WHEREAS, commercial and residential buildings nationally consume 40 percent of energy and 72 percent of total electricity and are responsible for 39 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions in the United States; and

WHEREAS, commercial and residential buildings nationally contribute 136 million tons of construction and demolition waste annually; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that adhering to a Green Building Policy will result in design and construction practices that significantly reduce operation and maintenance costs and do much to eliminate the negative impact of buildings on the environment and the occupants of the buildings; and

WHEREAS, the United States Green Building Council has emerged as the leading standard for designing, constructing and certifying the world's greenest buildings through its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED trademark) certification system; and

WHEREAS, Travis County Government has identified and/or incorporated green building design and construction practices into several projects including but not limited to the East Side Service Center and the renovation of new CJC courtrooms; and

WHEREAS, Travis County Government has incorporated green building practices into several building maintenance projects including but not limited to the
Heman Marion Sweat Travis County Courthouse Renovations and the Executive Office
Building elevator upgrades; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2009, the Travis County Commissioners Court was
briefed on the Travis County Facilities Management Department Green Building
benefits and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Travis County Government desires to be at the forefront of
addressing environmental issues through implementation of a Travis County Green
Building Policy to incorporate sustainable green building design and construction
practices into new county building projects as well as renovation projects and those
facility projects that the County may ultimately own or provide funding for the
operating and maintenance costs.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT:

Section One. That the Facilities Management Department Director is hereby
authorized to fully implement its Green Building Policy to promote consistent
application of a sustainable building philosophy beginning with the facility projects
included in the Fiscal Year 2009 budget and thereafter; the goal is established to target,
to the greatest extent practical, the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy
and Environmental Design (LEED trademark) silver level certification for new and
renovated facilities budgeted at one million dollars or over; to use the principles of
LEED to the greatest extent practical and reasonable for renovation and rehabilitation
projects budgeted below one million dollars; and each project will be assessed for the
appropriate certification level with the goal of maximizing long-term benefits, such as operating and maintenance savings, while minimizing up-front costs.

Section Two. That this resolution shall take effect immediately after adoption by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

Approved this 27th day of January, 2009.

Samuel T. Biscoe
County Judge

Sarah Eckhardt
Commissioner, Pct. 2

Karen L. Huber
Commissioner, Pct. 3

Margaret J. Gómez
Commissioner, Pct. 4