

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	23515	Agenda Number	68.
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Meeting Date:	4/25/2013	Department:	Planning and Development Review
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Subject

Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending various sections of City Code Title 25 (Land Development) to clarify definitions and regulations related to bicycle and motor vehicle parking requirements, calculations and reductions; and establishing a bicycle parking fund. (Suggested date and time: May 9, 2013, 4:00 p.m. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Annick Beaudet, 974-6505.
Boards and Commission Action:	April 9, 2013 – Approved by the Planning Commission on a 8-0 vote with Commissioner Stevens absent.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

In September 2011 the Planning Commission initiated a code amendment related to bicycle parking requirements. After significant review consistent with the bicycle parking best practice recommendations made by the 2007 Street Smarts Task Force, the Bicycle Master Plan, and the Bicycle Advisory Council, the Bicycle Program staff identified potential amendments to the City Code. The proposed staff recommendation is coordinated with the ongoing proposed Subchapter E, downtown motor vehicle parking requirement amendments, and through the lens of the future Land Development Code rewrite that could further refine these recommendations. Presentations were provided to the Downtown Commission, the Design Commission, and the Urban Transportation Commission.

Staff recommends approval of these amendments.

Current Code	Proposed Amendment
§25-1-21 Definitions	Defines "Principal Building Entrance" and "Secure." Used in the amendment to § 25-6-477 Bicycle Parking.
§25-6-477 Bicycle Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify and/or require bicycle parking for a change in land use if new land use requires more parking than former land use. • Clarifies the requirements for the location of bicycle parking from "as convenient as that of motor vehicle parking," to 50 ft. or less from principal building entrance. • Allows for bicycle parking within a building and in a covered garage.
§25-6-472 Parking Facility Standards	Clarifies that showers, related changing areas, and bicycle storage rooms do not count in the floor area calculation used for off-site parking requirements.
§ 25-2-474 Required Findings	For Board of Adjustment variance, clarifies that a variance to a motor vehicle parking requirement(s) does not apply to bicycle parking requirement and that bicycle parking shall be calculated using the pre-variance motor vehicle parking number. Bicycle parking reductions are still then done administratively through an existing established waiver process.
§25-6-478 Reduced Parking in Certain Geographic Areas	Clarifies that any reduction of auto parking spaces does not affect number of bicycle parking spaces required – i.e. number of bicycle parking spaces should be calculated before reductions taken. Allows for motor vehicle parking reductions over 40% of standard requirement when bicycle related reductions per this section are used and with approval by the appropriate Land Use Commission. All parking reduction options in Subchapter E are proposed to be moved to this new section and apply within the urban core (and will be removed with the Subchapter E amendment process currently underway). By this amendment all motor vehicle parking reduction options and incentives will be located in one place within the City Code.
§ 25-6-474 Parking Facilities for Persons w/Disabilities	Includes bicycle parking requirements as a consideration when modifying parking requirements for an existing site to meet Uniform Building Code and/or the ADA.
§ 25-6-476 Parking for Mixed Use Developments	Includes bicycle parking requirements as a consideration when modifying parking requirements under this section.
§ 25-6-591 Parking Provisions for Development in the Central Business District (CBD) and a Downtown Mixed Use (DMU) Zoning District	<p>Since the initiation of this Code Amendment, there has been further policy direction to eliminate parking requirements for CBD/DMU zoned properties (but still require bicycle parking at the pre-elimination number); should that ordinance not pass, the following modification related to bicycle parking is proposed:</p> <p>Require at least one bicycle rack (2 spaces) for uses in the CBD/DMU that is less than 6,000 square feet and/or for Historic Landmark properties.</p> <p>Although motor vehicle parking spaces may be reduced for uses in CBD/DMU, bicycle parking space requirements shall be calculated prior to any reductions for motor vehicle parking.</p> <p>If motor vehicle parking spaces are increased, so too shall bicycle parking spaces.</p>

<p>Amend other sections as applicable (i.e. Subchapter E, Article 4, 4.3.3, E.3, TOD, etc.)</p>	<p>These proposed amendments will be coordinated with the current Subchapter E proposed amendments and CBD/DMU parking reduction/elimination directive. Currently staff proposes to place all parking reduction options in one place in the Code, 25-6-478.</p>
<p>§ 25-6-656 (New Code Section)</p>	<p>Create a Bicycle Parking Fund option to the provision of bicycle parking with new development, where appropriate, to provide revenue to sustain the City's Bicycle Parking Program (which provides bicycle parking in the public right-of-way).</p>