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Subject: Consistency Review of the Urban Trails Master Plan

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Planning and Development Review staff has reviewed the Urban Trails Master Plan for consistency with the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and find that it supports the following provisions of Imagine Austin.

#### Vision

##### AUSTIN IS MOBILE AND INTERCONNECTED

Austin is accessible. Our transportation network provides a wide variety of options that are efficient, reliable, and cost-effective to serve the diverse needs and capabilities of our citizens. Public and private sectors work together to improve our air quality and reduce congestion in a collaborative and creative manner.

- Interconnected development patterns support public transit and a variety of transportation choices, while reducing sprawl, congestion, travel times, and negative impacts on existing neighborhoods.
- Our integrated transportation system is well-maintained, minimizes negative impacts on natural resources, and remains affordable for all users.
- Austin promotes safe bicycle and pedestrian access with well-designed routes that provide connectivity throughout the greater Austin area. These routes are part of our comprehensive regional transportation network.

##### AUSTIN IS NATURAL AND SUSTAINABLE

- Our open spaces and preserves shape city planning, reduce infrastructure costs, and provide us with recreation, clean air and water, local food, cooler temperatures, and biodiversity.

##### AUSTIN VALUES AND RESPECTS ITS PEOPLE

- People across all parts of the city and of all ages and income levels live in safe, stable neighborhoods with a variety of affordable and accessible homes with access to healthy food, economic opportunity, healthcare, education, and transportation.

#### Building Blocks/Policies

LUT P3. Promote development in compact centers, communities, or along corridors that are connected by roads and transit, are designed to encourage walking and bicycling, and reduce healthcare, housing and transportation costs.

LUT P23. Integrate citywide and regional green infrastructure, to including such elements as preserves and parks, trails, stream corridors, green streets, greenways, agricultural lands, and the trail system, into the urban environment and the transportation network.

HN P13. Strengthen Austin's neighborhoods by connecting to other neighborhoods, quality schools, parks, environmental features, and other community-serving uses that are accessible by transit, walking, and bicycling.

CE P3. Expand the city's green infrastructure network to include such elements as preserves and parks, trails, stream corridors, green streets, greenways, and agricultural lands.

CFS P42. Increase connectivity between neighborhoods and from neighborhoods to parks and greenways through the use of sidewalks, bicycle lanes, multi-use paths, and trails.

CFS P47. Extend existing trail and greenway projects to create an interconnected green infrastructure network that includes such elements as preserves and parks, trails, stream corridors, green streets, greenways, agricultural lands linking all parts of Austin and connecting Austin to nearby cities.

S P29. Create public spaces that attract and engage children and serve as gathering places for children and families.

#### Actions

LUT A1 Give priority to City of Austin investments to support mixed use, transit, and the creation of compact walkable and bikeable places.

LUT A21 Create a network of on- and off-street physically separated bicycle and walking routes or trails linking all parts of Austin and the region.

LUT A23 Develop standards to connect all new neighborhoods to adjacent neighborhoods and commercial areas by streets, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes and/or paths.

LUT A40 Expand the number of parks and amount of open spaces of different sizes and purposes throughout the city.

CE A10 Identify existing areas with limited access to parks, open space, and trails and create mechanisms to address these gaps.

CFS A9 Create a trails master plan to ensure connectivity and provide consistency with regional, city, and neighborhood level trail and transportation goals to provide pedestrian and bicycle connections between neighborhoods and destinations; incorporate trails throughout the city and region; encourage developers to connect to or complete the trail system; and use protected land along creeks and floodplains in an environmentally sustainable way.

S A54 Create more opportunities for outdoor play, recreational activities, healthy eating, and other activities and programs that address obesity.

#### Growth Concept Map

As an early version of the Urban Trails map was included in the development of the Growth Concept Map, the UTMP is generally consistent with the Growth Concept Map.

#### Priority Programs

The applicable priority programs that benefit from the UTMP include:

1. Invest in a compact and connected Austin.
4. Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city.
6. Develop and maintain household affordability throughout Austin.
7. Create a Healthy Austin program.

Conclusion: The Urban Trails Master Plan is not only consistent but promotes numerous provisions of Imagine Austin.