

RESOLUTION NO. 20170202-045

WHEREAS, organizations such as Goodwill, Salvation Army, Easter Seals, and others provide immense community benefits and contribute to character and culture of the City of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin desires to do all it can to empower these organizations to continue to provide the community benefits they do; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has ambitious zero waste goals set out in the Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan made recommendations for a curbside textile collection pilot program; and

WHEREAS, since the contract was awarded, the organizations that recycle, reuse, and resell textiles believe that the donations to their respective organizations could be negatively impacted by the City's pilot program;

WHEREAS, there is insufficient data to determine the exact impact on the various non-profits and the City Council wishes to have all available information in order to make an informed decision **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

The City Manager is directed to investigate options for amending the contract between the City and Simple Recycling, transferring service, changing the scope of work, or terminating the contract, and will report to Council within thirty (30) days from the date

of this Resolution on the results of that investigation. The City Manager shall conduct stakeholder meetings that include City staff, industry stakeholders, and Simple Recycling to develop possible recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is further directed to gather data from all stakeholders on textile collections, and research the potential impact to non-profit organizations and the community. This data shall be reported to Council on a monthly basis including information, if available, on the potential financial impact on non-profit organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

As part of the discussions required above, the City Manager shall consider approaches and opportunities for extensive and continuous collaboration with non-profit organizations to increase reuse and resale of household items and textiles in furtherance of the City's Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan and benefits to the citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

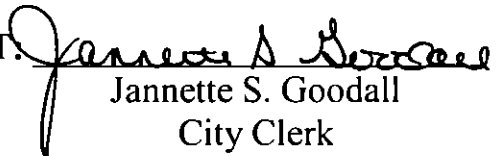
The City Manager is directed to return to Council with the stakeholder input and its recommendations as soon as possible but no later than 180 days from the date of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Concurrently, the City Manager is directed to develop and begin to implement within thirty (30) days a public awareness campaign to: (1) inform Austin Resource

Recovery customers that Simple Recycling is a for-profit company that sells the donated items in markets other than Austin, (2) encourage customers to first donate useable items to one of the many non-profit organizations in the City, and, as appropriate, facilitate such donations. Further the City Manager is encouraged to work with Simple Recycling to communicate these messages, and, as appropriate and reasonable, should deploy City resources such as ATXN, utility bill inserts, and other communication methods.

ADOPTED: February 2, 2017

ATTEST: 
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk