RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is considering a revamped expedited permit review system that allows developers to pay premium fees in exchange for expedited permit review, and the Council may fund such a program in the 2016-2017 budget; and

WHEREAS, if the City of Austin funds an expanded expedited permit review system, then such a voluntary program should be available to project developers that pay for the cost of the City service of expedited reviews and also provide specific community benefits; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

The City Manager is directed to draft a policy option, to be presented to Council, that includes minimum requirements for developers wishing to voluntarily participate in the City of Austin’s expedited permit review process. City staff should consult with stakeholders in the development of the policy. Such a policy, when presented to Council, should include program participation requirements that further the City’s goals and policies for housing, such as:

- For projects that are primarily residential in nature, a requirement that the development participate in the SMART housing program, and agree to require that future residents not be discriminated against based on their source of income;

- For projects that are not primarily residential in nature, a requirement that the development be “Better Builder” certified, or receive an equivalent certification approved by the City Council;
- A reasonable fee to cover the City’s expenses for independent monitoring of Better Builder and/or SMART Housing goals and implementation;
- Other measures the City Manager deems appropriate.

ADOPTED: ________________, 2016  ATTEST: _____________________________

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk