

RESOLUTION NO. 20100728-109

WHEREAS, according to the Lower Colorado River Authority, the eight months from October 2010 through May 2011 have been the driest eight-month period on record for Texas since 1895; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, 17 Apr 2011 a cooking fire ignited a 100 acre wildfire in the Oak Hill area damaging or destroying over twenty homes; and,

WHEREAS, the Travis County Commissioners Court declared a local disaster which prohibits the sale and use of fireworks due to imminent threat of wildfire; and;

WHEREAS, due to the dangerous fire hazard conditions that currently exist in the Central Texas area, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) is temporarily prohibiting the building of fires and smoking in the City of Austin Parks and Recreation system. This includes the use of wood or charcoal BBQ pits/grilles/smokers; and

WHEREAS, because apartment complexes contain dense populations where outdoor cooking fires in areas close to buildings and vegetation present a serious danger; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to draft an amendment to the Fire Code which prohibits open flame cooking in multi-family complexes in areas not currently designated for outdoor cooking when environmental conditions exist that represent a high risk of wildfires.

ADOPTED: July 28, 2011

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk