



## **CODES AND ORDINANCES JOINT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Wednesday, September 19,**  
**2018**

**The Codes and Ordinances Joint Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 20, at 505 Barton Spring Road, One Texas Center, Room #500, in Austin, Texas.**

Commissioner Seeger called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

### **Subcommittee Members in Attendance:**

James Schissler  
Karen McGraw

Patricia Seeger  
Fayez Kazi

### **City Staff in Attendance:**

Tracy Witte, PC  
Lyndi Garwood, Planning and Zoning Department  
Mark Walters, Planning and Zoning Department

### **Others in Attendance:**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

### **1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

- a. None

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of the June 20, 2018 meeting minutes.

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Commissioner McGraw, seconded by Commissioner Schissler. Vote: 4-0 (Commissioners Greenberg and Denkler absent).

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. None.

### **4. POTENTIAL CODE AMENDMENTS: Proposed for Discussion and/or Initiation**

*Potential amendments to the code are offered for discussion and/or possible recommendation for initiation. If initiated, Staff will research the proposal and report back to the subcommittee.*

- a. **Neighborhood Plan Amendment Fee Waivers.** Discuss and consider initiation of Title 25 amendments relating to fee waivers associated with Neighborhood Plan amendments initiated by Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams and Neighborhood Plan amendment fee waivers

associated with SMART Housing projects. City Staff: Mark Walters, Planning and Zoning Department, (512) 974-7695, [mark.walters@austintexas.gov](mailto:mark.walters@austintexas.gov); (Discussion and/or Possible Action).

Mark Walters described the current practice of waiving fees for neighborhood plan amendments that are initiated by neighborhood plan contact teams, as well as SMART housing projects that require a neighborhood plan amendment. The waiving of these fees is done in practice today, but hasn't been codified.

Commissioners had the following questions; staff will provide answers when the item is posted to the full PC agenda for initiation:

- Where does the money come from that makes up for waived fees?
- Can contact teams apply for property-specific changes at any time, and are they limited to the number allowed per year?

A motion was made to send the item to full Planning Commission for initiation with no recommendation, by Commissioner Kazi, seconded by Commissioner Seeger. Vote: 4-0 (Commissioners Greenberg and Denkler absent).

- b. Definition of Mirrored Glass.** Discuss and consider initiation of Title 25 amendments to update the definition of “mirrored glass” contained in 25-1-21(67). City Staff: Mark Walters, Planning and Zoning Department, (512) 974-7695, [mark.walters@austintexas.gov](mailto:mark.walters@austintexas.gov); (Discussion and/or Possible Action).

Mark Walters explained that the current code has a definition for mirrored glass that is outdated and no longer makes sense for modern buildings. The need for a code change was precipitated by a building downtown that currently has glass with a reflectivity above 20%, which is what the current code allows. However, advances in materials and best practices means that 20% may no longer be an appropriate threshold.

Commissioners had the following questions; staff will provide answers when the item is posted to the full PC agenda for initiation:

- How will the proposed change interact/impact the pedestrian-level reflectivity described in SubChapter E?
- Where else in the code is mirrored glass referenced?

A motion was made to send the item to full Planning Commission for initiation by Commissioner Seeger, seconded by Commissioner Kazi. Vote: 4-0 (Commissioners Greenberg and Denkler absent).

## **5. REGULAR AGENDA: Previously Initiated**

*Previously initiated amendments to the code are offered for discussion and possible recommendation to the full Planning Commission.*

- a. None.**

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. **Update on Potential Upcoming and Current Code Amendments** – City Staff: Greg Dutton, Planning and Zoning Department, 974-3509, [Greg.Dutton@austintexas.gov](mailto:Greg.Dutton@austintexas.gov); (Discussion and/or Possible Action).

The item was not discussed and no action was taken.

## **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

*Future agenda items will NOT be discussed at the current meeting, but will be offered for initiation, discussion, and/or possible recommendation to the full Planning Commission at a FUTURE meeting.*

The item was not discussed and no action was taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Seeger adjourned the meeting without objection at 7:10 p.m.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date. Please call Greg Dutton at Planning and Zoning Department, at 512-974-3509, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Codes and Ordinances Joint Committee, please contact Greg Dutton at (512) 974-3509 or at [greg.dutton@austintexas.gov](mailto:greg.dutton@austintexas.gov)