RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 9's POSITION REGARDING CLEARANCE OF BRUSH OR VEGETATIVE GROWTH FROM ROADWAYS AND FIRE HYDRANTS

WHEREAS, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 9 ("ESD") is charged with the responsibility to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by preventing death, injuries and property damage from fires within the ESD boundaries; and

WHEREAS, The City of West Lake Hills and City of Rollingwood ("City") are municipalities charged with the responsibility to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by preventing death, injuries and property damage from fires within the City Limits; and

WHEREAS, Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 10 ("District") is the supplier of potable water and fire hydrants to a substantial portion of the properties served by the City and ESD; and

WHEREAS, Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources ("TNR") is charged with the responsibility to maintain County roads and right-of-ways (ROW); and

WHEREAS, Homeowners associations are a corporation formed by a real estate developer for the purpose of marketing, managing, and selling of homes and lots in a residential subdivision ("HOA") and are charged with the responsibility to promote the health, safety and general welfare of residents by helping to prevent death, injuries and property damage from fires within the subdivision boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the ESD shares the concerns of the City, HOA, TNR and District that rapid and efficient firefighting efforts could be impeded and pose a significant threat to the health, safety, and welfare of City citizens and their property from fires if a minimum adequate clearance of brush and vegetative growth from roadways and fire hydrants is not established and maintained; and

WHEREAS, The ESD desires to establish a position on minimum and adequate clearance of brush and vegetative growth from roadways and fire hydrants that are consistent with the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code and the International Fire Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, MAY IT BE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 9 THAT:

<u>Section 1.</u> The ESD urges the City, HOA, TNR and District to establish a minimum clearance of brush or vegetative growth from roadways and fire hydrants and to commit the necessary funds to maintain the recommended minimum clearances.

<u>Section 2.</u> The ESD urges promoting areas within 10 feet on each side of fire apparatus access roadways and driveways to consist of fire-resistive vegetation growth.

<u>Section 3.</u> The ESD urges that areas within 5 feet on each side of fire apparatus access roadways and driveways be cleared and maintained of non-fire-resistive vegetation growth.

Exception: Single specimens of trees, ornamental vegetative fuels or cultivated ground cover, such as green grass, ivy, succulents or similar plants used as ground cover, provided they do not form a means of readily transmitting fire.

<u>Section 4.</u> The ESD urges that areas within 14 feet vertically above the fire apparatus access roadways and driveways be cleared and maintained of vegetation growth.

<u>Section 5.</u> The ESD urges that areas within 3 feet of a fire hydrant be cleared and maintained of vegetation growth.

Exception: Single specimens of trees, ornamental vegetative fuels or cultivated ground cover, such as green grass, ivy, succulents or similar plants used as ground cover, provided they do not obscure or prevent easy access and utilization of the fire hydrant.

<u>Section 6.</u> The ESD Secretary is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the City, HOA, TNR, and District and to file it in the official records of the ESD.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28 day of May, 2013.

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John Hogg, President

Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Kirt H. Kiester, Secretary

Board of Commissioners