

RESOLUTION NO. 20141016-029

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20140515-063 directed the City Manager to review and report findings and recommendations to Council regarding the proposed construction of State Highway 45 Southwest (SH45 SW), reaffirmed the Council's position that the proposed SH45 SW is not part of the future transportation network of Austin, and reaffirmed its opposition to SH45 SW; and

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2014, staff from the Watershed Protection Department, Transportation Department, and Law Department issued a memo responsive to this resolution and provided an update on the progress of the review of recent transportation studies, environmental studies, and environmental regulations which were subsequently summarized in a report on September 23, 2014, and a subsequent briefing to Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council remains concerned about the preservation of the environmental integrity of Flint Ridge Cave and the species within it, including two species of concern, as well as the risk of impacts to groundwater and surface water and listed endangered species in the Barton Springs Zone from state roadway construction in fragile environments over the aquifer; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to explore legal options available to the City of Austin regarding proposed state highway projects located over the Barton Springs portion of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing Zones and to report back to the City Council no later than November 20, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall place an item for discussion during Executive Session pertaining to these legal options on the agenda of the regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council on November 20, 2014.

ADOPTED: October 16, 2014

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk