RESOLUTION NO. 20160811-033

WHEREAS, the City of Austin and Austin Energy have pursued energy efficiency efforts since 1982, with the goals of reducing the need for new energy generation resources, lowering utility customers’ bills, and reducing power plant emissions; and

WHEREAS, despite saving 1,200 megawatts of peak energy demand since these programs began, rental buildings and certain types of equipment tend to have lower levels of participation in energy efficiency programs; and

WHEREAS, increasing energy efficiency program participation may require strategic approaches that vary from those of current programs, including targeted education, marketing, outreach, and financing options; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to assess the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of new or expanded energy efficiency programs, including direct installation programs and solar programs, targeting low participation customer segments, such as rental properties, and low participation equipment types. These incentives may include: (1) building shells, air ducts, and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (“HVAC”) repairs or retrofits for rental residential facilities of four or fewer dwelling units; (2) HVAC repair or replacement for rental multi-family facilities of five or more dwelling units; and (3) energy efficiency repairs or retrofits for commercial rental spaces.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to report back to Council regarding the feasibility of new or expanded energy efficiency programs by January 15, 2017.

ADOPTED: August 11, 2016

ATTEST: 
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk