WHEREAS, the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Departments, in partnership with leaders of the HEALTH community, worked together to initiate the comprehensive community health planning effort that has resulted in a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) the first for our community; and

WHEREAS, the CHIP identified four priorities that included associated goals, objectives, strategies, and partners; and

WHEREAS, the CHIP identifies as one of four priorities a healthy food environment and states as an objective "by June 2015, all local municipalities will establish a healthy food policy focusing on schools, municipal parks, child care centers, libraries and recreation centers"; and

WHEREAS, public health studies have indicated students with food sales within a half-mile of their school are more likely to be overweight than students whose schools are not near food sales; and

WHEREAS, development of a healthy Food policy would need to be based on relevant data and broad community engagement; and

WHEREAS, the CHIP lays out a framework for considering a Healthy Food Policy and recommends a data gathering effort to initiate the discussion. NOW THEREFORE,

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

The City Council directs the City Manager to:

- work with partners including all independent school districts within Travis County to gather and prepare data that identifies locations of food sales that are located in proximity to schools, parks, child care centers, libraries, and recreation centers in Travis County; and
o report the data to the Planning Commission, Zoning and Platting Commission, Sustainable Food Policy Board, relevant agencies and interested stake holders; and

o solicit recommendations on how to increase access to healthy food choices through development of incentive programs and solicit recommendations

  • after date gathering and outreach, bring staff recommendations to the Public Health and Human Services Council Committee prior to final consideration by Council; and

  • report to Council by December 31, 2013 with a timeline for completing the above efforts which will allow the City to fully consider meeting the CHIP goal to establish a Healthy Food Policy by June 10.

ADOPTED: ATTEST: ____________________________

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk