



IMAGINEAUSTON

Our Plan for the Future. In Action Today.

Land Development Code Advisory Group Meeting #36 Minutes

August 4, 2015 at 4:00 pm
Austin Public Library Southeast Branch
5803 Nuckols Crossing Rd, Austin, Texas 78744

Members in attendance: Jim Duncan, Jeff Jack, Will Herring, Dave Sullivan, Mandy De Mayo, Nuria Zaragoza, Stephen Delgado, Sarah Linares, Kevin Wier, Jackie Goodman, Brian Reis.

Members Absent: Melissa Neslund, Beverly Silas, Stephen Oliver.

Meeting Objective: Review of draft criteria for evaluating potential site selection based on place types representing various places around Austin to inform draft code prototyping. The Advisory Group may vote on a resolution on any agenda item.

1. Approval of Minutes: Approved on consent.
2. Update on Green Infrastructure Working Group recommendations: Erin Wood of the Watershed Protection Department gave a presentation on the concluding phase of the Green Infrastructure Working Group, and discussed draft final recommendations of the group. Discussion by advisory group members included the desire to have a quantitative component to assess affordability in the future; breaking down components that add the most cost to a project; that stormwater infrastructure issues need to be resolved regionally; and how incorporating green infrastructure affects the cost of a redevelopment or infill project.
3. Discuss draft criteria for selecting Focus Areas to be studied during the November 2015 Code Workshop: Jim Robertson explained an updated version of criteria for selecting focus areas (attached below). Discussion included: focus areas listed are purely examples and not necessarily test areas; boundaries for areas will be determined to allow for testing issues and not focused only in nodes; purpose of November workshop; places selected for focus areas have characteristics in common with other areas in town; an area with an approved neighborhood plan will be included in the selection process in order to test how policies will come together.
4. Discuss how working group recommendations will be incorporated into the draft code: Discussion included: final recommendations have been shared with the CodeNEXT core team and consultants. It is too early in the drafting stage to give a specific answer to each question included in final recommendations.

5. Standing Items:
 - a) Discuss structure and organization of Advisory Group: none
 - b) Discuss work product type and goals for Advisory Group: none
 - c) Update from members on their outreach activities: Staff gave update on past and upcoming public events.
 - d) Report from Working Group on Envision Tomorrow: Discussion included the scheduling of an Envision Tomorrow Working Group meeting to review the status of the Envision Tomorrow tool to-date.
 - e) Agenda items to consider for next meeting: Quarterly public comment meeting will take place for 2.5 hours, with 30 minutes reserved at the beginning to review proposed focus area selections.

6. Public Comment: Comments included the hope that CodeNEXT does not homogenize the city; the advisory group is invited to take a tour or have a meeting with Tony Fisk to discuss and learn about green building and systems-based thinking; Hyde Park remains interested in being selected as a focus area; Seattle offers a menu-based approach for green infrastructure and infill; the code workshop should consider areas prone to flooding; interest in if the code will be provided to the public prior to the workshop; interest in how Community Character in a Box results, neighborhood plans, single-family neighborhoods, and non-conforming structures that exist today will be used in the workshop; gentrification is not caused by density but by the inability to accept density into our neighborhoods; invitation to advisory group members and public to attend meetings of the Austin Neighborhoods Council who feature a section on CodeNEXT during regular meetings; CodeNEXT needs to be more iterative; intent clauses are necessary in a code; motions in the advisory group should be made by all members; interest in how the code workshop will measure Imagine Austin priority programs; Imagine Austin is at the top of every advisory group agenda and provides the indicators that we should be using.

7. CodeNEXT Team response to public comment: The code workshop will look at both Euclidian and form-based districts. It will be looking at all elements of the land development code and assess how they are working together.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm