

**RESOLUTION NO. 20120112-\_\_**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin considers walkability, vitality of neighborhoods, and street-level services to be very important; and

**WHEREAS**, Imagine Austin encourages active living, attractive streetscapes, convenient pedestrian facilities, accessible sidewalks, and it calls for transforming all major streets into vibrant, multi-functional, pedestrian friendly corridors; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Downtown Austin Plan calls for electric vault options that are underground, within parking garages, or adjacent to alleyways, to better achieve goals of pedestrian-oriented, ground-floor uses and facades; and,

**WHEREAS**, life-safety for all of our citizens, visitors and employees as well as reliability of services must be considered in all decisions; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

That the City Manager is directed to review where to locate electric vaults with a premium to be placed on pedestrian-oriented ground-floor uses and that consideration be given to the development of alternative placement requirements where feasible.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,**

That the City Manager will also review where to locate utility infrastructure with a premium to be placed on unimpeded pedestrian connectivity and accessibility on sidewalks throughout the city and consideration of locations other than sidewalks. The City Manager shall review as appropriate the City of Austin Utility Code, City of Austin Commercial Design Standards and Austin Energy Design Criteria to assure they promote pedestrian activity.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,**

That the City Manager shall present his recommendations to the Building and Standards Commission and the Design Commission and shall consider best practices in his final code and ordinance recommendations to be presented to the City Council at its April 12, 2012 meeting.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley Gentry, City Clerk