

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, central Texas' regional population growth is projected to double in the next 25 years; and

WHEREAS, transportation is critical to making a city and region work and it directly impacts access to employment opportunities, healthcare and education, entertainment, culture and the arts, and our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) recognizes that increasing urbanization of our nation's population will continue to put significant strain on city infrastructure and transportation networks; and

WHEREAS, the US DOT released "Beyond Traffic 2045: Trends and Choices" which outlines choices that will require cities to think differently about how we move, how we move things, how we move better, how we adapt, and how we align decisions and dollars; and

WHEREAS, US DOT issued a \$40 Million Smart City Challenge to encourage cities to put forward their best and most creative ideas for innovatively addressing the challenges they are facing; and

WHEREAS, the vision of the Smart City Challenge is to demonstrate how advanced data and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) technologies and applications can be used to reduce congestion, keep travelers safe, protect the environment, respond to climate change, connect underserved communities, and support economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the priority technology elements in the US DOT application focus on urban automation, connected vehicles and intelligent, sensor based-infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Smart City Challenge will provide the opportunity to highlight the role of public-private partnerships in addressing our transportation challenges, and Vulcan Philanthropy is offering an additional \$10 million to the winning city to support infrastructure for Electric Vehicles (EVs) with a primary focus on fleets and public transit, and programs that rapidly accelerate the adoption of plug-in electric vehicles; and

WHEREAS the winning community's public transportation system will also get installation of driver assistance safety technology on every bus from the Mobileye company; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has partnered with the Texas Department of Transportation, Capital Metro, the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, the University of Texas Center for Transportation Research, the Texas Transportation Institute, the Southwest Research Institute, along with numerous non-profit organizations and private sector companies to deliver a proposal that demonstrates our unique technology capabilities; and

WHEREAS, in March 2016, the US DOT will select five finalist cities with the best ideas and ability to implement the ideas within a 3 year time frame; and

WHEREAS, the US DOT will grant each finalist city a \$100,000 stipend to complete the ideas, development of technical demonstration plans and budget plan documents for their final submission; and

WHEREAS, cost sharing or matching funds is not required for the concept development or final submission, it will be encouraged and considered beneficial for the full application if selected as one of the five city finalists; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The Austin City Council fully supports Austin's application for the US DOT Smart City grant and directs the City Manager to submit an application on behalf of the city, in collaboration with our regional transportation providers, institutions, organizations and the private sector.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager, if Austin is selected as a finalist City, to accept the \$100,000 stipend and authorizes the funds to be immediately applied to the furtherance of the final Smart City Challenge grant application, including extension of existing contracts to assist completion of the application process.

ADOPTED: _____, 2015

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

DRAFT