

# Austin's Urban Forest Plan

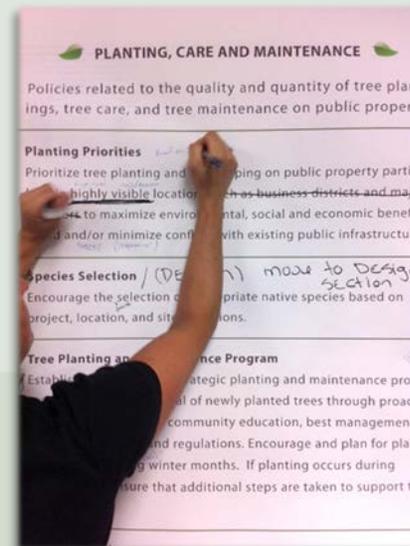
## \*Code Mandated Initiative\*

### § 6-3-5 and 2-1-183 COMPREHENSIVE URBAN FOREST PLAN.

- The Urban Forester shall provide administrative staff services to the Board in connection with the plan.
- The Environmental Board and Parks and Recreation Board shall review the plan and make recommendations to the Urban Forestry Board.
- Urban Forestry Board required to seek City Council approval before implementation

### *Staff Contributions:*

- *2,700 hours to date*
- 45+ staff from 10+ Departments have helped shape Plan
- Office of Sustainability support



\*(Mandated by Austin City Code in 1992)



# The Imagine Austin Connection

*Imagine Austin makes 69 mentions of the urban forest  
20 Priority Actions related to urban forestry*

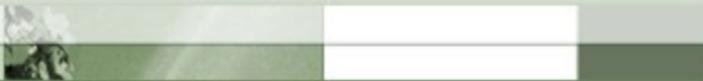
## Including:

### CE A22

**Create an urban forest plan** that identifies tree canopy goals, establishes a budget, and presents implementation measures.

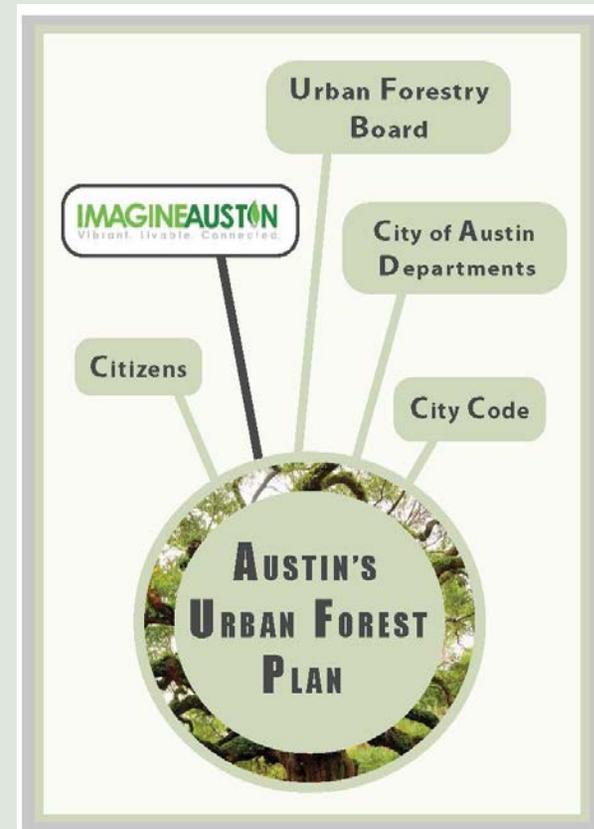
### CFS A7

**Revise tree planting and tree care standards** to be more sustainable and reduce tree mortality.



# Plan Overview

- Scope: public urban forest
- Authors: Urban Forestry Board, inter-disciplinary city staff
- Goal: Broad-scoped, long range vision and strategic management framework for the urban forest



# Plan Outline

## STATE OF AUSTIN'S URBAN FOREST

*History and Regional Context*

*Performance Indicators*

## THE URBAN FOREST PLAN

*Vision*

*Guiding Principles*

*Policy Elements*

*Implementation*

## APPENDIX

*Departmental Operational Plan Template*

*Supporting Documents*

*Public Input*



# Policy Elements – *The Plan Framework*

- Strategic framework to achieve Plan vision
- Implementation guidance
- 58 Policy Elements grouped by topic
  - ***Protection and Preservation***
  - ***Sustainable Urban Forest***
  - ***Planting, Care & Maintenance***
  - ***Urban Forest Management Framework***
  - ***Planning & Design***
  - ***Education & Outreach***



# Performance Indicators

Include Vegetative Resource, Community Framework, Resource Management:

Example: Community Framework

Criteria	Key Objective	Performance Indicators				Figure for Most Recent Year
		Low	Moderate	Good	Optimal	
Public agency cooperation	Insure all city departments cooperate with common goals and objectives.	Conflicting goals among departments and/or agencies.	Common goals but no cooperation among departments and/or agencies.	Informal teams among departments and/or agencies are functioning and implementing common goals on a project-specific basis.	Municipal policy implemented by formal interdepartmental/interagency working groups on all municipal projects.	N/A

# Community Engagement

2012 | Public Meeting and Opinion Poll

2013 | Public Engagement

- Pop-up events
- Community Workshop
- Online Surveys
- SpeakUp Austin
- [austinurbanforestry.org](http://austinurbanforestry.org)

**Result: 2,400 public comments**





# Boards & Commissions, City Council

**July 23, 2013** – Parks and Recreation Board briefing

**August 6, 2013** – Joint Committee (Parks and Recreation / Environmental Board) briefing

**August 7, 2013** – Environmental Board briefing (memo)

**September/October** –

Parks and Recreation Board recommendation

Environmental Board recommendation

Urban Forestry Board approval

**October/November** – City Council approval

