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## **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 1/1/2012 to 12/31/2012**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

#### **The Planning Commission mission statement from the City Charter**

The Planning Commission shall:

- (1) Review and make recommendations to the council regarding the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive plan (as defined by Section 5 of Article 10 in the City Charter) or element or portion thereof prepared under authorization of the city council and under the direction of the city manager and responsible city planning staff;
- (2) After a comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof has been adopted in conformity with this article:
  - (a) Review and make recommendation to the council on all amendments to the comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof;
  - (b) Review and make recommendations to the council on all proposals to adopt or amend land development regulations for the purpose of establishing the relationship of such proposal to, and its consistency with, the adopted comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof. For purposes of this article and subsection, "land development regulations" includes zoning, subdivision, building and construction, environmental, and other police power regulations controlling, regulating, or affecting the use or development of land;
- (3) Pursuant to ordinances adopted by the council, exercise control over platting and subdividing land within the corporate limits and the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city to insure the consistency of any such plats or subdivision with the adopted comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof;
- (4) Submit annually to the city manager, not less than ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of the budget year, a list of recommended capital improvements, which in the

opinion of the commission are necessary or desirable to implement the adopted comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof during the forthcoming five-year period;

(5) Monitor and oversee the effectiveness and status of the comprehensive plan and recommend annually to the council any changes in or amendments to the comprehensive plan as may be desired or required;

(6) Prepare periodic evaluation and appraisal reports on the comprehensive plan, which shall be sent to the council at least once every five (5) years after the adoption of the comprehensive plan or element or portion thereof;

(7) Require information from the city manager relative to its work;

The commission shall be responsible to and act as an advisory body to the council and shall perform such additional duties and exercise such additional powers as may be prescribed by ordinance of the council not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter.

**1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

- A. Participated in finalization of the draft Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan (IACP) and supported the adoption of this Plan by City Council.
- B. Initiated numerous City Code Amendments related to various issues (i.e., Flag Lots, UNO Affordability, Public Assembly Temporary Use, Rainey Street Subdistrict Density and Height, etc.)
- C. Approved and forwarded the St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Plan and the East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan to the City Council.
- D. Voted on a recommendation on the FY2013-2018 Capital Improvement Plan.
- E. Conducted 24 routine and two (2) Joint Meetings with Transportation Commission and Urban Design Commission and one (1) Executive Committee Meeting at which zoning cases, conditional use permits, ordinance changes, subdivision cases and other types of cases were handled in fair and thorough manner.
- F. A work group was developed to work with stakeholders to develop new draft rules for Short Term Rentals. Planning Commission recommendations were provided to City Council.
- G. Standing subcommittees conducted efforts on several subjects.
  - a. Code & Ordinance Subcommittee took up a wide variety of issues. A subject and status list covering many items initiated in 2012 is attached as Tables I-3.
  - b. Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee worked throughout 2012 on shepherding Imagine Austin to the full Planning Commission and then on to Council. Subsequent meetings were spent on developing a strategy for the appropriate metrics with which to measure IACP success.

- c. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Subcommittee worked with the new Capital Planning Office, city departments and neighborhood plan contact teams to put together a recommendation for the FY 2013 - 2014 CIP Plan.
- d. Neighborhood Plan Subcommittee recommended the St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Plan and the East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan. The subcommittee also mediated discussions on adopted neighborhood plan amendments, and discussed various other issues including overflow parking.

**2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

All of the Planning Commissions actions comply with the mission statement.

**3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.**

- 1. Review the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan annually as required by the City Charter.
- 2. Forward to the City Council recommendations on neighborhood plans and special area plans.
- 3. Forward to the City Council a recommendation on the FY 2013 - 2014 Capital Improvement Plan.
- 4. The Commission may initiate a number of new projects related to IACP implementation. These include:
  - Study the effects of increased urban density on drainage
  - Help plan for redevelopment on E. 11th and E. 12th streets in cooperation with surrounding neighbors, the Urban Renewal Board, and city staff.
  - Assist neighborhoods with parking management issues.
  - Assess compatibility issues associated with the apparent growth of cocktail lounge use.
  - Begin implementation of the Downtown Austin Plan.
- 5. Conduct public hearings and process zoning, conditional use permits, ordinance changes, variance requests, subdivision cases, and other types of cases in an effective, efficient, and proper manner.

**Table 1. Code Amendments Recommended by Planning Commission to Council in 2012**

CASE NUMBER	Name	Description	PC hearing date	Recommended by full PC to go to CC?	Council hearing date	Council action
C20-2011-036	Land Use Determination	Establishes requirements for issue, notification, and appeal of zoning use determinations	2/28/2012	Yes, vote: 9-0	4/26/2012	Adopted. Vote: 7-0
C20-2011-037	Alternative Financial Services	Changes regulations for location and use of land for alternative financial services	2/28/2012	Yes, vote: 7-2	4/26/2012	Adopted. Vote: 7-0
C20-2011-011	Flag Lots	Amends flag lot regulations	4/24/2012	Yes, vote: 7-2	5/24/2012	Adopted. Vote: 5-2
C20-2010-017	Short Term Residential Rental	Regulations on STRs, creates type 1 and 2, licensing requirements	5/22/2012	Yes, vote: 6-0-3	8/2/2012	Adopted. Vote: 5-2
C20-2012-011	UNO Affordability	Changes affordability standards	6/26/2012	Yes, vote: 7-0	2/28/13	TBD
C20-2012-012	UNO Land Use	Changes site development standards for the University Neighborhood Overlay	7/10/2012	Yes, vote: 6-0	11/8/2012	Adopted. Vote: 7-0
C20-2012-014	Old Enfield	Makes PC the reviewing body for Old Enfield planning area (not ZAP)	9/25/2012	Yes, vote: 8-0	10/18/12	Adopted. Vote: 6-0
C20-2012-015	BOA Special Exceptions	Special exceptions, code violations (changed "may" to "shall")	9/25/2012	Yes, vote: 8-0	11/8/2012	Adopted. Vote: 7-0
C20-2011-003	East Riverside Regulation Plan	Implements ERC vision plan	10/23/2012	Yes, vote: 8-0	3/7/2013	TBD
C20-2011-018	Pedi-cab Land Use	Creates a new use for pedicabs	10/23/2012	Yes, vote: 8-0	11/1/12	Adopted. Vote: 7-0

**Table 2. Code Amendments Recommended by Planning Commission to Council in 2013 (to date)**

CASE NUMBER	Name	Description	PC hearing date	Recommended by full PC to go to CC?	Council hearing date	Council action
C20-2011-032	Land Uses in DMU	Adds electronic testing and electronic prototype assembly to conditional uses in DMU	1/22/2013	Yes, vote: 6-1-1	2/28/2013	TBD
C20-2012-010	Amphitheater Use	Makes amphitheater use a conditional structure in all zoning districts	1/22/2013	Yes, vote: 5-3	2/28/13	TBD
C20-2012-003	Cocktail Lounges in Rainey Street	Makes cocktail lounge a conditional use in Rainey Street Waterfront Overlay subdistrict	1/22/2013	Yes, vote: 7-1	2/28/2013	TBD
C20-2012-023	Water and Wastewater Reimbursement and Cost	Amends regulations for cost participation of certain water and wastewater infrastructure that is oversized at the request of the City	2/12/2013	Yes, vote: 8-0	2/28/2013	TBD
C20-2012-013	Parking Downtown	Parking reductions downtown (DMU, CBD)	2/12/2013	Yes, vote: 8-0	2/28/2013	TBD

**Table 3. Upcoming Code Amendments (anticipated at PC in the next 3-9 months)**

CASE NUMBER	Name	Description	PC hearing date	Recommended by full PC to go to CC?	Council hearing date	Council action
C-20-2013-001	Barton Springs Pool	SOS site-specific amendments to make general improvements to Barton Springs Pool	2/26/2013	Public hearing on 2/26/2013	3/21/2013	TBD
C20-2012-017	Rainey St. Density/Height	Changes Rainey St. Density and Height regulations, allows points for structures moved out of Rainey St.	2/26/13	TBD	3/7/13	TBD
C20-2011-023	Bicycle Parking	Clarifications, definitions, incentives for bicycle parking	2/26/2013	TBD	3/21/2013	TBD
C20-2012-016	Public Assembly	Amends where public assembly is allowed, would allow schools and churches in any zoning district to get temp pub assembly permit	3/12/13	TBD	3/21/2013	TBD
C20-2011-031	Residential Design & Compatibility	Amendment to Subchapter F to add a provision to count 15ft ceilings twice, which was inadvertently removed	3/12/2013	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2012-008	North Burnet Gateway (Water Quality Control)	Amends NBG to reference the correct water quality zones	3/26/2013	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2012-007	North Burnet Gateway (Subdistrict Map)	Amends NBG to allow the subdistrict map to be updated without a code amendment if there has been a zoning change	3/26/2013	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2012-006	North Burnet Gateway (Sign Regulations)	Amends NBG to allow for signage consistent with the roadway types within NBG	3/26/2013	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2012-005	North Burnet Gateway (Two Story Minimum)	Amends NBG to clarify two story minimum requirements	3/26/2013	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2013-002	Neighborhood Plan Amendments	Amends NPA requirements	3/26/2013	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2011-027	Design Standards and Mixed Use	Clarifications, revisions, updates, and additions to Subchapter E.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2012-018	Definition of Bedroom	Clarifies definition of a bedroom	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2012-019	Gross floor area exemption	Defines areas exempted from gross floor area calculations	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
C20-2011-034	Phasing Agreements	Construction phasing and occupation	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

# Annual Review and Work Plan

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Not yet initiated	Heli-facilities	Amends regulations for heli-facilities	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Not yet initiated	Residential Conservation Clustering	Allows single family residences to be clustered to preserve open space	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Not yet initiated	Urban Farms	Amendments to the zoning code to encourage urban farming and sustainable food production	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Not yet initiated	PUD Affordable Housing	Amends PUD affordable housing requirements	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Not yet initiated	McMansion	Tweaks to McMansion	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Not yet initiated	Temporary Signs Downtown	Allows for temporary signs downtown for special events	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD