

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, in 2000, the City of Austin enacted Shared Responsibility for Waste Reduction as a core component of its solid waste programs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council directed the creation of a long-term waste management life-cycle plan and adopted a zero-waste policy by resolution in 2006; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Austin Climate Protection Plan identified waste management as a critical area for research and policy development as it relates to emissions of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Austin City Council adopted the Zero Waste Strategic Plan which includes supporting product stewardship or extended producer responsibility, calling on those involved in the product life cycle – manufacturers, retailers, users, and disposers – to share responsibility for reducing the environmental impacts of products; and

WHEREAS, By-Product Synergy is a process which helps regional networks of businesses, regulatory agencies, and non-profit corporations match under-valued by-product or waste streams with potential users; and

WHEREAS, By-Product Synergies reduce waste, promote efficient use of resources, and avoids pollution by creating a legally protected forum in which partners can explore reuse opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 United Nations Urban Environmental Accords encouraged signatory cities to adopt policies that would divert 20 percent of per capita solid waste from landfills by 2012; and

WHEREAS, an international By-Product Synergy project, has documented significant economic value arising from the project over five years, including a near 75 percent decrease in landfill diversion costs and total net cost savings to member organizations of approximately \$550 million;
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to encourage product stewardship by evaluating options to bring by-product synergy opportunities to Austin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall present recommendations for bringing such opportunities for action to the City Council not later than May 27, 2010.

ADOPTED: _____, 2010 **ATTEST:** _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk