

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Texas has the 2nd largest Veteran population in the United States and Travis County has a Veteran population of 52,858; and

WHEREAS, Veterans comprise 15% of the population of the state of Texas and 6.2% of the population of Travis County; and

WHEREAS, approximately 20% of Texas Veterans have a Service-Connected Disability and approximately 16% of Texas Veterans have an ambulatory disability; and

WHEREAS, Veteran status is easily verified through presentation of U.S. Department of Defense-issued *DD-214 Discharge Papers and Separation Document* or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs *Service Verification Letter*; and

WHEREAS, Service-Connected Disability status is easily verified through presentation of a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs *Benefits Summary Letter* or *Disability Determination Letter*; and

WHEREAS, senior citizens comprise 8.75% of Travis County's population; and

WHEREAS, approximately 95% of the City of Austin population lives in Travis County; and

WHEREAS, aquatic therapy has been proven to increase joint flexibility and range of motion, reduce pain, decrease muscle spasticity and rigidity, improve balance, and increase strength of weakened body structures; and

WHEREAS, the Aquatic Division of PARD is committed in delivering an unmatched aquatic service to the Austin community; and

WHEREAS, Texas greatly appreciates and places immense value on the service of its Veterans and their sacrifices made to ensure our enduring freedoms;
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to allow all Honorably Discharged Veterans who are Austin residents to access all fee-based pools at the same entry fee as senior citizens, and allow all Service-Connected Disabled Veterans with a Department of Veterans Affairs Disability Rating of 10% or greater to access all fee-based pools and secure a season swim pass at no cost.

ADOPTED: _____, 2016

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk