Resolution No. 20130829-080

WHEREAS, in December 1971, the Town Lake Beautification Committee was formed to make Lady Bird Johnson's vision of a beautiful urban greenway a reality; and

WHEREAS, to complement the public-private effort to beautify the area and make it a more attractive and useful public space, the committee raised funds to plant hundreds of trees and beautify the park along the banks of the Lower Colorado River currently known as Lady Bird Lake; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 the Town Lake Trail Foundation, later renamed The Trail Foundation, was formed to continue the work of the Citizen's Beautification Committee and to ensure that the trail remains one of Austin's most beautiful locations; and

WHEREAS, the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail connects diverse environments and neighborhoods between Loop 1 (MoPAC Bridge) and Pleasant Valley Rd (Longhorn Dam);

WHEREAS, numerous independent developments, public projects and community plans are currently underway on or adjacent to the trail including Waller Creek, Seaholm Power Plant and Intake, Holly Power Plant, and Green Water Treatment redevelopments, the new Central Library and Lower Shoal Creek rehabilitation, the boardwalk and wheelchair accessible pier completion, Auditorium Shores improvements as well as long term plans for Auditorium Shores and Butler Park, the Mexican American Cultural Center and South Shore Central; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is committed to building a collection of high-quality public art for the enjoyment and enrichment of citizens and visitors and passed Council Resolution No. 20120816-061 to establish a uniform process and review criteria for accepting donated works including monuments, temporary art exhibitions and permanent visual displays; and

WHEREAS, the Trail Foundation has requested that a Public Art Master Plan be pursued and suggested public-private funding of the plan that would ensure the quality relationship between the artwork and the site, ensure a cohesive and intentional approach to the diverse and rapidly evolving environments surrounding the trail and to promote an overall positive cultural and outdoor experience; and

WHEREAS, a public art master plan, and the community process by which the plan will be developed, offers a way to define a community's identity and character as well as address cultural and physical improvements within the context of broader urban and regional planning efforts; and

WHEREAS, the final report of a public art master plan would review current inventory of public art and current plans and policies, set a broad cohesive vision, identify unique natural and built environments for public art, recommend environmental and historical conditions that would inform artwork and provide necessary policy recommendations to ensure their implementation; NOW THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to determine the approximate cost of an Ann and Roy Butler Trail Public Art Master Plan, work with The Trail Foundation to clarify their cost participation in the project, and to include the plan as an unmet service need for consideration during on the Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget hearings to take place on September 9 through September 11, 2013.

ADOPTED: August 29, 2013

City Clerk