Land Development Code Advisory Group
Meeting #24 Minutes

October 20, 2014 at 4:00 pm
Carver Branch Library
1161 Angelina St., Austin, Texas 78702

Members in attendance: Jim Duncan, Stephen Delgado, Melissa Neslund, Jeff Jack, Will Herring, Dave Sullivan, Beverly Silas, Mandy De Mayo, Brian Reis.

Members Absent: Stephen Oliver.

Meeting Objective: Review Approach Alternatives & Annotated Outlines. The Advisory Group may vote on a resolution on any agenda item.

1. Public Comment: moved to the beginning of the meeting to provide the opportunity for anyone who had not spoken about the Approach Alternatives & Annotated Outlines in the previous two Code Advisory Group meetings. Comments included: consideration of the importance of the landscape architecture profession for the advisory group.

2. Approval of Minutes: minutes from October 6 meeting adopted by consensus.

3. Review Approach Alternatives & Annotated Outlines:
    Objective: General discussion of the Approach Alternatives & Annotated Outlines report and feedback from Advisory Group.
    Clarity was requested for the differences in approaches 2 and 3. Discussion included the amount of substantive rewrite that could occur under both approaches; the amount of form-based zones that could be incorporated to each alternative approach; the desire for a more detailed expert recommendation of what Austin needs and would require in order to properly implement Imagine Austin; the fear of a wasted opportunity for a comprehensive rewrite.

    Motion by the Code Advisory Group was to recommend Approach 2 with the following amendments: on the "Choosing the Approach" chart, changing the level of 'Content Rewriting' from medium to high, and changing the amount of 'Form-Based' development standards from medium to high. The motion passed 6-3, with Neslund, De Mayo, Sullivan, Silas, Delgado and Herring voting for, and Reis, Duncan and Jack voting against.
    Note: Most members of the CAG supported changing the level of 'Content Rewriting" from medium to high. The greater division occurred in adding the amendment to increase the level of form-based development standards.

4. Standing Items:
   a. Discuss structure and organization of Advisory Group
      - Consider selecting an individual to fill a vacancy: nominees present at the meeting were allowed to speak for one minute regarding their interest in the advisory group vacancy. Speakers included: Ed Wendler Jr., Brennan Griffin, Frank Harren, Michael Wong, Peter Pfeiffer (who withdrew his name in support of Ed Wendler), and Katherine Nicely. Voting on the vacancy was postponed to November 17 meeting by consensus.
   b. Discuss work product type and goals for Advisory Group
   c. Update from members on their outreach activities
   d. Report from Working Group on Envision Tomorrow
   e. Agenda items to consider for next meeting (November 17): Discuss document presented by Jeff Jack regarding neighborhood plans; elect a new member to fill current vacancy.

5. Presentation on neighborhood plans:
   Objective: Jeff Jack to present information on neighborhood plans
   Jeff Jack presented advisory group members with a proposed resolution to give Opticos direction to ensure that the new code is equipped to implement neighborhood plans. Discussion included vetting the proposed resolution through the joint Planning Commission Neighborhood Plan subcommittee and CAG working group formed earlier this year. The item was postponed to the November 17, 2014 meeting with a request that the joint subcommittee and working group look at it in the meantime.

6. Presentation on green infrastructure:
   Objective: Eleanor McKinney to present information on green infrastructure
   Presentation on integrating nature into the city for CodeNEXT: presentation identified best practices across the nation for green infill codes and performance based codes, identified tools that the City of Austin should consider moving forward, and expressed the passion and interest for the American Society of Landscape Architects to be involved with CodeNEXT.

7. CodeNEXT Team response to public comment

Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm