



## ZONING AND PLATTING RECOMMENDATION 20170718-E-1

Date: July 18, 2017

Subject: CodeNEXT

Motioned By: Commissioner Greenberg

Seconded By: Vice-Chair Duncan

### **Recommendation**

*Please see attachment.*

### **Vote: 7-2**

For: Chair Kiolbassa, Vice-Chair Duncan and Commissioners Aguirre, Breithaupt, Denkler, Greenberg, King

Against: Commissioners Evans and Trinh

Abstain:

Absent: Commissioner Lavani off the dais; Commissioner Flores absent

Attest:

To: Mayor Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Tovo, City Council, Planning Staff, and CodeNext consultants  
From: The Zoning and Platting Commission

The proposed change in formatting and nomenclature presented on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> to the land use commissions and City Council will provide a unified and simplified appearance to the Land Development Code and zoning maps. The Zoning and Platting Commission encourages the use of district-based category names that are easy to understand and remember.

The Zoning and Platting Commission expects that CodeNext Version 2.0 will have substantive changes in addition to changes in appearance. To this end, we make the following recommendations:

**(Get Organized)** The Zoning and Platting Commission recommends that CodeNext be ordered for user convenience. Additional diagrams including flowcharts should be added to improve the user's understanding. Environmental regulations should continue to retain its own chapter. Transportation can be incorporated within the infrastructure chapter. Administration, procedures, and definitions should be consolidated.

**(One set of zones – REALLY!)** The Zoning and Platting Commission recommend that the same set of zones be used in the entire city. This means that zones for the same purpose should have the same development standards and compatibility protections. If zones are substantially different, the names should highlight rather than obscure the distinctions.

**(Keep it simple)** The Zoning and Platting Commission recommends that changes to fix problems with the current code be kept as simple as possible.

**(Avoid displacement)** The Zoning and Platting Commission recommends that preventing displacement in historically marginalized and low-income areas should be a priority.

**(Safety First)** The Zoning and Platting Commission recommends that flood mitigation be given priority in planning with the goal of reducing flooding in Austin. CodeNext should incorporate the suggestions from the Watershed Flood Capacity Analysis, Flood Mitigation Task Force, and the Environmental Commission. Wildfire mapping should also inform the second draft.

**(A quicker and more standardized process)** The Zoning and Platting Commission recommends that CodeNEXT procedures increase accountability, predictability and clear criteria for decisions that will result in faster approvals.

Respectfully,



Jolene Kiolbassa

Zoning and Platting Commission, Chair