

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan vision includes housing diversity and affordability throughout Austin; and

WHEREAS, geographic dispersion is one of the City's three core principles for affordability that were originally recommended by the Affordable Housing Incentives Task Force; and

WHEREAS, planned unit developments (PUDs) are located throughout the city and are able to provide a mechanism for geographic dispersion; and

WHEREAS, PUDs that include a residential component are required to include affordable housing if their density exceeds a baseline density; and

WHEREAS, the City Code allows PUDs upon approval by city council to exceed the baseline density without including affordable housing if an in lieu donation is made to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (City Code 25-2, Article 2, Division 5, 2.5.5(B)); and

WHEREAS, the in lieu donation approach which has been in the City Code since 2008, has resulted in zero on-site affordable units in PUDs, with 13 affordable units proposed but not yet occupied in one recent PUD; and

WHEREAS, vertical mixed use zoning has an on-site affordability requirement as part of its density bonus program and has resulted in more than 300 affordable units that will be spread throughout many areas of Austin; and

WHEREAS, the Housing/Transit/Jobs Action Team reported its recommendation to the Council Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Committee on September 4, 2014 that the in lieu donation option for affordable housing should be removed from density bonus programs to align with Federal Transit Administration Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the City is forgoing opportunities to achieve the critical goal of geographic dispersion of affordable housing with the almost uniform adoption of the in lieu donation option for PUDs; and

WHEREAS, the University Neighborhood Overlay, which has created almost 500 on-site affordable units and over \$2,000,000 in payments, includes a tiered affordable housing requirement in which some of the affordable housing is required to be on site and some is allowed to be satisfied via a fee-in-lieu;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council initiates a code amendment to remove or revise the in lieu donation option for the affordable housing requirement for PUDs.

ADOPTED: , 2014 ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall

City Clerk