



## PURPOSE OF TODAY'S PRESENTATION

1. Background on the Downtown Austin Plan (DAP)
2. Update on DAP implementation
3. Coordination with **CodeNEXT**

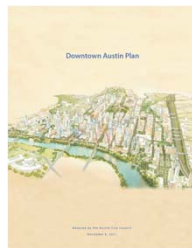


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## DOWNTOWN AUSTIN PLAN BACKGROUND

### What is the DAP? It is:

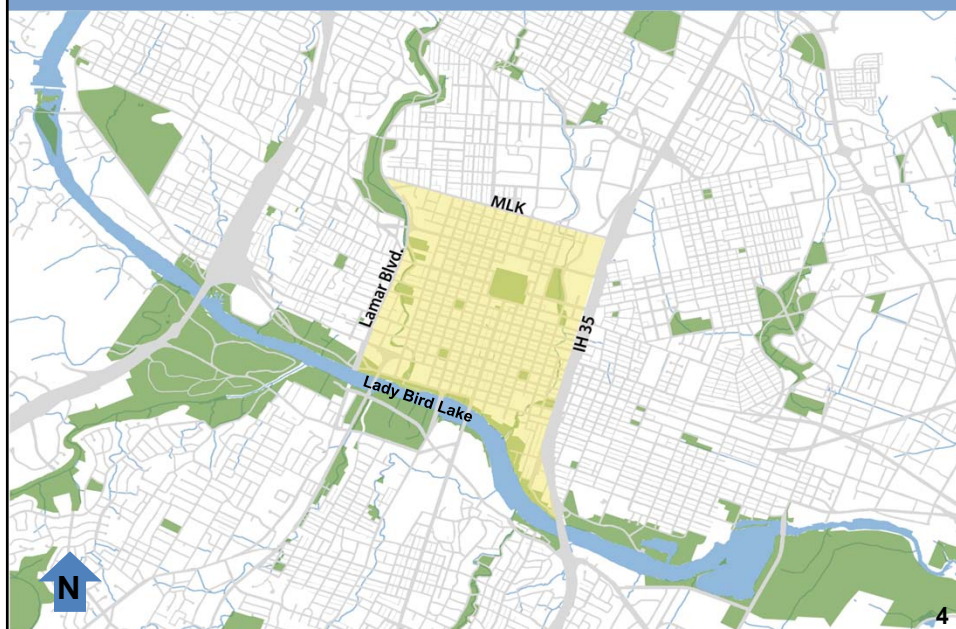
- a reflection of the community's vision, values, and priorities for Downtown
- a 20-30 year action plan for Downtown
- a 183 page plan for Downtown containing 114 implementation recommendations for improving Downtown
- a key element in realizing the Imagine Austin (comprehensive plan) vision for the city



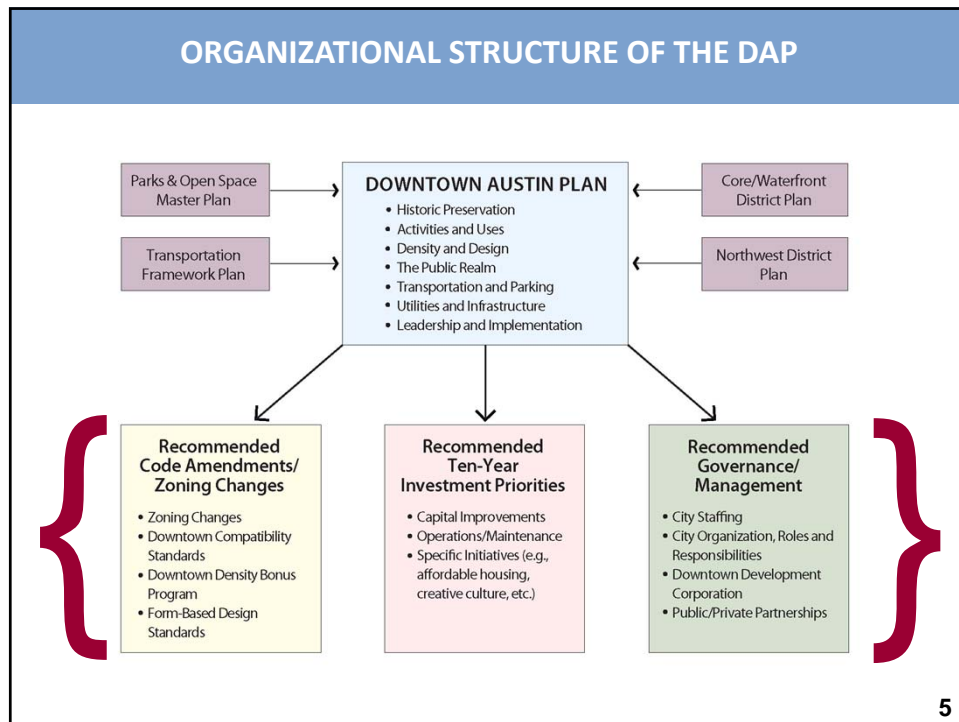
**CODENEXT**  
SHAPING THE AUSTIN WE IMAGINE

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## THE DOWNTOWN AUSTIN PLAN BOUNDARIES



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### CITY COUNCIL DIRECTION

#### Council Direction

The City Council adopted the Downtown Austin Plan as an amendment to *Austin Tomorrow* on December 8, 2011, and directed the City Manager to undertake the following implementation actions including:

1. Create a regulating plan that implements downtown-specific development standards;
2. Create new zoning districts;
3. Create a downtown density bonus program;
4. Create a downtown-specific compatibility framework;
5. Identify implementation projects as part of the City's comprehensive capital project needs assessment; and
6. Develop a detailed plan, steps and schedule, for creating a Central City Economic Development Corporation.



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## THE VISION FOR DOWNTOWN

- A **dense and livable pattern of development** that supports a vibrant day and nighttime environment.
- An **interconnected pattern of streets, parks and public spaces** that instill a unique sense of place and community;
- A **multi-modal transportation system** that is convenient, sustainable, affordable and a viable alternative to the automobile.
- A beloved fabric of **historic places, buildings and landscapes** that celebrate the unique journey Austin has taken over the past 200 years.
- A **variety of districts and destinations** that support the creative expression of its citizenry through art, music, theater, dance and performance.
- A **green “necklace” of trails** extending from Lady Bird Lake, and along Waller and Shoal Creeks into surrounding neighborhoods.
- A wide **range of housing choices** for individuals and families with diverse social and economic backgrounds.
- An **array of innovative businesses** – small and large - that are attracted to the Downtown by its rich human capital and unique sense of place.

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## THE VISION FOR DOWNTOWN

To realize this vision the DAP contains 114 discrete recommendations, in seven categories:

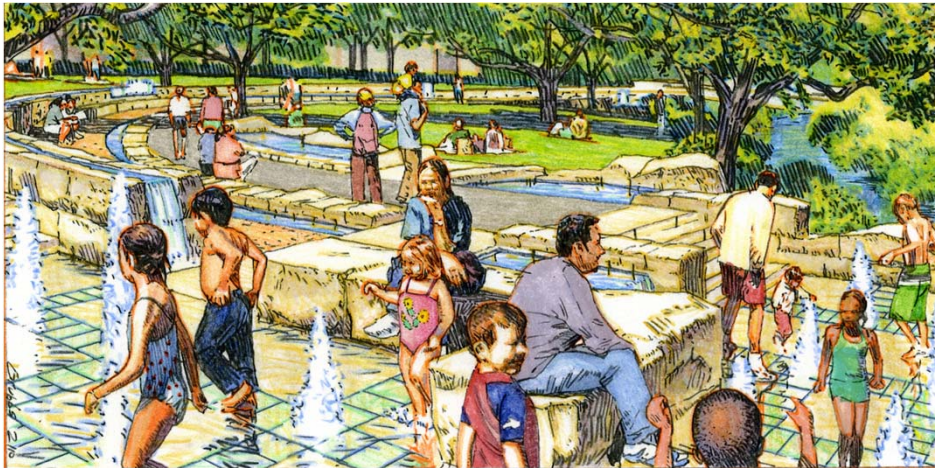
- Historic Preservation
- Activities and Uses
- Density and Design
- The Public Realm
- Transportation and Parking
- Utilities and Infrastructure
- Leadership and Implementation

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Leadership and Implementation	16

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## SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS



1. Initiate a new generation of Downtown signature parks.

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## SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS



2. Complete the first phase of urban rail.

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## SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS



**3. Re-imagine Sixth Street as a destination for everyone.**

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## SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS



**4. Provide permanent supportive housing.**

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**SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS  
IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS**



**5. Invest in Downtown infrastructure and water quality.**

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**SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS  
IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS**



**6. Amend the Land Development Code.**

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## SEVEN TRANSFORMATIVE STEPS IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS



**7. Establish an Economic Development Corporation.**

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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

1

**Mobility**



2

**Public Realm**



3

**Activities and Uses**



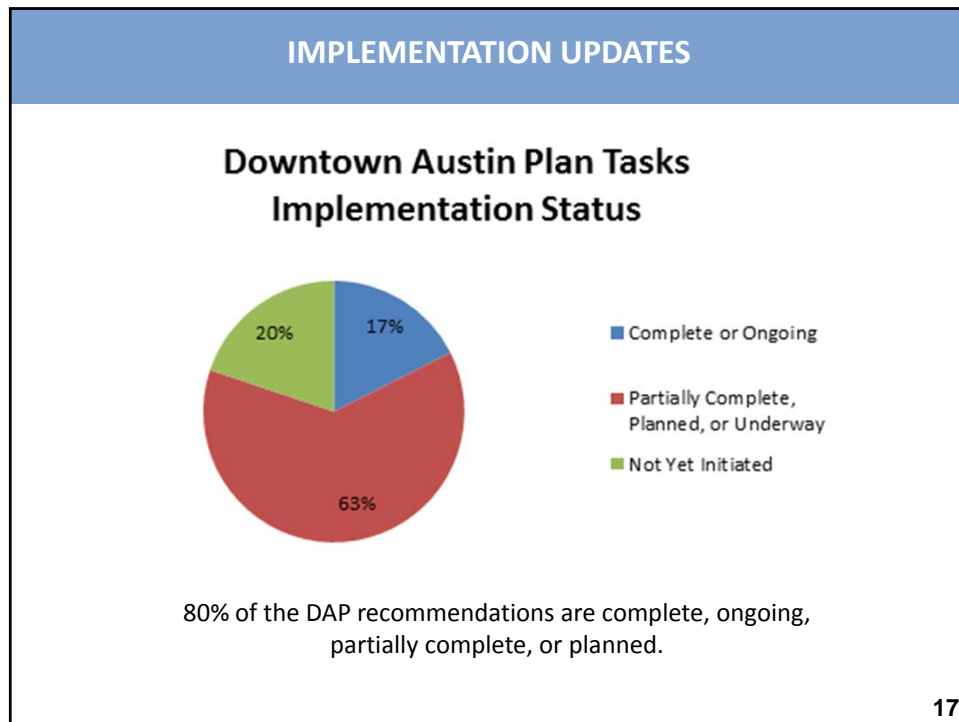
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**Utilities and Infrastructure**



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### IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

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## Mobility Highlights

#### Urban Rail

Urban Rail failed bond referendum November 2014.

Capital Metro working on Central Corridor Study.

Central Austin CDC has a new light rail proposal.

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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

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## Mobility Highlights

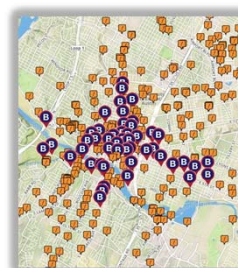
## Bike Sharing

Austin B-cycle has brought bike sharing to the Austin public by launching service on December 21, 2013. Austin B-cycle now has 50 stations and 395 bikes in the Downtown area and is looking to expand the system.



Data as of May 31, 2016

Summary Report	Program Cumulative
Total Number of Trips	430,887
Total Number of Miles	1,203,748
Total Number of Calories Burned	47,982,758
Total Carbon Offset (Lbs.)	1,140,827
Car Avoidance Trips	112,031



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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

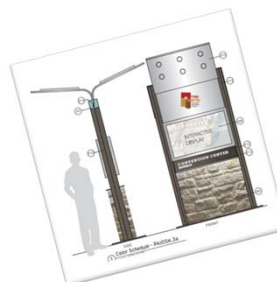
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## Mobility Highlights

## Downtown Wayfinding Program

The “wayfinding” improvement project, an action item outlined in the DAP, aims to integrate a range of navigation and communication tools for traversing the downtown area, such as signage, brochures, kiosks and smart-phone applications.

Master Plan and Design Book completed. Moved into Phase 3 (implementation).



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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

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## Public Realm Highlights

## Downtown Parks and Congress Avenue

## Downtown Parks:

- Wooldridge Square improvements are in design phase
- Republic Square Phase II - \$6 million improvements start in July

## Congress Avenue Streetscape – Urban Design

**Initiative:** RFQ released May 31; responses were due July 13.



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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

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## Public Realm Highlights

## Great Streets

The transformation of downtown's public realm through the implementation of Great Streets has been greatly advanced by the incorporation of street improvements as part of recently completed, under construction or planned COA Street Reconstruction Projects.



Cesar Chavez Blvd- Before



Cesar Chavez Blvd- After

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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

## 2

## Public Realm Highlights

## Great Streets

Street Reconstruction and Great Streets Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs):

**Completed:**

- *Cesar Chavez Esplanade* - between San Antonio and Congress Avenue
- *2<sup>nd</sup> Street (in combination with private developers)*, between San Antonio and Trinity
- *3<sup>rd</sup> Street Phase I - III includes the extension of the LAB through downtown*, between Trinity and San Antonio
- *Colorado Street Phase I* – between 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup>
- *8<sup>th</sup> Street* – between Congress and San Antonio

**Under Construction:**

- *3<sup>rd</sup> Street Phase IV* – between Nueces and San Antonio; expected completion Aug. 2016
- *2<sup>nd</sup> Street* between San Antonio and West Ave.; expected completion Aug. 2016
- *Colorado Phase II* – 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Street - expected completion Fall 2017

**Planned:**

- *Cesar Chavez Esplanade Phase II* – San Antonio to Pfluger Bridge (approx.); expected completion 2019

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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

## 2

## Public Realm Highlights

## Great Streets

## Integration of Great Streets into the Complete Streets Policy

**Private Developments Implementing Great Streets:**

Since the Program's inception in 2001, 42 private projects have built their street frontages to GS standards, 12 are under construction, and 14 are in the design/planning phase. (Total of 68 private projects).

**The total number of Great Street block faces completed, under construction or planned through CIP + private projects = 310.5 block faces ≈ 16.5 linear miles of Great Streets.**



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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

### 3 Activities and Uses Highlights

#### Seaholm and Green Water Treatment Plant Redevelopment

**ACTIVE PROJECTS MAP**

Project Phase: Preliminary Design Construction

This map shows the variety of projects in the Seaholm District that are currently active.

Seaholm District Update - October 29, 2015

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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

### 3 Activities and Uses Highlights

#### Seaholm and Green Water Treatment Plant Redevelopment

**City Public-Private Projects Producing:**

- 3,675,000 SF Total New Product
- 2,280 Residential Units
- 92+ Affordable Housing Units & AHTF Contributions
- 630,000 SF Office
- 193,000 SF Retail/Restaurant
- Boutique Hotel
- Multimodal Transportation Infrastructure
- Public Parking
- Open / Green Spaces
- Public Art

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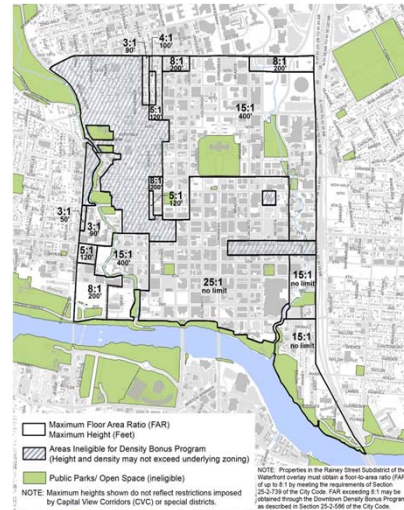
## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

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## Activities and Uses Highlights

## Downtown Density Bonus Program

- Approved by City Council via Ordinance No. 20140227-054 which modifies LDC 25-2-586
- Pathway to achieve community benefits
- Three projects have received administrative approval through the Program and will contribute over \$1.3 million to affordable housing efforts. Downtown will benefit from participation and contributions to other community benefits



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## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

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## Activities and Uses Highlights

## Affordable Housing

- Capital Studios (Foundation Communities): 11<sup>th</sup> and San Jacinto; 135 housing units available to extremely and very low-income individuals, including 27 units of Permanent Supportive Housing
- Integration into the Downtown Density Bonus Program



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## UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### 4

### Utilities and Infrastructure Highlights

- Waller Creek – both flood control tunnel and above-ground infrastructure improvements
- Little Shoal Creek stormwater tunnel
- Ongoing replacement of aging wastewater infrastructure – oftentimes in conjunction with streetscape projects



Waller Creek Tunnel



Little Shoal Creek



Street Infrastructure

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## NEXT STEPS

### Commence work on creation of an Economic Development Corporation (EDC)

- Evaluation of an EDC has commenced with the work and recommendations done by HR&A
- Other cities' EDCs have been studied as a potential model for Downtown
- Commenced working with the DAA on economic development tools including an EDC

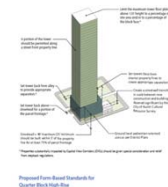
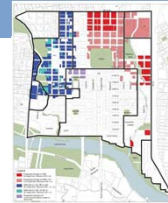


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## NEXT STEPS

Coordination with **CodeNEXT**

1. **Zoning-related changes** that support the community's vision.
2. **Downtown Compatibility Standards** that are place-specific and promote density while supporting District character and protecting adjacent neighborhoods.
3. **Creation of Form-Based standards** for Downtown that consider Downtown's unique character and offer a predictable path towards project approval.



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## Questions?

[www.austintexas.gov/page/downtown-austin-plan](http://www.austintexas.gov/page/downtown-austin-plan)