

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	24655	Agenda Number	107.
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Meeting Date:	5/23/2013	Department:	Planning and Development Review
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Subject

Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 25-2, Subchapter E, relating to design standards and mixed use for development projects.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	August 31, 2006 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20060831-68 adopting Subchapter E. April 8, 2010 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20100408-049 adopting Phase I amendments to Subchapter E.
For More Information:	George Adams, 974-2146.
Boards and Commission Action:	April 9, 2013 – Approved by the Planning Commission on an 8-0 vote with Commissioner Stevens absent. See Ordinance Review Sheet for specific recommendations.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Subchapter E was adopted by City Council in August 2006 and went into effect in January 2007. Subchapter E included a recommendation to review the ordinance after one year. During the first year in effect City staff identified problem areas within the code and a one year review began in March 2008. Staff worked with stakeholders to address many of the issues identified and a first phase of amendments was approved by City Council in April 2010.

Over the past approximately two years an interdepartmental team of city staff developed draft code amendments to Subchapter E for the remaining items. These amendments are based on staff's experience with the regulations and feedback from a range of stakeholders. The proposed amendments have been reviewed with a variety of stakeholder groups and presented at three public meetings over the last six months.

The amendments are designed to improve the clarity and functionality of Subchapter E. Some of the major proposed changes include: reorganizing and clarifying sections of the code to make the document easier to understand and use, providing additional flexibility in meeting certain building design standards, and the addition of Neighborhood-Side Design Standards for Vertical Mixed Use buildings.

Staff recommends approval of this amendment.