

**ORDINANCE NO.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 2-1 (CITY BOARDS) RELATING TO THE DOWNTOWN COMMISSION.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1.** Subsection (A)(1)-(2) of Section 2-1-141 (*Downtown Commission*) of the City Code is amended to read as follows:

(1) The mayor [~~may nominate two commission members~~] and each [~~other~~] council member may nominate one commission member to be appointed by council.

(2) The council shall also appoint eight [~~seven~~] commissioners from the membership of the boards and commissions described in Subsection (C). One commissioner is to be appointed from each board or commission to serve as a representative of that board or commission. The terms of these Downtown Commission members shall coincide with their terms on the board or commission that they represent.

**PART 2.** Subsection (B) of Section 2-1-141 (*Downtown Commission*) is repealed and replaced with a new Subsection (B) to read as follows:

**PART 3.** Subsection (C) of Section 2-1-141 (*Downtown Commission*) of the City Code is amended to read as follows:

The City Council is encouraged to solicit participation from downtown stakeholder groups, such as:

- (1) downtown residents;
- (2) providers of human and social services in downtown;
- (3) commercial property owners;
- (4) business owners, operators, and associations;
- (5) workers and employees;
- (6) civic and religious organizations; and
- (7) real estate developers

(C) Each of the following boards and commissions shall recommend one of its members for appointment to the commission:

- (1) Arts Commission;

- (2) Austin Music Commission;
- (3) Design Commission;
- (4) Downtown Austin Community Court Advisory Committee;
- (5)[4] Historic Landmark Commission;
- (6)[5] Parks and Recreation Board;
- (7)[6] Planning Commission; and
- (8)[7] Urban Transportation Commission.

**PART 4.** Subsection (D) of Section 2-1-141 (*Downtown Commission*) of the City Code is repealed and replaced with a new Subsection (D) to read as follows:

(D) The purpose of the Downtown Commission is to:

- (1) advise the city council and city staff regarding policies and projects impacting downtown Austin;
- (2) serve as stewards for the Downtown Austin Plan and, as such:
  - a. serve as a sounding board for the city council and staff on implementation of the Plan; and
  - b. offer recommendations on amendments to the Plan as needed;
- (3) maintain liaison relationships with city staff and other boards and commissions; and
- (4) perform other activities as directed by city council.

**PART 5.** Subsection (E) of Section 2-1-141 (*Downtown Commission*) of the City Code is repealed and Subsection (F) of Section 2-1-141 (*Downtown Commission*) is relabeled as Subsection (E).

**PART 6.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

## **Proposed Creation of Rules and Procedures**

July 2012

New Rules and Procedures to read:

1. The Downtown Commission can make recommendations on zoning changes and variances for downtown development projects when the following occurs:

The party making the request for the zoning change or variance has provided the Commission's City Staff Liaison with the Commission's Project Review Sheet by the deadline set forth in the Review Sheet.

2. The Commission's City Staff Liaison will endeavor to provide Commissioners in advance of their meetings with a summary of any staff recommendations that have been made for the project, as well as any letters and decisions that have been made by other city boards and commissions related to the project.

3. If action is taken by the Downtown Commission on a project or policy, staff will forward the Commission's action to the applicable boards and commissions and the Council department liaison for distribution to the Mayor and City Council.

**Downtown Commission  
Project Review Sheet**

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Number(s), if available: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant/Developer: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a description of your proposed project, and list or discuss the ways and to what extent your project furthers or conflicts with the goals and recommendations of the Downtown Austin Plan, including but not limited to:

- Preserve and enhance the unique historical and cultural heritage of Downtown
- Support a vibrant, diverse and pedestrian-friendly urban district
- Promote Downtown's evolution into a compact, dense urban district
- Contribute to sustainability, quality of life and the Downtown experience
- Interconnect and enhance Downtown's network of public parks, open spaces and streets
- Improve access to mobility and public transportation within Downtown
- Expansion of Great Streets improvements

Please include a map and/or aerial that shows how your project relates to other developments and the urban context in the vicinity of the project.

Current Project Status \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., concept only, schematic design, final design)

Project Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Project End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Project: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residential, mixed use, office, commercial)

Primary Use and SF \_\_\_\_\_

Ancillary Uses and SF \_\_\_\_\_

Total SF \_\_\_\_\_

Stories \_\_\_\_\_ FAR \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

Parking spaces \_\_\_\_\_ Available for public use? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of parking: Surface \_\_\_ Structured above ground \_\_\_ Structured below ground \_\_\_\_\_

Specify type of bike parking being provided:

Is the project located within 600 feet of any live music venue?

If so, are considerations being made regarding sound mitigation?

Are you seeking zoning changes or variances?

If yes, please describe and indicate anticipated dates of Planning Commission and City Council action.

Is your project seeking density bonuses and, if so, please specify any community benefits you are offering for the project?

Have other boards/commissions or city staff yet made recommendations on this project? If so, please describe.

Attach available images, site plans, elevations and renderings for the project.

**Deadline:** This form and attachments should be submitted to the City Staff Liaison for the Commission at least five business days prior to the Commissioner's meeting where the project will be presented.