

RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT AUSTIN ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has the responsibility to examine the impacts of its discretionary activities upon the natural and cultural environment; and;

WHEREAS, the path to a sustainable future discussed in the Imagine Austin Plan and the Climate Protection Plan require us to consider the cumulative impacts our actions may have on our fragile environment; and;

WHEREAS, we must scrupulously examine the environmental justice implications of our decisions; and;

WHEREAS, analysis and disclosure of environmental impacts will improve quantitative and qualitative understanding of central and enduring public health concerns such as residential displacement, ground level ozone levels, neighborhood character effects, as well as many other impacts; and;

WHEREAS, analysis and disclosure of environmental impacts empowers citizens with information they can use to make important individual and family health decisions; and;

WHEREAS, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 stands as one of President Lyndon B. Johnson's greatest environmental achievements and its language and intent can be implemented locally; and;

WHEREAS, cities such as New York and others already perform routine environmental quality reviews; **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE City Council OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council directs the City Manager to develop and present to the City Council for adoption within 60 days a comprehensive plan, budget and ordinance to:

- Establish an environmental quality review program.

- Develop an environmental quality review technical manual.
- Establish an environmental quality subcommittee of the Environmental Commission or the Joint Sustainability Committee.