

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, public toilets have both social and environmental benefits; and

WHEREAS, strategically located 24-hour toilets could provide a benefit to families with young children, bikers, runners, homeless individuals, and late night crowds who enter the streets when the bars close; and

WHEREAS, four Austin streams have elevated levels of bacteria that may indicate an increased health risk for individuals that swim or wade in these streams; and

WHEREAS, the provision of outdoor toilets is included as a voluntary bacteria-reduction measure in the City of Austin's Implementation Plan for the reduction of Total Maximum Daily Load of bacteria in Austin streams; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland, Oregon, has developed a successful model of an environmentally sustainable, durable, and functional 24-hour toilet facilities that could serve as a model for the City of Austin to consider; and

WHEREAS, such facilities typically cost between \$90,000 and \$150,000, and opportunities exist to share costs with other organizations; and

WHEREAS, the areas within Downtown and The University of Texas at Austin campus have been identified as possible locations for public toilets, and

WHEREAS, Downtown stakeholders have already begun exploring the idea; and **NOW, THEREFORE**,

The City Manager is directed to convene relevant Downtown stakeholders, including the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, Front Steps, Caritas, the Salvation Army, the Downtown Austin Alliance, congregations, and other providers offering resources to the homeless to make recommendations about options, locations, and funding for the provision of safe, durable, 24-hour free public toilets.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager shall report back to the Health and Human Services Committee at its March meeting with recommendations for moving forward with a pilot project for Downtown 24-hour free public toilets.

ADOPTED: _____, 2016

ATTEST: _____
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk