

RESOLUTION NO. 20051027-019

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is actively encouraging the development of downtown as part of the City's commitment to promoting transit-oriented infill development and to reducing sprawl development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is pursuing a fiscal policy of strengthening the tax base by selling government-owned land and developing this land to its highest and best use; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of city-owned downtown waterfront land that currently houses decaying industrial facilities, including the former Seaholm power plant and the Green Water Treatment Plant, is central to achieving these policy goals; and

WHEREAS, sound transportation and urban planning call for the creation of grid-based street systems with maximum connectivity and discourage superblocks and dead-end streets; and

WHEREAS, the extensions of Second Street and West Avenue would promote better connectivity and a better downtown transportation system; and

WHEREAS, Austin Energy can reconfigure the Seaholm substation to free up 1.4 acres along Cesar Chavez for additional development, and

WHEREAS, Austin Energy can offset the cost of shrinking the substation by using the proceeds from the subsequent sale of the substation waterfront property; and

WHEREAS, Austin Energy can further support downtown development by relocating its Energy Control Center, located at 301 West Avenue near the Seaholm substation, and by using the proceeds from the subsequent sale of the ECC property to offset the project cost; **NOW THEREFORE**,

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

That the City Manager is directed to increase the amount of land available for taxable development within the Central Business District by doing the following:

1. Relocate Austin Energy's Energy Control Center from its current downtown location, and
2. Reduce the surface area of the Seaholm substation; and
3. Provide a recommendation and timetable to City Council within 120 days for selling and developing both parcels of land to their highest and best use. The City Manager shall integrate the recommendation and timetable with the City of Austin's strategies for redeveloping Seaholm and the Green Water Treatment Plant site; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Manager is directed to achieve the land use and transportation policies of the City Council by doing the following:

1. Extend West Avenue south to Cesar Chavez and include full Great Streets streetscape standards as part of this road extension; and
2. Extend Second Street west to Seaholm and include full Great Streets streetscape standards as part of this road extension; and
3. Provide to City Council, within 120 days, a recommendation on an implementation plan and timetable for the extension of these two roads.

ADOPTED: October 27, 2005

ATTEST:



Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk