RESOLUTION NO

WHEREAS, a backlog of residential permit applications has existed for some time; and

WHEREAS, in June 2012, the Planning and Development Review Department requested, and was granted by Council, a budget amendment to hire eleven full-time equivalents to include Plans Examiners, Planners, Inspectors and Application and Programmer Analysts; and

WHEREAS, a backlog of residential permit applications still exists resulting in the delay of projects throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, best practices and creative solutions for diminishing permit backlogs, including permitting by rule for simple projects, allowing work to begin upon application for a permit instead of receipt, online permitting and electronic plan submission, hiring ‘expediters’ to help troubleshoot applications, and delaying the traffic control plan requirement to the building permit stage, could potentially help alleviate some of the backlog in Austin; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to provide a report to Council by December 31, 2012, with information on when and how the Planning and Development Review Department expects to clear the current backlog of residential permit applications. The report should also address potential solutions and best practices for expediting permit approvals and any anticipated budget amendments that may be needed to minimize backlogs in the future.