

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City embraces the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community and works to foster equality and inclusiveness citywide; and

WHEREAS, the City has shown support for the LGBTQ community by co-sponsoring the Austin PRIDE Parade, providing domestic partner benefits, and contracting with the Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, West Hollywood and Vancouver have installed rainbow crosswalks, which were positively received by their community and have become tourist attractions for the area; and

WHEREAS, 4th Street has been named after Bettie Naylor in honor of her advocacy for equal rights for women and the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Gay and Lesbian Pride Foundation has offered to pay part or all of the expenses of repainting the crosswalks after the initial installation on an annual basis prior to PRIDE Week; and

WHEREAS, some of the businesses along Bettie Naylor Street between Lavaca Street and Colorado Street have expressed support for this project; and

WHEREAS, installing rainbow crosswalks on Bettie Naylor Street would further showcase the City's support for the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, vetting installation of rainbow crosswalks through the Arts Commission will allow for a more transparent process and allow community members and area business owners to provide stakeholder feedback; and

WHEREAS, a legal review of local, state, and federal transportation law will be beneficial in analyzing the feasibility of installing rainbow crosswalks; and

WHEREAS, the City of Houston was one of the first cities in the country to have art street installations, including five colorful crosswalks in the Museum District, and their process could be used as a template for the City to use with any art street installation projects moving forward; and

WHEREAS, Council adopted an Artwork Donation and Loan Policy (Donation Policy) and application process on March 21, 2013, that is used to evaluate temporary and permanent art installation proposals, and incorporates multiple departments in the City throughout the process; and

WHEREAS, through the Donation Policy, the City has processed multiple requests, and it could be beneficial for Council and the public for the Arts Commission and staff to review the policy and make any recommendations to further improve how the City processes requests for art projects across the City;
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to initiate a public process through the Arts Commission to discuss installing permanent rainbow crosswalks on Bettie Naylor Street at the Lavaca Street and Colorado Street intersections, which shall include outreach to surrounding businesses, a legal review of local, state, and federal transportation law, and a discussion with the Austin Gay and Lesbian Pride Foundation about a potential agreement for the City to receive funding to repaint the crosswalks on an annual basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to engage staff and the Arts Commission in a comprehensive review of the City's Artwork Donation & Loan Policy process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to bring formal recommendations from staff and the Arts Commission on the installation of rainbow crosswalks on Bettie Naylor Street and any proposed revisions to the Artwork Donation and Loan Policy process to Council no later than November 20, 2014.

ADOPTED: _____, 2014

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk