RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is recognized as an innovative and technologically forward city; and

WHEREAS, the City is proud to be a place where new technology is developed and tested; and

WHEREAS, Starship Technologies, a technology company started by the founders of the video communications company SKYPE, has developed a sustainable delivery device that aims to transform local last-mile delivery services; and

WHEREAS, Starship’s robots use sidewalks to deliver packages of up to 20 lbs. from different businesses; and

WHEREAS, the robots are 99 percent autonomous and recognize obstructions during delivery including adults, children, pets, poles, traffic signals, and other items commonly found on sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, the robots are electrically powered and emit zero CO2; and

WHEREAS, a pilot project in the City of Austin could limit some car-based delivery trips; and

WHEREAS, Starship Technologies conducted a one-week demonstration of the robot technology in the Mueller Community in July 2016; and

WHEREAS, the company is currently conducting long-term pilot projects in Washington, D.C. and Silicon Valley; and
WHEREAS, Starship has approached the City of Austin about conducting a long-term pilot; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin could benefit from testing such technology;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to explore the model offered by Starship Technologies, to analyze what code changes would be required to test such a pilot in this city, and to make a recommendation to Council by June 30, 2017.

ADOPTED: ____________, 2017  ATTEST: _______________________
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk