

RESOLUTION NO. 040401-3

WHEREAS, Austin has been selected as the site to host the 15th biennial World Congress on Information Technology in May 2006 (WCIT 2006); and

WHEREAS, WCIT 2006 is the flagship global forum of the World Information Technology and Services Alliance, a consortium of 53 international Information Technology organizations with membership representing over 90% of the world's IT market; and

WHEREAS, WCIT 2006 is the world's premier technology forum and will be attended by global leaders from business, government, and education; and

WHEREAS, this conference is estimated to have a total direct economic benefit of \$44 million to Texas of which nearly \$2 million will be generated in new local and State sales tax revenue and extensive media exposure valued at \$10 million; and

WHEREAS, the legacy impact of this global forum will provide opportunities for local technology businesses and will enhance Austin's recruitment and retention of technology firms; and

WHEREAS, additional legacies of this forum will be a permanent wireless infrastructure for the Austin Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, WCIT 2006, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation, is the host organization charged with organizing, planning, and promoting this event; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Congress has appropriated the sum of \$400,000 as an Economic Development Initiative from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to be used by for infrastructure improvements in preparation for WCIT 2006 (the "HUD Grant"); and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has committed \$1 million in cash and \$500,000 of in-kind contributions to WCIT 2006; and

WHEREAS, WCIT 2006 wishes to assign the HUD Grant to the City of Austin in exchange for a commitment from the City of Austin to provide \$1 million of cash and in-kind contributions to WCIT 2006 (the "City Commitment"); and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin wishes to accept the assignment of the HUD Grant and make the City Commitment to WCIT 2006; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

That the City Manager negotiate and execute of an agreement with WCIT 2006, Inc. for the City to provide \$1,000,000 in cash and in-kind contributions to the World Congress on Information Technology 2006 conference to be held

in Austin in May 2006, up to 50% of which shall be allowed to be made in the form of in-kind contributions over the next two years, and to accept from WCIT 2006, Inc. an assignment of a United States Department of Housing and Urban Economic Development Initiative grant in the amount \$400,000 for infrastructure improvements to the City Convention Center, in preparation for the WCIT 2006 conference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

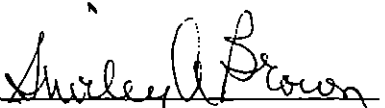
That the City Manager prepare a schedule of the cash contributions and in-kind expenditures to be funded or incurred by the City pursuant to the City Commitment to WCIT 2006, and to include such amounts in budgets submitted to Council for its approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Council declares its wholehearted support for the WCIT 2006 conference, and directs the City Manager to facilitate the staging of this event at the Austin Convention Center.

ADOPTED: April 1, 2004

ATTEST:


Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk