RESOLUTION NO. 20140807-095

WHEREAS, the Austin Water Utility's Water Reclamation Initiative is an integral part of our water conservation program, saving $1.2 billion gallons of drinking water per year; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Water Resource Planning Task Force names the development of the remainder of the core reclaimed water system as the largest potential water supply impact of any demand-side strategy for better utilizing water supply; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Water Utility is currently reviewing a draft of an auxiliary waters report which is expected to make recommendations on regulatory barriers to auxiliary water use such as the purple pipe requirement on retrofits and double-check valves where chemicals are not added; and

WHEREAS, while irrigating with reclaimed water is encouraged throughout the City, there may be challenges related to using reclaimed water on landscaping areas within the 100-year floodplain and the critical water quality protection zone-areas that include almost one-third of Austin's reclaimed water customers; and

WHEREAS, since the need for conservation and water reuse balanced with the environmental concerns associated with using reclaimed water for landscaping is not unique to Austin, the best practices for use of reclaimed water for landscaping near watersheds should be considered in the City of Austin's balancing of the needs; **NOW, THEREFORE,**
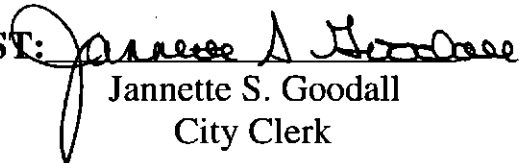
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to make recommendations on reducing regulatory barriers to reclaimed water use that are consistent with public health requirements, including but not limited to the purple pipe requirement, double-check valves where chemicals are not added, and irrigating with reclaimed water in the 100-year floodplain and the critical water quality protection zone.

These recommendations should be reported to Council by October 1, 2014.

ADOPTED: ____August 7____, 2014   **ATTEST:** _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk