RESOLUTION NO. 20181213-043

WHEREAS, the City has been recognized as one of the safest communities in the country; and

WHEREAS, the City continues to grow in population and in its need for public safety services; and

WHEREAS, it is the council's desire to preserve Austin as one of the safest communities in the country; and

WHEREAS, community policing is based on the premise that officers should know the people they serve in order to develop trust and respect; and

WHEREAS, community policing is nationally recognized as one of the most important components of maintaining a city's safety; and

WHEREAS, the City has commissioned several studies and task forces that all indicate that the Austin Police Department (APD) is currently unable to reach its community policing goals; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2018, the council approved Resolution 20180322-047, that directed the city manager, in part, "to utilize APD's preliminary FY 2018-19 budget forecast and ongoing performance measures, plus the recommendations in the named reports to develop a staffing plan regarding officer and civilian staff hiring needs for the next five years...;" and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2018, the city manager and the chief of APD issued memoranda regarding a recommended police staffing plan for sworn personnel over the four-year period from FY2019 through FY2022, coincident with the proposed meet and

confer agreement with the Austin Police Association, that called for the hiring of 123 sworn personnel covering APD patrol, investigative and other functions; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2018 the membership of the Austin Police Association and the council approved the proposed meet and confer agreement effective November 15, 2018 and continuing through September 30, 2022, which financially allows for the hiring of additional sworn personnel; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The council acknowledges the APD chief's "recommended staffing plan for sworn personnel" released to council in a memorandum dated November 9, 2018, and looks forward to the completion of the staffing plan, including non-sworn personnel, as directed by Resolutions 20180322-047 and 20180412-027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The council recognizes the portion of the staffing plan released to council as a core component for consideration in FY2020 and subsequent budget proposals and sets a goal and commitment to approve future budgets that address sworn officer staffing along with other resources necessary to address the City's public safety needs with the aim of meeting public safety outcomes outlined in the Austin Strategic Direction 2023 Plan.

ADOPTED: December 13, 2018

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk