

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has the authority to prohibit activities in its parks that present hazards to the public health or to property; and

WHEREAS, the severity of the 2010-2011 drought in Central Texas has made wildfires a serious potential hazard to the lives and property of Austin residents; and

WHEREAS, the long-term forecast for the Central Texas region anticipates more abnormally dry weather through the winter, keeping the possibility of wildfires a serious risk for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, the City Code does not currently authorize the City Manager or the Director of the Parks and Recreation to issue burn ban orders for City park land; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to prepare an ordinance for consideration by the City Council which would authorize the City Manager, the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, or their authorized designees to issue a

burn ban or other orders that would prohibit smoking, camp fires, grilling, and other fire hazards in City parks, and would make violations of a burn ban a Class C misdemeanor.

Within 60 days after preparation and consideration of an ordinance addressing a burn ban in City parks, the City Manager is directed to conduct an analysis of other properties within the full purpose jurisdiction that are either managed or co-managed by the City.

ADOPTED: _____, 2011 **ATTEST:** _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk