

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, in the United States, construction and demolition debris accounts for 10 to 30 percent of the total municipal waste stream; and

WHEREAS, many cities nationwide are examining deconstruction policies that promote economic development by creating jobs and retail and revenue opportunities from the sale of the recycled materials; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2009, the City of Austin adopted the Zero Waste Strategic Plan, which included the goal to reduce the amount of waste Austinites send to the landfill by 90 percent by the year 2040; and

WHEREAS, for both residential and commercial buildings, the Austin Energy Green Building Program requires a certain percentage of non-hazardous construction waste to be recycled and/or salvaged and provides additional points through their rating systems for exceeding this requirement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is participating in the development of the Central Texas By-Product Synergy Project to explore reuse opportunities for under-valued by-product or waste streams in order to reduce waste, promote efficient use of resources, and avoid pollution; and

WHEREAS, on September 13th, 2010, the City Council voted to increase the demolition and relocation permit review fees from \$25.00 to \$140.00 for the total demolition of a principal residential or commercial building if the building is 40 years or older, located within either a Local Historic District or a National Register District; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to investigate the possibility of:

- (1) Requiring all construction and demolition sites in the City to recycle and/or salvage a certain percentage of non-hazardous demolition/deconstruction materials, in support of the City's Zero Waste goals;
- (2) Creating incentives for recycling and salvaging non-hazardous construction waste including waiver of demolition and relocation permit fees if the demolition or relocation activity meets the City's Zero Waste Goals; and
- (3) Creating a fee waiver for the demolition and relocation permit fee if the applicant provides evidence of economic hardship.
- (4) Applying a portion of the demolition and relocation permit fee toward costs for preservation review by the Planning and Development Review's Historic Preservation Office.

ADOPTED: _____, 2010

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk