

RESOLUTION NO. 20111208-076

WHEREAS, sidewalks are a crucial component of a complete multi-modal transportation network, as well as one part of the City of Austin's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS); and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has as many as 3,000 linear miles of absent sidewalk with a build-out cost estimated to be as high as \$800 million; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted a Sidewalk Master Plan on March 3, 2009, with the goal of providing an objective mechanism for prioritizing sidewalk construction projects to be funded through bonds and other capital projects; and

WHEREAS, an additional mechanism that the City relies on to improve and complete its sidewalk network is the requirement that sidewalks be provided with every new subdivision, site plan, or building permit; and

WHEREAS, the City Code authorizes the director of the Planning and Development Review Department ("director") to allow an applicant to pay a fee instead of installing a sidewalk under certain circumstances with the proceeds being directed toward planned sidewalk networks nearby; and

WHEREAS, the director, in consultation with the director of Public Works, makes this decision based on the criteria in City Code Section 25-6-354 and on other criteria such as the number of pedestrian trips generated by the property, and the percentage of sidewalk present on the block face at the time of application; and;

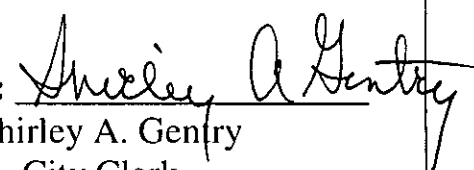
WHEREAS, neighborhoods throughout Austin name particular stretches of sidewalk as priorities within their adopted neighborhood plan;
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to notify a Neighborhood Plan Contact Team by electronic communication if a recommended sidewalk project listed in its Neighborhood Plan is approved for the payment of a fee instead of sidewalk installation so that the team understands how its neighborhood sidewalk network is developing and so that the team is able to reprioritize the Neighborhood Plan priority recommendations. This communication should include the amount of the fee paid, the address of the property, and language describing the timeframe and area where the fee will be spent.

ADOPTED: December 8, 2011

ATTEST:


Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk