RESOLUTION NO. 20120524-089

WHEREAS, following the completion of the 2012 South by
Southwest Music Festival, the City of Austin Music Commission began
a series of hearings examining the effectiveness of the City's handling
of the multiple permit types associated with temporary, special events;
and

WHEREAS, prior to the Music Commission's actions, City staff had begun an internal process of reviewing and revising operations with respect to special events and has begun to implement changes based on internal review and conversation; and

WHEREAS, the Music Commission determined that there was no single, publicized point of contact, nor a single responsible department or office for event organizers and interested parties to engage to obtain permit information and approval for temporary and special events creating confusion and distrust from affected parties; and

WHEREAS, feedback from industry stakeholders also found that there was: no scalability in permitting based on size of an event; multiple requirements were found in multiple sections of the City Code

creating confusion; no global checklist to ensure completeness in permitting; no ability to begin the permitting process online; and the Temporary Use Permit process operated outside of other traditional permitting processes; and

WHEREAS, the Music Commission recommended that

Council direct the City Manager to create an interdepartmental special

events team responsible for acting as a one-stop shop for special events;

and

WHEREAS, the creation of such a team has the potential to streamline and consolidate planning efforts for multiple events throughout the year and provide a higher level of service to both producers and the public; and

WHEREAS, a team such as this would be best led by City staff who have direct knowledge and experience producing special events or working toward the production of special events at the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, different from ensuring that there is a reduction in hazards and code violations as is the function of the Public Assembly

and divisions that would be responsible for some level of approval including but not limited to: Transportation Department, Special Events Office/EGRSO, Music Office, Austin Police Department, Austin Fire Department, Planning and Development Review Department, Code Compliance, and Health and Human Services Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that once a team structure has been formulated, the structure, authority and plan for implementation, including potential ordinance amendments, be brought back before the Music Commission for recommendation and public comment prior to review, comment, and approval from the City Council.

ADOPTED: May 24, 2012 ATTEST: Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk