits such a program would have in complimenting the registry program; and
- An educational campaign to encourage safe storage of bicycles, to include at a minimum, information on bicycle racks that will direct riders how to correctly lock their bicycles to bicycle racks, and education to business and property owners on how to provide in-building bicycle storage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That throughout all of these programs, the City Manager should work with community stakeholders, including, but not limited to bicycle and pawn shop owners, the Austin Bicycle Advisory Council, and other cyclist group representatives to ensure community involvement and leadership in the programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That staff shall provide a report of its findings and recommendations to the City Manager and City Council not later than August 6, 2009.

ADOPTED: _____, 2009

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk