RESOLUTION NO. 20200521-097

WHEREAS, the City is currently a party to an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety to participate in a program operated by OmniBase Services of Texas, which places holds on driver license renewals when individuals miss court or payments on Class C misdemeanors until the tickets are completely resolved; and

WHEREAS, individuals who are unable to renew their licenses due to the OmniBase program often become trapped in a cycle of debt when they must continue to drive in order to resolve their tickets and provide for their families, thereby risking more tickets and holds for driving without a valid license; and

WHEREAS, the OmniBase program is optional, and jurisdictions that choose not to participate have similar collection rates to those that do; and

WHEREAS, the City’s interlocal agreement for participation in the OmniBase program expires July 16, 2020, will not automatically renew, and will require Council action to be renewed; and

WHEREAS, the OmniBase program is contrary to the City’s goals of advancing economic mobility and fair administration of justice; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to not renew the current interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety for participation in the OmniBase program when it expires.

ADOPTED: May 21, 2020

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

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