

Getting to know the City of Austin's Land Development Code Advisory Group

The Code Advisory Group (CAG) brings together Austinites from different professional fields.

Back in 2013, the Austin City Council and the City Manager selected leaders from private and non-profit entities to offer guidance during the CodeNEXT initiative. Specific criteria of expertise included urban planning, architecture, household affordability, environmental protection and sustainability. This group has been assisting in outreach efforts during the CodeNEXT process to-date, and has been consulted for feedback for work products as well as the overall CodeNEXT process. They have held 30 regular meetings and 19 working group meetings, in addition to all the CodeNEXT community events.

Stephen Delgado

A small business owner since 2009, Delgado's experience includes project engineering and management in residential and commercial development throughout Central Texas. He is currently president of the Greater Austin Contractors and Engineers Association as well as chair of the Subcommittee on Small and Minority Business Resources. He is past President of Greater Austin Contractors & Engineers Association (ACEA) and still serves on its Regulatory Committee. Additionally, he is a contributing member of the Home Builders Association (HBA), Real Estate Council of Austin (RECA) and the Urban Land Institute (ULI). He also served on the Board of Trustees for two local churches as well as on his neighborhood homeowners association Board as Financial Chair. Lastly, he is a volunteer at his local YMCA and Youth Sports Association as a youth sports coach.

District: NA

Initially Appointed by: City Manager

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Mandy De Mayo

Mandy De Mayo holds a Masters Degree in Public Affairs from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin and has more than 20 years of experience in the areas of affordable housing and community development. Ms. De Mayo is Executive Director of HousingWorks, a nonprofit advocacy and education organization that is dedicated to increasing affordable housing in Austin. Ms. De Mayo is the author of a variety of policy papers, including *Building and Retaining an Affordable Austin*, *Affordable Housing in the City of Austin's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Districts*, *Preserving Affordable Housing in Austin – A Platform for Action*, and *The Affordable Housing Incentives Task Force Report*. She is a past president of her neighborhood association and currently sits on the executive committee. Mandy was a small business owner for over 15 years with a consulting practice on affordable housing.

District: 10

Initially Appointed by: City Manager

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Jim Duncan

Jim Duncan has over 50 years of experience as an urban planner, including serving as the Director of the City of Austin's Office of Land Development Services. He has drafted plans and codes for over 300 communities and directed planning and development programs for five cities and counties, including Austin. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners, former national president of the American Planning Association, and recipient of an Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Oklahoma. Duncan has owned an Austin-based consulting firm since the 1980s.

District: 10

Initially Appointed by: Laura Morrison

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Jeff Jack

A registered architect for 40 years, Jeff Jack has completed projects in over 30 jurisdictions all over the USA. He has participated in many land-use related task forces, such as the Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee, Downtown Development Advisory Committee, Affordable Housing Task Force, and the Central Texas Clean Air Force. In addition, Jeff was the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) representative to Envision Central Texas and Austin Annexation Transition Team. He is the Chair of the Board of Adjustment and an ex-officio member of the Planning Commission. Jeff is a former president of both the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) and the Zilker Neighborhood Association.

District: 5

Initially Appointed by: Kathie Tovo

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Will Herring

Will Herring began his career as an intern with the City of Austin Planning and Development Review Department. He has also served as a law clerk at Federal District Court for the Western District of Texas. He currently practices real estate law, focusing on land use and entitlements, in Austin and central Texas.

District: 9

Initially Appointed by: Lee Leffingwell

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Melissa Neslund

After serving as Vice President and Director of Land Use and Entitlements at Bury Inc., Neslund recently transitioned to a Senior Development Manager position at Sackman Enterprises. Neslund is in her fifth year chairing the Policy Committee for the Real Estate Council of Austin (RECA), and is a member of the RECA Executive Committee. She is also an active member of the American Planning Association (APA) and the Urban Land Institute (ULI). Neslund is a former board member of her neighborhood association, the Lantana Homeowners Association, and a current member of her neighborhood's architectural control committee.

District: 8

Initially Appointed by: Bill Spelman

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Stephen Oliver

Currently vice chair of the Planning Commission, Oliver served as consultant for the City of Austin's East Riverside Corridor Regulation Plan as well as Transit Oriented Development Planning efforts for the MLK, Lamar and Plaza Saltillo Station Area Master Plans. Oliver previously served on the Commercial Design Standards Taskforce, PUD Ordinance Taskforce and Mueller Design Guidelines Taskforce. He is a University of Texas graduate and first moved to Austin in 1994. He has lived in Northwest Austin since 2000 and is a father of two children. He has held leadership roles with the American Institute of Architects Austin Chapter, Central Texas Chapter of Congress for New Urbanism, Austin History Center, Presidential Glen MUD Board. He is a principal at the Austin based architectural and planning firm OPA Design Studio. Oliver is LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) AP accredited.

District: 6

Initially Appointed by: Chris Riley

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Brian Reis

Brian Reis is the vice chair of the Code Advisory Group. An experienced in civil engineering design and water resources planning, Reis developed and maintained the water quality protection plan and monitoring program for the 4,000-acre Barton Creek Development. He also served as project manager for the design team for the Waller Creek Tunnel Project. Reis has conducted numerous floodplain restudies in FEMA Region VI (including Travis County) as part of FEMA's Floodplain Map Modernization Program, and served as project manager and chief hydrologist on the studies of Shoal Creek, Waller Creek, and Williamson Creek. He was a consultant on the City of San Marcos Stormwater Technical Manual, comprehensive plan, water quality protection planning studies, and revisions to their Land Development Code with respect to drainage and water quality. Reis is the former chair of the Oak Hill Neighborhood Plan Contact team.

District: 8

Initially Appointed by: Mike Martinez

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Beverly Silas

Beverly Silas is the founding CEO for Envision Central Texas, and serves on the several boards including the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the American Public Transportation Association, the AISD Public Education Foundation, and the Texas Methodist Foundation. She also sits on the City of Austin's Bond Oversight Committee. Beverly has previously served on the boards for Austin Community, Austin Community Foundation, Austin Area Urban League, Downtown Austin Alliance, Mary Lee Foundation, and the Austin Junior Forum. Beverly is a local small business owner of a public involvement firm specializing in public outreach activities for transportation, and land development and planning projects. Silas is the past vice-president of the Old Town Homeowners Association.

District: 1

Initially Appointed by: City Manager

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Dave Sullivan

Dave Sullivan is chair of the Code Advisory Group, and currently serves on the City's Bond Oversight Committee (past chair), and Zero Waste Advisory Commission, and the board for directors for the nonprofit Austin Creative Alliance. In addition he is a member of the Air & Waste Management Association, American Statistical Association, and the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU). Sullivan's past service includes the City's Planning Commission (past chair), the Board & Commission Transition Task Force, and the Live Music Task Force. He has been on the boards for several nonprofits including, the Old West Austin Neighborhood Association, HousingWorks, Bike Austin, Central Texas Sierra Club (past vice-chair), and Save Barton Creek Association. Dave is a researcher at the University of Texas at Austin Center for Energy and Environmental Resources, and used to work for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). When his daughter attended AISD schools he was a member of PTAs and booster clubs.

District: 9

Initially Appointed by: City Manager

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner

Nuria Zaragoza

Nuria Zaragoza currently serves on the City's Planning Commission. She has previously held positions with the Central Austin Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee, Contact Team and the Original West University Neighborhood Association. Zaragoza holds a Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Texas, lives in the West University Neighborhood and has two children that attend AISD's Brykerwoods Elementary School.

District: 9

Initially Appointed by: City Council (February 2015) to replace Chris Bradford, who was appointed by Sheryl Cole

Homeowner or Renter: Homeowner