

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, compassion is a purpose, principle, and unifying value that guides and compels people of all backgrounds, perspectives, creeds, and cultures to treat all human beings with justice, equity, and respect; and

WHEREAS, Austin recognizes 3 key dimensions of compassion and defines “3D” compassion as caring for others, self, and the Earth; and

WHEREAS, compassion skills can be learned and strengthened through practice; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates that practicing compassion produces positive benefits in all sectors of civic and community life, including safety, public health, economy, physical, mental, and spiritual well-being; and

WHEREAS, Austin strives to be a livable city of peace, environmental sustainability, and well-being where all may thrive; and

WHEREAS, a resolution calling for “Compassion As An Effective Public Policy” was passed by the 81st Annual Meeting of the U.S Conference of Mayors in June 2013; and

WHEREAS, several Texas cities, including San Antonio, Houston, and Dallas/Fort Worth, are self-designated compassionate cities; and

WHEREAS, Compassion Games, such as Austin Recycles Games and annual Earth Week activities, are a creative way to encourage all of Austin in the practice of 3D compassion to strengthen compassion skills; and

WHEREAS, Austin and Travis County continue to strive to advance the quality of life for all residents, in all communities, without regard to partisanship, and with the conviction that people can and do have the capacity to improve their lives and make a positive difference in the lives of others,

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Council of Austin hereby affirms the Charter for Compassion and authorizes the City's involvement in the "Compassionate Communities Campaign" and the City's designation as a compassionate community, herein named "Compassionate Austin."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council of Austin recognizes April 16-24 as "Serve the Earth Week" and, recognizing that "We are All Compassionate Austin," encourages city departments, area school districts, community and faith groups, and all residents to participate in Compassion Games during "Serve the Earth Week;" to identify, activate, celebrate and honor 3D compassionate action throughout the community; and encourages our community to continue to develop policies, procedures, strategies, and practical guidance on the integration of compassion in day-to-day life to address the holistic wellness of the community, especially of those most at risk.

ADOPTED: _____, 2016

ATTEST: _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk