

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin values maintaining a high quality of life for our communities and recognizes the spread of graffiti as a challenge to that goal; and

WHEREAS, residents throughout Austin make hundreds of service requests for graffiti abatement every month; and

WHEREAS, graffiti vandalism detracts from Austin's communities and the quality of life for our residents; and

WHEREAS, both the City of Austin and the State of Texas have established laws intended to discourage graffiti; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin values positive forms of artistic expression that complement and enhance our communities; and

WHEREAS, though the City of Austin operates several graffiti abatement programs, Council has not yet adopted a comprehensive strategy based on best practices for preventing new graffiti, rapidly addressing graffiti when it occurs, and encouraging more positive forms of artistic expression; and

WHEREAS, an effective graffiti abatement program presents an opportunity to help maintain quality of life and public safety for Austin residents;
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to:

- Review the City's current graffiti abatement strategies and how they are organized;

- Study nationwide best practices for rapidly addressing and preventing graffiti vandalism and for encouraging positive expressions of public art, including graffiti street art in designated creative spaces for the public; and
- Recommend changes to the City’s graffiti abatement strategies to Council no later than February 1, 2017.

The City Manager’s review shall consider, but not be limited to, the following graffiti abatement strategies:

- The Austin Youth Development Program in the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department;
- The Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Development Department;
- The Parks and Recreation Department;
- The Building Services Department; and
- The Austin Police Department.

ADOPTED: _____, 2016 **ATTEST:** _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk