



26           **WHEREAS**, the Edwards Aquifer serves as a major source of drinking  
27 water for two million people, is a vital resource to the general economy and  
28 welfare of Central Texas, and forms the only known habitat for the endangered  
29 Barton Springs Salamander and the Austin Blind Salamander; and

30           **WHEREAS**, the PHP will be constructed within karst geology through the  
31 recharge zone of the Edwards Aquifer for the purpose of transporting natural gas;  
32 however, other hydrocarbons including liquids could be transported, and even a  
33 natural gas-only pipeline will include some amounts of liquid hydrocarbons; and

34           **WHEREAS**, the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
35 performed dye tracing studies within the area of the PHP route, and the results  
36 indicate that a release of hydrocarbons along the proposed route will result in  
37 potential harm to Barton Springs, and the karst formation would make it nearly  
38 impossible to adequately clean up hydrocarbon leaks from the pipeline; and

39           **WHEREAS**, with the review by the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer  
40 Conservation District, there is not reasonable assurance that the Edwards Aquifer  
41 and Barton Springs will be protected during the construction and operation of the  
42 PHP; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

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

44           The City Council opposes the Permian Highway Pipeline on behalf of the  
45 interests of the citizens of the City of Austin in recognition of the potential harm  
46 the PHP poses to Austin's natural and economic resources; and in recognition of  
47 the danger to people, wildlife, and ecosystems along its route, and through its  
48 transport and subsequent export of hydrocarbons, to the health of global ecosystem  
49 services including a stable climate.

50 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

51 The City Manager is directed to study the potential water quality impacts a  
52 pipeline transporting hydrocarbons would have on the Trinity and Edwards  
53 aquifers and report back to Council by August 30, 2019.

54 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

55 The City Manager is directed to study legislative or other legal avenues to  
56 effectively oppose the pipeline in ways that could include requesting the State of  
57 Texas to protect landowners, landowners' property rights, and communities from  
58 the negative impact of PHP and other potential oil and gas pipelines by the  
59 following measures:

- 60 1. Creating a state regulatory process for oil and gas pipeline routing that  
61 enables affected landowners and communities to provide input on the  
62 routing process, similar to the practice followed by the Public Utility  
63 Commission of Texas regarding the routing of electric transmission lines.
- 64 2. Requiring environmental and economic impact studies for all intra-state oil  
65 and gas pipelines, including the participation of local governmental entities,  
66 and making these studies available for review by the public.
- 67 3. Requiring governmental oversight over the power of eminent domain  
68 delegated to private companies and/or rescinding the unlimited power of  
69 eminent domain delegated to private companies.

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71 **ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Jannette S. Goodall

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City Clerk

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