



CodeNEXT Forum ZWAC Appointee - Guidance Document

Background

CodeNEXT is the City of Austin's initiative to revise the Land Development Code, which determines how land can be used throughout the city; including what can be built, where it can be built, and how much can be built. CodeNEXT collaborates with a private contractor, Opticos design in the drafting of the new code and is assisted by the City Council appointed Land Development Code Advisory Group (CAG).

Austin Resource Recovery (ARR) staff has tracked the development of *Code Next* since its 2012 inception in *Imagine Austin*. As part of that tracking process ARR staff has participated in the Green Infrastructure Working Groups (2014), Code Advisory Group Working Meetings (2015-2017), and provided formal recommendations to the CodeNEXT staff and Opticos Design to inform the first draft of the new code.

The first draft of the new code was released to the public and ARR staff on January 30, 2017.

City staff, boards and commissions, and citizens will have until August of 2017 to provide feedback. More information on feedback options can be found at the CodeNEXT webpage.

CodeNEXT staff anticipates the first draft of the code going to City Council for first reading in December 2017 and Council adopting the new code in April of 2018.

Staff Process

ARR staff will be conducting a full review of the new code which consists of over 1,000 pages. ARR staff will be evaluating whether or not the new code incorporates elements that will support our Zero Waste goals and programs. In particular, staff will focus on areas of the code that might impact operational services or infrastructure. For example, staff is interested in how the code addresses impervious cover and/or parking limitations on properties where limited space is available for trash, recycling, and composting containers.

ZWAC Action Item:

The City Clerk sent an email on 1/18/17 to all boards and commissions that the Land Development Code Advisory Group (CAG) requested **one member of each commission that is impacted by the code appoint a representative to attend a March 4th CAG meeting about CodeNEXT**. This representative would be provided the opportunity to learn more about CodeNEXT at this meeting and report back to ZWAC.

The desired outcomes of this event for the CAG are: (1) to receive information from knowledgeable persons that will be useful in our final report to the land use commissions and City Council; and (2) to further the CAG's outreach mission. The desired outcome for City staff is to ensure that each of the city's multiple boards and commissions is given an opportunity to weigh in on the draft code, while efficiently consolidating the number of presentations required. The desired outcome for the City of Austin and its residents is to write and adopt the best possible Land Development Code.

Resources

Code Next Webpage: <http://austintexas.gov/codenext>
Code Next Draft: <https://codenext.civiccomment.org/>