

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, community land trusts (CLTs) were created more than 30 years ago in response to the rising cost of housing, limited space for new construction, a growing number of abandoned buildings, and an aging housing stock; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of a CLT is to provide access to land and housing to people who are otherwise denied access, empower residents through involvement and participation in the organization, and permanently preserve affordability of housing; and

WHEREAS, CLTs are successful tools that have been used in other parts of the country to provide affordable housing with more than 200 CLTs nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department's Fiscal Year 2011-12 Action Plan calls for the exploration and utilization of CLTs to preserve long-term affordability and increase home ownership opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has long-standing partnerships with Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), which are eligible for consideration of community land trust status; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature adopted S.B. 402 in the 82nd Regular Session which became law on January 1, 2012 relating to the local creation of CLTs that may be exempt from taxation of land owned by a designated CLT; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

That the City Manager is directed to work with the Community Development Commission and representatives of community housing development organizations (CHDOs) and other eligible non-profit organizations to implement a process for evaluation and consideration of CHDOs and other non-profit organizations as community land trusts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to report back to the City Council on the status of implementation of the process by April 5, 2012 with the intention for the City Council to begin consideration of applications by non-profit organizations for CLT status by April 26, 2012.

ADOPTED: _____, 2012

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk