



Land Development Code Advisory Group Meeting #31 Minutes

April 6, 2015 at 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Pleasant Hill Branch Library, Room #2
211 E. William Cannon Drive, Austin, Texas 78745

Members in attendance: Jeff Jack, Will Herring, Dave Sullivan, Stephen Oliver, Mandy De Mayo, Nuria Zaragoza, Stephen Delgado, Brian Reis.

Members Absent: Beverly Silas, Melissa Neslund, Jim Duncan.

Meeting Objective: Review working group end products, update on Green Infrastructure working group. The Advisory Group may vote on a resolution on any agenda item.

1. Approval of Minutes: adoption of minutes from December 15, January 16 and March 10 approved on consensus.
2. Public Comment: Discussion included: SMART Housing could be a model for expedited processing; the Code should remove impediments to accessory dwelling units; thoughts on the relationship between density and green space from residents of the Judges Hill Neighborhood; how CodeNEXT will help preserve neighborhoods of single family homes; concern that working group discussions are too high-level; how the Downtown Austin Plan will be incorporated into CodeNEXT; that CodeNEXT will affect more than permitting; the need to provide opportunity for all residents by accommodating the number of people coming into town; concern regarding the potential implications of form-based zoning; consultants need to ensure that there is no ambiguity or room for interpretation in the new code; examples of cities that integrate green infrastructure with code requirements; the relationship of compact and connected to all priority programs, including water and sustainability issues; neighborhood plans include much more than a future land use map; whether CodeNEXT will respect neighborhood plans; consider community character beyond the context of physical buildings and in the context of people; supply a diversity of housing options to suit the diverse range of people; the Code Advisory Group membership does not include representatives from Districts 2, 3, 4 and 7; infrastructure needs to be considered when planning for the future; issues of affordability and economic segregation will not improve if we fail to act; concern about loss of open space; concern of how accessory dwelling units interact with and influence mass transit ridership; working group responses are superficial and need to be vetted; water usage should be integrated with every development project.
3. CodeNEXT Team response to public comment: In alignment with both the City Charter and Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, CodeNEXT will respect neighborhood plans as well as find

better tools to implement them; form-based codes are appropriate in various places and can also be used to preserve existing neighborhood character ; the green infrastructure working group led by Watershed Protection Department will continue to be closely coordinated with the CodeNEXT process; environmental protection is also designated as a priority in Imagine Austin and is part of the CodeNEXT effort.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.