

RESOLUTION NO. 20160414-005

WHEREAS, compassion is a purpose, principle, and unifying value that guides and compels people of all backgrounds, perspectives, creeds, and cultures to treat all human beings with justice, equity, and respect; and

WHEREAS, Austin recognizes 3 key dimensions of compassion and defines “3D” compassion as caring for others, self, and the Earth; and

WHEREAS, compassion skills can be learned and strengthened through practice; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates that practicing compassion produces positive benefits in all sectors of civic and community life, including safety, public health, economy, physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the center of our world and put another there, and to honor the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect; and

WHEREAS, Austin strives to a livable city of peace, environmental sustainability, and well-being where all may thrive; and

WHEREAS, a resolution calling for “Compassion As An Effective Public Policy” was passed by the 81st Annual Meeting of the U.S Conference of Mayors in June 2013; and

WHEREAS, several Texas cities, including San Antonio, Houston, and Dallas/Fort Worth, are self-designated compassionate cities; and

WHEREAS, Compassion Games, such as Austin Recycles Games and annual Earth Week activities, are a creative way to practice and strengthen compassion skills; and

WHEREAS, Austin and Travis County continue to strive to advance the quality of life for all residents, throughout the community, without regard to partisanship, and with the awareness that people can and do have the capacity to improve their lives and make a positive difference in the lives of others,

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

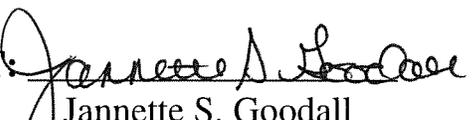
The City Council of Austin hereby affirms the Charter for Compassion which recognizes that compassion is a purpose, principle, and unifying value that guides and compels people of all backgrounds, perspectives, creeds, and cultures to treat all human beings with justice, equity and respect; and supports the City's participation in the "Compassionate Communities Campaign" and the City's designation as a compassionate community, herein named "Compassionate Austin."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council of Austin recognizes April 16-24 as "Earth Week" and, recognizing that "We are All Compassionate Austin," encourages everyone to participate in Compassion Games during "Earth Week;" to identify, activate, celebrate and honor 3D compassionate action throughout the community; and encourages our community to use the lens of compassion to continue to develop policies, procedures, strategies, and practical guidance that affect all strata of our community.

ADOPTED: April 14, 2016

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk