



# City of Austin

## MEMORANDUM

### Neighborhood Housing and Community Development


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**Date:** July 30, 2015

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Betsy Spencer, Director 

**Subject:** Resolution No. 20150604-051 – Establish Preservation Districts in the areas designated as District B, District C, and District D

This memorandum serves to update the City Council on No. 20150604-051, which directed the City Manager to take multiple actions related to the implementing the Homestead Preservation District legislation found in Chapter 373A of the Texas Local Government Code, specifically to *proceed with establishing Homestead Preservation Districts in areas designated as District B, District C, and District D...This process shall include holding public information meetings in each proposed Homestead Preservation District.*

In response to the City Council resolution, the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development staff is working, in coordination with the Communications and Public Information Office, to create a work plan to effectively communicate with residents of the eligible Homestead Preservation Districts.

1. Develop streamlined outreach materials including a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and Infographic;
2. Reach out to community organizations in each district for informational meetings;
3. Create a Homestead Preservation District (HPD) webpage that will be an electronic space for relevant materials, presentations, and updates.
4. Distribute by mail the FAQ and Infographic to residences and posting in community areas, which would also include information about future public hearings on this matter; and
5. Hold public hearings at an upcoming Council Housing and Community Development Committee meeting and Austin City Council meeting on the ordinances establishing additional Homestead Preservation Districts.

The Homestead Preservation District legislation is complex and multilayered. While, the establishment of a Homestead Preservation District, in and of itself, will have no direct or immediate impact on residents, staff is working diligently to ensure multiple actions are taken to provide comprehensive information to the public.

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A key component of this education will be to ensure the public is aware that the actual implementation of a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone activates a dedicated revenue stream that could have the direct effect of developing or preserving affordable housing within a Homestead Preservation District. Establishing the Homestead Preservation District is just a preliminary step, and that may or may not be followed by additional actions.

The current staff work plan sets out a timeline that identifies October 2015 as the ideal time to bring forward the Ordinances establishing additional Homestead Preservation Districts.

Anticipated Timeline:

July-August:	Develop outreach materials and a Homestead Preservation District webpage; schedule meetings with community groups.
August-September:	Meet with community groups, distribute information materials, draft ordinance language.
August-September:	Presentation to Council Housing and Community Development Committee.
November:	Hold City Council public hearing to approve HPD ordinances.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager

Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager