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Resolution in Support of 4806-1/2 Trail West Dr. Open Space Preservation C14-2012-0016

WHEREAS, The Travis Country Community Service Association has expressed a preference to keep the undeveloped land located at 4806-1/2 Trail West Dr., Austin, TX as a permanent open green space;

WHEREAS, The twelve acre tract is located in the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, and the Barton Springs Watershed;

WHEREAS, The Oak Hill Neighborhood Plan calls for protecting open space in Oak Hill;

WHEREAS, Travis Country has collaborated in an effort to preserve this land with the Native Prairies Association of Texas, a 501(c)(3) Land Trust, whose mission is to preserve urban remnant savannas, such as this site;

WHEREAS, In support of a bid submitted for the land; residents of Travis Country signed pledges payable to the Native Prairies Association, and the HOA agreed to match those pledges toward the purchase of a Conservation Easement on this site, such bid having not been selected by AISD which instead selected a development bid from Independent Reality, LLC;

WHEREAS, There is a great value to AISD in the form of Transferable Development Rights from this site which could potentially be used by AISD, or its subsequent assignees, at multiple campuses;

WHEREAS, the Transfer of Development Rights may be the best method to achieve the goal of maximizing the value of the land to AISD;

WHEREAS, We believe the sale of a perpetual Conservation Easement on the property at 4806 Trail West to the Native Prairies Association, assuming supporting action by the City of Austin, would meet the desires of this community, and the economic goals and impervious cover needs of AISD through a Transfer of Development Rights agreement with the City of Austin;

WHEREAS, the votes of The Oak Hill Neighborhood Planning Contact Team and City of Austin Environmental Board each recommended continued preservation of the 12 acre tract as open space;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oak Hill Association of Neighborhoods, Inc. supports the efforts of the Travis Country Community Service Association (member association) to keep the land located at 4806 Trail West as a permanent open space preserve.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that land preservation be accomplished by a Conservation Easement owned by the Native Prairies Association of Texas, with AISD retaining Development Rights to be used throughout its district, and preferably within the Oak Hill area.

Adopted this 9 th day of May, 2012.		
Jim Schissler, OHAN President		