

RESOLUTION NO. 20120816-059

WHEREAS, a growing number of homeless in Austin are single women or women with children, and fewer emergency shelter resources exist to serve these individuals; and

WHEREAS, every person in our community should have a safe place to sleep; and

WHEREAS, the tragic June murder of Valerie Godoy illustrates how vulnerable homeless women are to physical harm when forced to sleep on the streets or in unsafe, unhealthy or substandard housing; and

WHEREAS, there are four times as many shelter beds for men than women; and

WHEREAS, Austin has only one shelter designated for women with children and operates at full capacity with a waiting list; and

WHEREAS, other existing emergency shelters also operate at full capacity and do not provide child-appropriate environments for homeless children and their parents; and

WHEREAS, Travis County owns land adjacent to the women and children's shelter and an agreement with Travis County would be necessary to expand shelter facilities for women and families; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

The City Council directs the City Manager to enter into discussions with Travis County regarding possibilities for expanding the shelter for women and families that now exists on the property owned by Travis County;

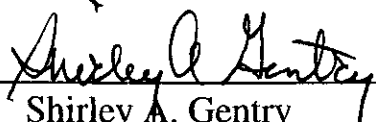
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager identify potential funding sources and strategies that could support a facility expansion or other expanded resources for homeless women and children and report back to the Health and Human Services subcommittee of the City Council by November 1, 2012.

PASSED AND APPROVED

ADOPTED: August 16, 2012

ATTEST:


Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk