

Changes to the Austin City Code Chapter 2-1

The following items were incorporated into the draft ordinance following direction/comments provided at the September 23, 2014 Work Session or represent 10-1 clean-up changes recommended by OCC and Law.

1. **Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals, Electric Board and the Mechanical, Plumbing and Solar Board** are remaining independent Boards with membership increasing to 11 for each of the three boards.
2. **Commission for Women** is remaining as an independent board with membership increasing to 11.
3. **Animal Advisory Commission** will have its membership increased to 11.
 - **Decision:** Does Council wants to give direction on which council member should appoint the five required members?
4. The new **Economic Prosperity Commission** has been incorporated with a membership of 11.
5. **Bond Oversight Commission:** The Taskforce recommended reassigning the duties of the Bond Oversight Committee into a newly created "Economics & Capital Budget Joint Subcommittee" of the Planning and ZAP. With membership from both PC & ZAP along with 4 additional members appointed by the City Manager. (See Option 11 C)

Law's recommendation is that this subcommittee creation would be effectively creating a new Commission, OCC recommended the Audit and Finance Committee as a possibility for nominating the 4 additional members. Law recommends incorporating this into 2-1 as a 2-1 board. The Bond Oversight Committee is not currently a 2-1 board.

 - **Decision 1:** Does Council agree with having it as a Chapter 2-1 Board?
 - **Decision 2:** Does Council want the additional members appointed by the Audit and Finance Committee or by the City Manager?
6. **Sign Review Board** has been merged into the Board of Adjustment.
7. Other updates include generic clean-up resulting from 10-1 such as quorum, etc.

There were a number of additional recommendations for which no direction was given or for which clarification needs to be provided. Below is a list of the remaining recommendations for which direction will need to be provided to staff if Council would like to incorporate the recommendation?

1. The Taskforce recommended using the term "Commission" rather than "Board": whenever possible.

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation?**

2. Community Development Commission

- a. Transition Taskforce-recommends continuing with 15 members; 7 nominated by residents from each geographic location designated in 2-1 and the additional 8 members nominated by a committee of Council.
 - b. Change incorporated by draft ordinance- increase membership to 19 to provide for 7 members nominated by residents from geographic areas, 11 nominated by Council and one additional member.
- **Decision: Does Council prefer continuing with 15 members or increasing the size to 19 members?**

3. Sustainable Food Policy Board

- a. Transition Taskforce- recommends continuing with 13 members; 6 nominated by Travis County Commissioners Court and the additional 7 members nominated by a committee of Council.
 - b. Change incorporated by draft ordinance- increase membership to 17 to allow 11 nominated by Council and 6 appointed by Travis County Commissioners Court.
- **Decision: Does Council agree with continuing with 13 members or increasing the size to 17 members?**
 - **Decision: If Council selects continuing with 13 members, how would Council prefer to handle the nominations (Mayor or a Council**

4. The recommendations relating to the **African American Resource Advisory Commission** and the **Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission**, the Council indicated a preference for option 1 submitted by the Taskforce which would:
- a. Incorporate the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility into the scope and definition of the African American Resource Advisory Commission and increase the membership to 15 members (11 appointed by Council and 4 community representatives from stake holder groups).
 - b. Incorporate the Asian American Resource Center into the scope and definition of the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission and increase the membership to 15 members (11 appointed by Council and 4 community representatives from stake holder groups).
- Decision 1: Is that still the preferred option?
 - Decision 2: How would Council like to handle the nominations of the 4 members from stake holder groups?
5. **Emma Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board and the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission.**

These commissions will remain two separate commissions as directed by Council.

- Decision 1: Does Council want to incorporate the recommendation that was made by the Taskforce to require joint quarterly meetings between the two commissions?

6. **Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities and the Commission on Seniors**

Taskforce submitted two recommendations:

- a. Option 1-The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities and the Commission on Seniors be merged into a "People with Disabilities and Seniors Quality of Life Commission" and increase to 15 members (11 appointed by Council and 4 community representatives from stake holder groups).
 - b. Option 2-Leave as two separate commissions and two commissions required to hold a joint meeting quarterly to discuss common issues. (11 members for the Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities and 15 members for the Commission on Seniors) **(This option was incorporated into the draft ordinance)**
- Decision 1: Which option is preferred by Council?
 - Decision 2: If option 1 is selected how would Council like to handle the nominations of the 4 community representatives? For example one from Travis County Commissioners Court, one from Area Agency on Aging of the Capital Area, one from Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

7. Downtown Austin Community Court Advisory Committee and the Public Safety Commission

Taskforce recommended merging to two together into the "Emergency Response Services Commission" consisting of 11 members.

- **Decision: Does Council agree or should they remain separate each with 11 members?**

8. Environmental Board and Urban Forestry Board

Taskforce recommended merging to two together into the "Environmental Commission" consisting of 11 members.

- **Decision: Does Council agree or should they remain separate each with 11 members?**

9. MBE/WBE Small Business Enterprise Procurement Program Advisory Committee and the Construction Advisory Committee.

Taskforce recommended merging to two together into the "Municipal Contracts and Construction Commission" consisting of 11 members.

- **Decision: Does Council agree or should they remain separate each with 11 members?**

10. Residential Design and Compatibility Commission

Taskforce recommended reassigning the duties of RDCC to the Design Commission.

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation to reassign the duties of the RDCC to the Design Commission?**

11. Planning Commission and Zoning and Platting Commission

- a. Taskforce recommended reassigning the duties of the Planning Commission to focus on planning oriented activities City-wide including the Comprehensive Plan, Area Plans (i.e. TOD plans, corridor plans, etc.), evaluating the CIP and other economic and budget initiatives, reviewing and initiating code amendments & ordinances, etc.
- b. The recommendation was to reassign the duties of the Zoning and Platting Commission to focus on transactional activities city-wide, including re-zoning, platting and plat amendments, site plans, conditional overlays, etc.

The Taskforce also recommended the creation of two new permanent subcommittees of the PC and ZAP.

- c. Economic and Capital Budget Joint Subcommittee: Create a new "Economic and Capital Budget Joint Subcommittee" of the PC and ZAP Commissions and reassign the duties of the Bond Oversight Commission consisting of at least 7 members from PC and ZAP with an additional 4 possible appointed by the City Manager. (See Option 5)
 - d. Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee: Create a new "Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee" of the PC and ZAP and reassign the duties of the Downtown Commission & Waterfront Planning Advisory Board into the new subcommittee. The subcommittee should consist of at least 7 members. (See Option 12 & 13)
- **Decision 1: Does Council agree with the recommendations on reassignment of duties and responsibilities?**
 - **Decision 2: Does Council agree with the creation of the Economic and Capital Budget Joint Subcommittee?**
 - **Decision 3: Does Council agree with the creation of the Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee?**

12. Downtown Commission

Taskforce recommended reassigning the duties of the Downtown Commission into the "Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee" of the PC and ZAP Commissions. (See Option 11 D)

- **Decision 1: Does Council agree with the recommendation to reassign the duties of the Downtown Commission into the "Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee" of the PC and ZAP Commissions?**
- **Decision 2: Does Council prefer to keep it as a separate commission and increase the membership to 19? (This option was incorporated into the draft ordinance)**

13. Waterfront Planning Advisory Board

The Taskforce recommended reassigning the duties of the Waterfront Planning Advisory Board to the "Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee" of the PC & ZAP. (See Option 11 D)

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation to reassign the duties of the Waterfront Planning Advisory Board into the new "Small Area Planning Joint Subcommittee" of the PC and ZAP Commissions?**

14. Building and Standards Commission

Council passed a resolution to explore the option of creating two panels of the Building and Standards Commission. OCC learned that back in January 2014 the Commission passed a resolution not recommending that change. That recommendation was not provided to OCC to distribute to Council rather it was incorporated in the minutes. The item was scheduled to be revisited at their October Meeting which ended up being cancelled. The recommendation from the January meeting was "not to have a 2-panel system and with the understanding that the Commission's workload will grow; the Commission requests time (6 months to evaluate a 2-panel Building and Standards Commission". The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.

The Taskforce did recommend to Council based on feedback from Council on the panel idea that the membership be increased to 22 to allow for the creation of two panels.

- **Decision: Does Council prefer to keep the Commission at 11 or increase it to 22 members for the purpose of creating two panels.**

15. Joint Cultural Committee

The Taskforce recommended the creation of new "Joint Cultural Committee" that would combine membership of nine commissions which have involvement with cultural activities throughout the city. (Arts Commission, Music Commission, Asian American Resource Center, MACC, African American Cultural & Heritage Facility, Library Commission, Parks & Rec Board, Historic Landmark and Economic Prosperity.)

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation to create a new Joint Cultural Committee?**

16. Joint Sustainability Committee

The Taskforce recommended the creation of new "Joint Sustainability Committee" that would assume the responsibilities of the Resource Management Commission with membership derived from other commissions. (Consist of 7 recruited members from other existing commissions (Planning, Economic Prosperity, WWW Commission, CDC, ZWAC, Environmental Commission and the Electric Utility Commission.) (See Option 17)

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation to create a new Joint Sustainability Committee?**

17. Resource Management Commission

Taskforce recommended reassigning the duties of the RMC to a new Joint Sustainability Commission. (See Option 16)

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation to reassign the duties of the RMC to a new Joint Sustainability Commission.**

18. Joint Inclusion Committee

The Taskforce recommended the creation of new "Joint Inclusion Committee" that would address issues pertaining to diversity and inclusion. It would consist of 7 members representing listed commissions and groups. (African-American Resource Advisory Commission, Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission, Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Advisory Commission, Commission on Immigrant Affairs, People with Disabilities and Seniors QOL, someone to represent needs/interest of Commission for Women and a representative from the LGBT Community.)

- **Decision: Does Council agree with the recommendation to create a new Joint Inclusion Committee?**