



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which consists of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties, has air pollution levels that are close to violating the federal standards for ground-level ozone (O₃); and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets federal air quality standards at levels it considers necessary to protect human health and public welfare from harm; and

WHEREAS, the Austin-Round Rock MSA's continued compliance with federal air quality standards is important to ensure public health, protect economic growth, and address the region's transportation needs;

WHEREAS, the Austin-Round Rock MSA's air pollution regularly reaches levels that the EPA considers "moderate" or "unhealthy for sensitive groups" based on its air quality index (AQI); and

WHEREAS, the Central Texas Clean Air Coalition (CAC), of which Williamson County is a member, is charged with the development and implementation of a clean air plan to maintain compliance with federal air quality standards and the development of policies and strategies to guide CAC members about actions that will achieve clean air in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the region's current air quality plan is set to expire at the end of 2018; and

WHEREAS, the CAC has requested that the Williamson County Commissioners Court take action to formally participate in a new regional air quality plan for 2019-2023; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the new regional air quality plan are to: 1) maximize the probability of compliance with federal air quality standards, and 2) minimize health and environmental impacts associated with regional air pollution; and

WHEREAS, controlling and reducing emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and improving public awareness about air quality are critical to supporting the goals of the new regional air quality plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court endorses the goals of the new regional air quality plan and agrees to participate in the plan; and

Judge Dan Gattis is directed to identify measures that Williamson County commits to implement in support of the new regional air quality plan and notify the staff at the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) of these measures no later than October 26, 2018, and to subsequently report on implementation of these measures annually to CAPCOG and this governing body.

Signed on this date: _____

Dan Gattis, County Judge

Terry Cook, Commissioner Precinct 1

Valerie Covey, Commissioner Precinct 3

Cynthia Long, Commissioner Precinct 2

Larry Madsen, Commissioner Precinct 4