RESOLUTION NO. 20100923-087

WHEREAS, the proper disposal of medications has become a global concern for the safety of the public and the environment; and

WHEREAS, while Austin's drinking water supply has yet to be affected, some drugs may pass through water and wastewater treatment processes and end up in drinking water, and or can end up in our waterways and can be toxic to aquatic life; and

WHEREAS, prescription drug abuse is a serious problem across the United States and unused medication in the household may contribute to growing rates of prescription drug abuse, particularly among teenagers. In 2008, more than 2.1 million teens aged 12 to 17 reported abusing prescription drugs.

WHEREAS, due to the legalities involved with proper disposal of waste medications, most U.S. communities do not offer disposal programs and as a result, many consumers keep drugs in their possession because they do not know how to dispose of them properly; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

The City Manager is directed to work with pharmacies located in Austin, the Drug Enforcement Agency and affected city departments such as the Austin Police Department, Health & Human Services, Austin Water Utility, Watershed Protection, and Solid Waste Services to survey best practices across the country

and develop a recommended eco-friendly program that provides year-round pharmaceutical take back services easily accessible to all Austinites.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That funding sources be identified to help implement and sustain the recommended take back programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to report back to council by March 1, 2011.

ADOPTED: September 23, 2010 **ATTEST:** Shirley A. Gentry

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk