



# City of Austin - Design Commission Project Review Application

The [Design Commission](#) provides advisory recommendations to the City Council to assist in developing public policy and to promote excellence in the design and development of the urban environment. The Design Commission reviews three types of projects:

1. **City projects** (see page ii for process)

The Commission reviews all municipal buildings and associated site plans to ensure they demonstrate compliance with city design and sustainability standards ([Council Resolution No. 20071129-046](#)), including those seeking [Subchapter E Design Standards Alternative Equivalent Compliance \(AEC\)](#) ([Council Resolution No. 20100923-086](#)).

2. **Destiny Bonus projects** (see page iv for process)

The Commission reviews density bonus projects for substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin in accordance with the Gatekeeper requirements of [LDC 25-2-586](#) for the Downtown Density Bonus Program.

3. **Advisory Recommendations for Private projects** (see page ii for process)

The Commission will consider Project Review Applications from private projects during its regularly scheduled monthly public meetings and may issue an advisory recommendation in the form of a Project Review Letter to the Applicant.

This Project Review Application must be submitted before your project can be presented to the Design Commission for their review. Design Commission requests project be presented in their Conceptual/Schematic Design phase. This application primarily addresses inhabited buildings and structures and their effect on the public realm; please refer to Appendix A for infrastructure type projects.

The Commission's review of projects is based on the planning/design principles in the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin. Ensure that all applicable principles are addressed in the application questions and in your presentation.

[https://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Boards\\_and\\_Commissions/Design\\_Commission\\_urban\\_design\\_guidelines\\_for\\_austin.pdf](https://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Boards_and_Commissions/Design_Commission_urban_design_guidelines_for_austin.pdf)

The Design Commission supports the vision and principles of [Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan](#), especially those that affect the urban environment and fabric. All projects should consider this vision and principles, many of which are similar to the Urban Design Guidelines. Refer to Appendix C for the most pertinent sections of Imagine Austin.

The Design Commission expects the applicant's design team to present their project with those most knowledgeable and encourages the inclusion of sub-consultants at the presentation, when deemed necessary.

## EXHIBITS TO PRESENT

- 1) Completed Project Review Application (p.1-6)
- 2) Existing zoning classification, adjacent zoning & uses, future land use map classification, topography
- 3) Vicinity plan, including public transportation and connectivity on-site and within quarter mile
- 4) Site plan and landscape plan
- 5) Ground level, basement plan, and typical floor plan
- 6) Elevations and/or 3d views
- 7) Any letters of support or findings by other commissions
- 8) Staff reports, if any
- 9) Records of public participation

# PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS: CITY PROJECTS

The Design Commission reviews all municipal buildings and associated site development projects to ensure they demonstrate compliance with city design and sustainability standards ([Council Resolution No. 20071129-046](#)), including those seeking [Subchapter E Design Standards Alternative Equivalent Compliance \(AEC\)](#) ([Council Resolution No. 20100923-086](#)).

1. Applicants are encouraged to meet with the Office of the City Architect prior to submitting a Project Review Application, especially if seeking Alternative Equivalent Compliance (AEC) under Subchapter E Design Standards. (See Staff Contacts on page iv.)
2. Applicant submits completed Project Review Application, including Exhibits, to Commission Liaisons a minimum of ten (10) days prior to the Design Commission meeting. (See and [Calendar of Regular Meetings](#) and "Exhibits to Present" on page i)
3. Commission Liaisons review Project Review Application for completeness. Once the Application is deemed complete, the project will be added to the agenda. (Agendas are posted online 72 hours prior to the meeting.)
4. Commission Liaisons post backup, including complete Project Review Application and letters/decisions from other Boards and Commissions, the Friday before the meeting. (See [Meeting Documents](#) website.)
5. Design Commission meets and hears a 15 minute presentation by the Owner/Applicant/Architect. The Commission asks questions and makes recommendations. At the end of the project review, the Design Commission may rely on the recommendations recorded in their meeting minutes or submit a Project Review Letter to City Staff in Development Services Department.
6. Design Commission may direct a Working Group to write the Project Review Letter. The Working Group will take comments from the full Design Commission meeting, add their comments, and coordinate with the Design Commission Chair to issue a Letter to applicable Development Services Department Staff. The Working Group shall meet prior to the next regularly-scheduled Design Commission to finalize comments on any project submittal. The goal is for this to happen in a one (1) month time frame.
7. Commission Liaisons will forward approved meeting minutes or Project Review Letters to applicable Development Services Staff.
8. Design Commission may request that an Owner/Applicant or City Staff submit an update report in the future so that the Commission can review progress as a project is further detailed.

## PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS: DENSITY BONUS PROJECTS

The Design Commission reviews density bonus projects for substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin in accordance with the Gatekeeper requirements of LDC 25-2-586 for the Downtown Density Bonus Program.

1. **Six weeks prior to the target Design Commission meeting:** Applicant will contact Density Bonus Liaison with intent to schedule project on the next Design Commission agenda.
  - a. Density Bonus Liaison will provide application and submittal documentation to Applicant and notify Commission Liaisons.
2. **Five weeks prior to the target Design Commission meeting:** Density Bonus Liaison will contact Chair of Working Group to schedule a meeting, copying Commission Liaisons.
3. **By the end of the fourth week (24 calendar days) prior to the target Design Commission meeting:** The Applicant will submit all completed application requirements to Density Bonus Staff Liaison.
4. **By the end of the third week (17 calendar days) prior to the target Design Commission meeting:** Design Commission Working Group will meet to review Project Review Application and evaluate Applicant's presentation detailing substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin.
  - a. Working Group will provide Applicant comments and suggestions on improving presentation and issue a recommendation to the Design Commission on achieving substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin.
5. **By the end of the second week (10 calendar days) prior to the target Design Commission meeting:** Chair of the Working Group will send the Density Bonus and Commission Liaisons the Working Group's written recommendation to the Design Commission containing specific feedback given to the Applicant and, if lacking, detailing items to address to achieve substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin.
6. **One week (7 calendar days) prior to the target Design Commission meeting:** Once the Density Bonus Liaison receives the revised project submittal from the Applicant and the Commission Liaison receive the written recommendation from the Working Group Chair, the Commission Liaison will place project on Design Commission agenda for discussion and possible action.
7. **Design Commission meeting:** At the meeting, Design Commission will review the project for substantial compliance with the Urban Design Guidelines for Austin based on Working Group recommendations and issue a final recommendation detailing to Planning and Zoning Department Staff items needed to be addressed in order to achieve substantial compliance.
8. **Within one week after Design Commission meeting:** The Chair will issue a formal written recommendation based on the action taken by the by the Commission detailing to Planning and Zoning Department Staff items needed to be addressed in order to achieve substantial compliance.

## GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

### *Incomplete Applications*

Should Commission Liaisons determine that the Project Review Application is incomplete, the Application shall be returned to the Applicant and the project will not be posted on the agenda for consideration by the Commission.

**Submissions without the required Adobe PDF electronic file shall be deemed incomplete.**

### *Public Notice*

Posting of public notices on the proposed project site or giving notice to adjacent property owners is not required by the enabling ordinance of the Design Commission. The posted agenda for the Design Commission meetings serves to inform the public of subjects considered by the Commission. The Applicant shall note that the concomitant regulatory procedures by other boards and commissions have legal public notice requirements. Actions taken by the Austin Design Commission shall be in respect of and in compliance with such local ordinances and project review procedures.

### *Limits on Resubmissions*

Applicants are limited to two (2) resubmissions per design phase (as described herein) and shall notify Commission Staff of the intent and desire to resubmit project(s) for review within seven (7) days of the action vote by the Commission. The Commission shall consider such resubmissions prior to issuing the Project Review Letter.

### *Rebuttal of Project Review Letter*

Since the Commission issues advisory recommendations only, there is no instance for appeals to the Commission. Rebuttals of such advisory recommendations may be made by the Applicant to the applicable city department, planning commission, or City Council in accordance with applicable standard processes and procedures.

## STAFF CONTACTS

By appointment, City Staff is available for consultation on submittal requirements. To schedule a pre-submission conference or for information on any of the above submittal requirements, please contact:

City of Austin, One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, TX 78704

Commission Liaisons:

**Executive Liaison:** [Benjamin.Campbell@austintexas.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Campbell@austintexas.gov), (512) 974-7691

**Staff Liaison:** [Nichole.Koerth@austintexas.gov](mailto:Nichole.Koerth@austintexas.gov), (512) 974-2752  
Urban Design Division, Planning and Zoning Department, 5th floor

**City Architect:** [Janice.White@austintexas.gov](mailto:Janice.White@austintexas.gov), (512) 974-7997  
Office of the City Architect, Public Works Department, 9th floor

**Density Bonus  
Program Coordinator:** [Benjamin.Campbell@austintexas.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Campbell@austintexas.gov), (512) 974-7691  
Urban Design Division, Planning and Zoning Department, 5th floor



## A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name

Project Type:

Infrastructure

City building & site

Density bonus

Private project

Other

Project Location/Address

Applicant

Property Owner

Applicant Mailing Address

Property Owner Mailing Address

Applicant Telephone Number

Property Owner Telephone Number

Project Start Date

Project Completion Date

Applicant's Architect

Applicant's Engineer

1] Indicate if proposed Project is required by City Ordinance to be reviewed by the Design Commission.

2] Describe the recommendation that you are requesting from the Design Commission.

3] Current Design Phase of Project (Design Commission prefers to see projects right after approved schematic design).

4] Is this Project subject to Site Plan and/or Zoning application approvals? Will it be presented to Planning Commission and/or City Council? If so, when?

5] Does this Project comply with Land Development Code Subchapter E? List specifically any Alternative Equivalent Compliance request if any. Please refer to website for Alternate Equivalent Compliance (AEC) requirements.  
[https://www.municode.com/library/tx/austin/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=TIT25LADE\\_CH25-2ZO\\_SUBCHAPTER\\_EDESTMIUS](https://www.municode.com/library/tx/austin/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT25LADE_CH25-2ZO_SUBCHAPTER_EDESTMIUS)

## B. PROJECT BACKGROUND

6] Provide project background including goals, scope, building/planning type, and schedule. Broadly address each of the “Shared Values for Urban Areas” that are listed on Page 6 of the Urban Design Guidelines. Attach additional pages as needed.

7] Has this project conducted community/stakeholder outreach? If so, please provide documentation to demonstrate community/stakeholder support of this project.

8] Is this project submitting for the Downtown Density Bonus Program? If so, please provide a completed Downtown Density Bonus Application.

9] Has the project been reviewed by COA Department (i.e. DAC) Staff? If so, please describe and cite any relevant comments or feedback that the Commission should be aware of.

10] Are there any limitations to compliance or planning principles due to the specific requirements of this project that the Commission should be aware of?

## C. EXISTING CONDITIONS AND CONTEXT

11] Identify connectivity to public transportation including, bicycle and pedestrian routes and/or multi-modal transportation. Does the project comply with ADA requirements? Provide a site context map and attach additional pages as needed.

12] Identify and describe any existing features that are required to be preserved and/or protected such as heritage trees, creeks or streams, endangered species (flora and/or fauna)? Attach additional site diagrams as needed.

13] Is this project within any City of Austin planning district, master plan, neighborhood plan, regulatory district, overlay, etc.? If so, please illustrate how this project conforms to the respective plan. Attach additional pages as needed. (See below for requirements.)

14] List any project program and/or site constraints that should be considered.

## D. RELATIONSHIP TO PUBLIC REALM

Public realm is defined as any publically owned streets, pathways, right of ways, parks, publicly accessible open spaces and any public and civic building and facilities. The quality of our public realm is vital if we are to be successful in creating environments that people want to live and work in.

15] The shared values outlined in the Urban Design Guidelines include Human Character, Density, Sustainability, Diversity, Economic Vitality, Civic Art, A Sense of Time, Unique Character, Authenticity, Safety and Connection to the Outdoors. How is the project addressing these unique community characteristics? Is the project developing any public amenities for urban continuity and vital place making?

16] Does this project encourage street level activity to engage and respond to functional needs such as shade, rest areas, multi-modal transportation storage and paths?

17] How will the project be a good neighbor to adjacent properties? For example, describe the treatment of the transition area between properties, i.e. fence, landscape improvements, etc.

## E. ENVIRONMENTAL/SUSTAINABLE ISSUES

The Austin Urban Design Guidelines set a goal that, "All development should take into consideration the need to conserve energy and resources. It should also strive for a small carbon footprint."

18] Please list any significant components of the project that contribute to meeting this goal. If the project has been designed to accommodate future inclusion of such components (for example, by being built "solar ready") please list them.

19] If the project is being designed to meet any sustainability/environmental standards or certifications (for example, LEED Silver), please list them here and attach relevant checklists or similar documents that demonstrate how the standard or certification will be achieved.

20] If the project contains other significant sustainability components not included above that the Commission should note, please list them here.









# Property Profile



## Legend

- Capital Metro Bus Stops
- Protected Streets
- Protected Bike Lanes
- Bike Lanes
- Site Boundary

GREAT STREETS:

EAST AVE=  
MIXED MODE STREET

RIVER ST=  
BICYCLE &  
PEDESTRIAN DOMINANT

1: 4,800



0.2 0 0.08 0.2 Miles

NAD\_1983\_StatePlane\_Texas\_Central\_FIPS\_4203\_Feet

Date Printed:

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## Vicinity Plan





# Property Profile



1: 2,400

## Legend

### Jurisdiction

- FULL PURPOSE
- LIMITED PURPOSE
- EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION
- 2 MILE ETJ AGRICULTURAL AGR
- OTHER CITY LIMITS
- OTHER CITIES ETJ

### Zoning

- Single Family (SF)
- Multi-family (MF)
- LA, RR
- Mobile Home (MH)
- Commercial (CH, CS, GR, LR, L)
- Office (GO, LO, NO)
- Industrial (IP, LI, MI, PDA, RD, W/L)
- CBD, DMU
- TND, TOD, NRG, ERC
- PUD
- AG, DR
- AV, P, UNZ
- County/Missing Value

Zoning Text

Site Boundary

Existing Zoning Plan

0.1 0 0.04 0.1 Miles

NAD\_1983\_StatePlane\_Texas\_Central\_FIPS\_4203\_Feet

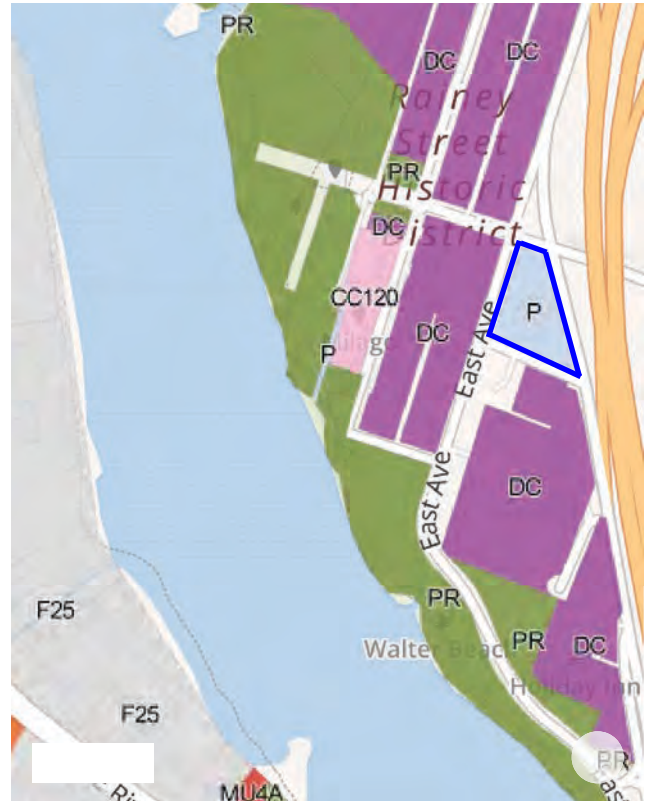
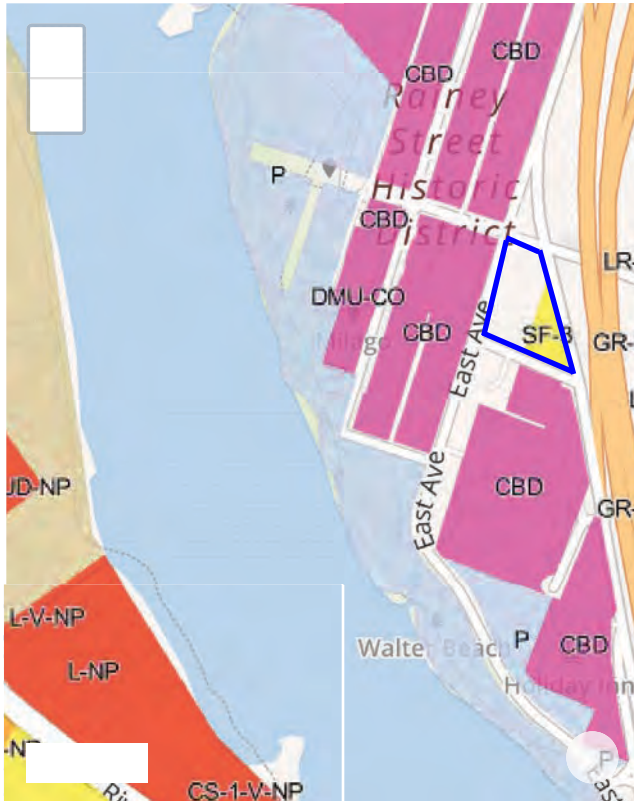
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







Existing Zoning

Proposed Zoning































SOURCE: CODENEXT MAPS



## Existing Zoning Legend

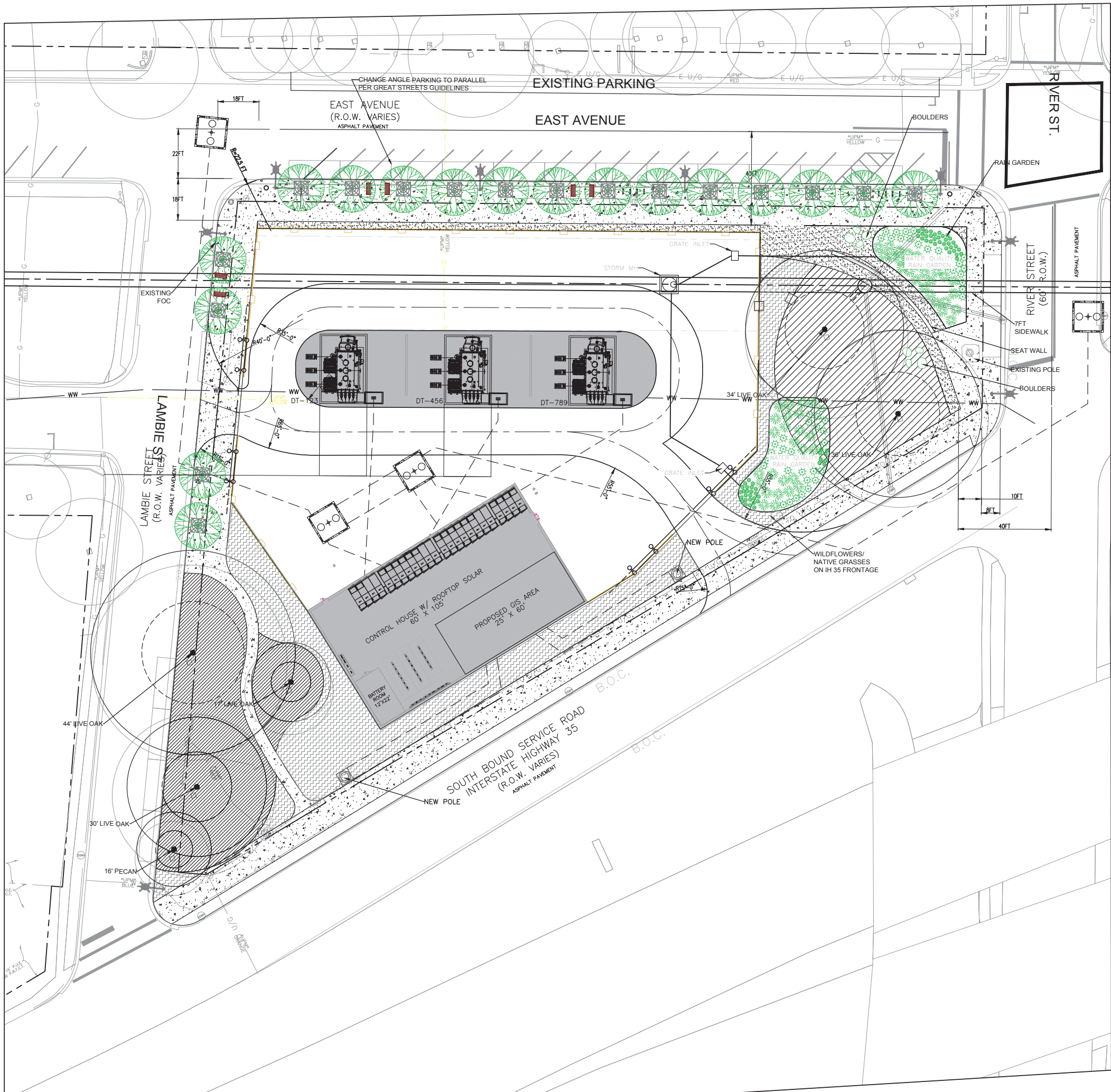
 Rural Residence (RR)	 Central Business District (CBD) Downtown Mixed Use (DMU)
 Single Family Residence (SF-1, SF-2, SF-3, SF-4A, SF-4B) Lake Austin Residence (LA)	 Limited Industrial Services (LI) Industrial Park (IP) Warehouse Limited Office (W/LO)
 Urban Family Residence (SF-5) Townhouse & Condo Residence (SF-6)	 Major Industrial (MI) Research and Development (R&D)
 Multifamily Residence (MF-1, MF-2, MF-3, MF-4, MF-5, MF-6)	 Public (P) Aviation Services (AV)
 Mobile Home Residence (MH)	 Agricultural (AG) Development Reserve (DR)
 Commercial Recreation (CR)	 Planned Unit Development (PUD) Planned Development Area (-PDA)
 Neighborhood Office (NO) Limited Office (LO) Neighborhood Commercial (LR) General Office (GO)	 Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
 Community Commercial (GR) Commercial Services (CS) Commercial Liquor Sales (CS-1) Commercial Highway (CH) Lake Commercial (L)	 East Riverside Corridor (ERC) North Burnet/Gateway District (NBG) Traditional Neighborhood District (TND)
	 Unzoned (UNZ)

# Proposed Zoning Legend

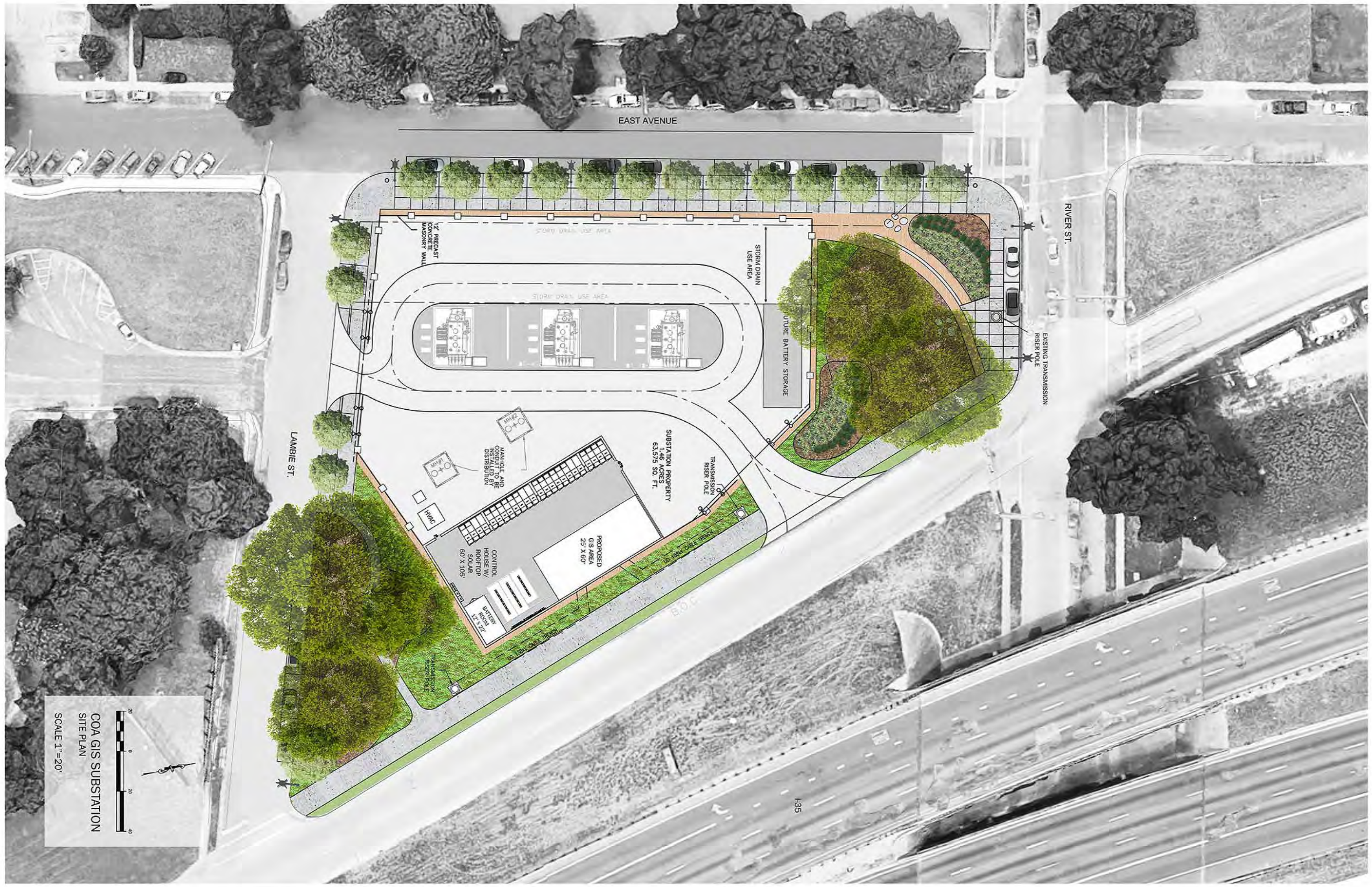
 Rural Residential (RR)	 Mixed-Use 1 (MU1A, MU1B, MU1C, MU1D)	 Commercial Recreation (CR)
 Lake Austin (LA) Residential 1 (R1A, R1B, R1C)	 Mixed-Use 2 (MU2A, MU2B)	 Commercial Warehouse (CW) Industrial Flex (IF) Industrial General (IG)
 Residential 2 (R2A, R2B, R2C, R2D, R2E)	 Mixed-Use 3 (MU3A, MU3B)	 Industrial Heavy (IH) Research and Development (R&D)
 Residential 3 (R3A, R3B, R3C, R3D)	 Mixed-Use 4 (MU4A, MU4B)	 Public (P) Aviation Services (AV)
 Residential 4 (R4A, R4B, R4C)	 Mixed-Use 5 (MU5A)	 Agricultural (AG)
 Manufactured Home (MH)	 Main Street 1 (MS1A, MS1B)	 Parks (PR) Conservation Lands (CL)
 Residential Multi-Unit 1 (RM1A, RM1B)	 Main Street 2 (MS2A, MS2B, MS2C)	 Unzoned (UNZ)
 Residential Multi-Unit 2 (RM2A, RM2B)	 Main Street 3 (MS3A, MS3B)	 Former Chapter 25 (F25) (F25 properties retain existing zoning)
 Residential Multi-Unit 3 (RM3A)	 Commercial Center (CC)	
 Residential Multi-Unit 4 (RM4A)	 Urban Center (UC)	
 Residential Multi-Unit 5 (RM5A)	 Downtown Core (DC)	



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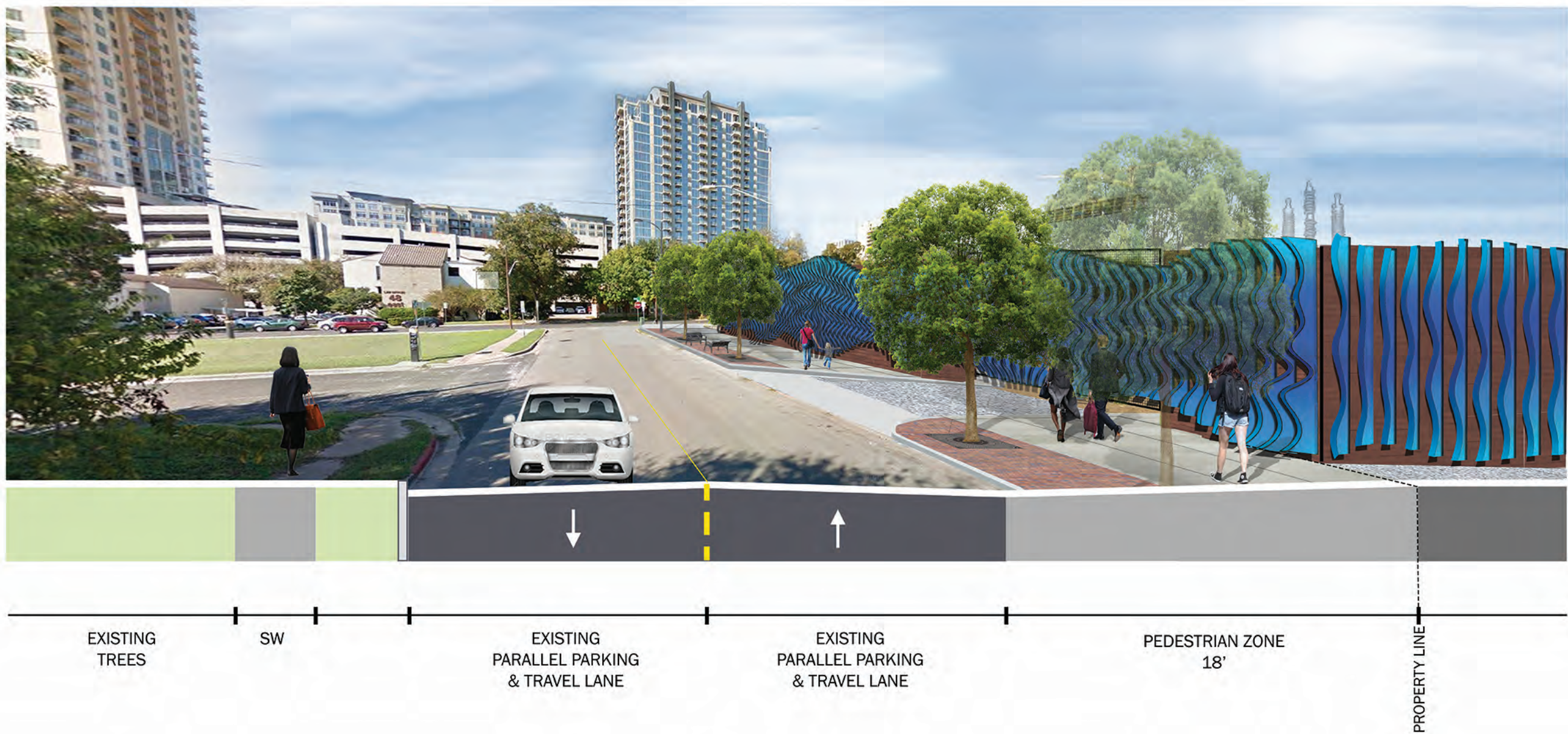


COA GIS SUBSTATION  
SITE PLAN  
SCALE 1"=20'





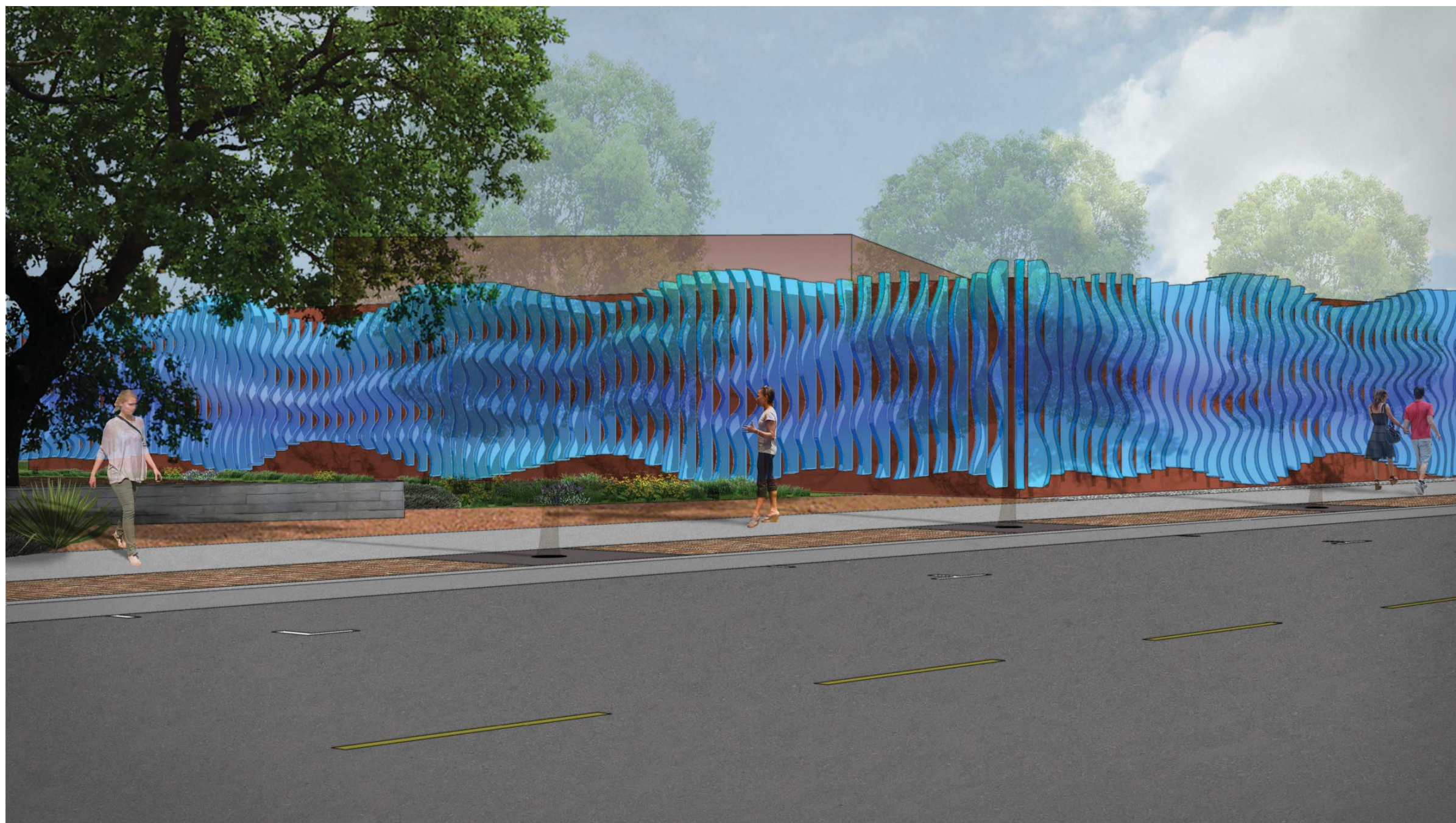




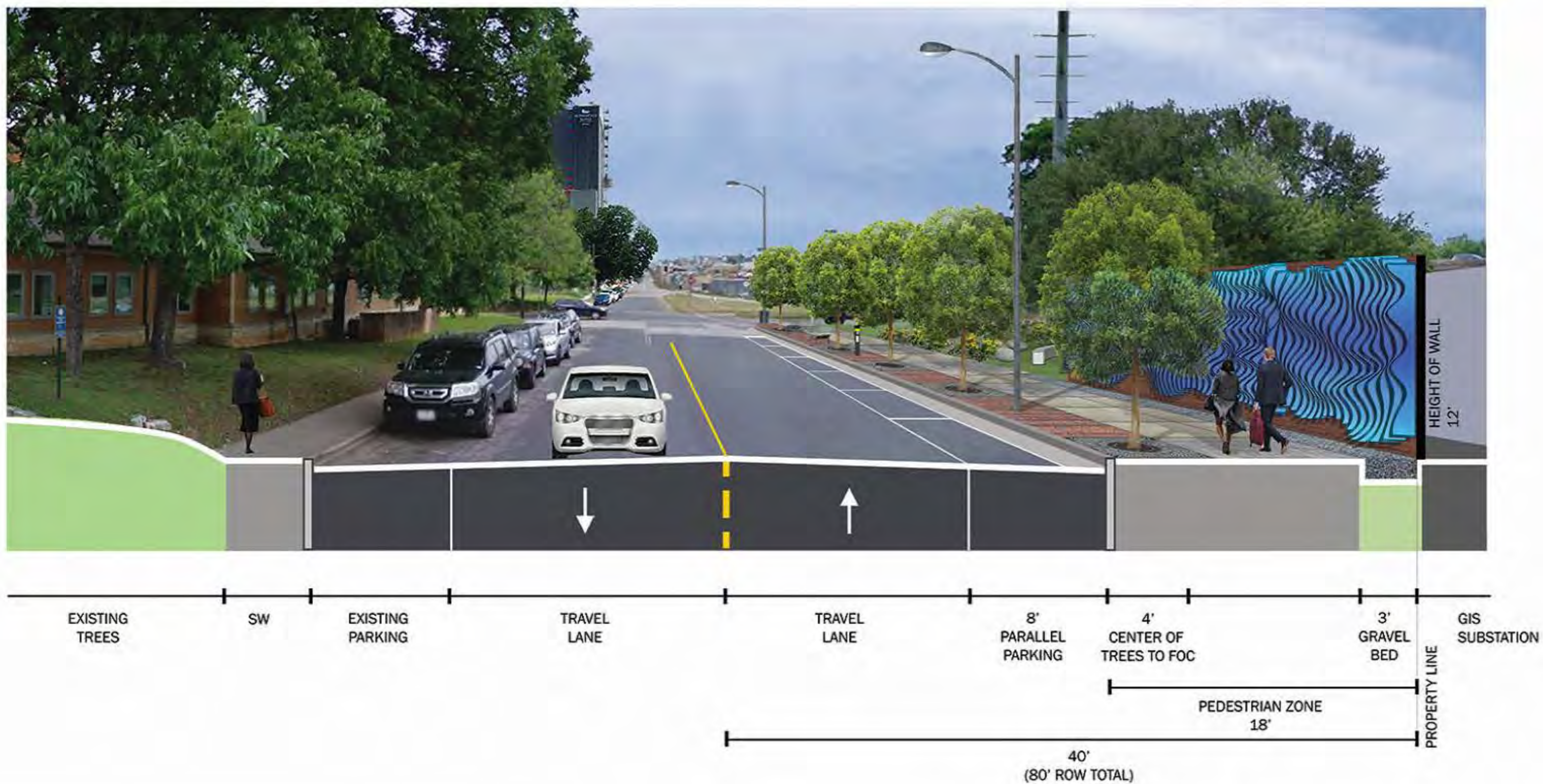
SECTION PERSPECTIVE: LAMBIE STREET LOOKING WEST

0 2' 4' SCALE 1"=2'









SECTION PERSPECTIVE: EAST AVENUE LOOKING NORTH

0 2' 4' SCALE 1"=2'



## 2016 COMMERCIAL RATING SCORECARD PLANNER



PROJECT NAME

RAINEY STREET SUBSTATION

AEGB COMMERCIAL RATING STAR LEVELS	
1 Star	Basic Requirements
2 Stars	35 - 44 points
3 Stars	45 - 54 points
4 Stars	55 - 74 points
5 Stars	75 points or more

SUMMARY	
TOTAL POINTS MARKED YES	42
RATING ANTICIPATED	Basic Requirements Not Met
TOTAL POINTS MARKED YES AND MAYBE	51
RATING ANTICIPATED	Basic Requirements Not Met

MEASURE	POINTS AVAILABLE	YES	MAYBE	NO	NOTES	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
BASIC REQUIREMENTS						
1. Plans & Specifications	Req'd	YES				CDA for security fencing, wall and GIS building
2. Current Codes & Regulations	Req'd	YES				CDA for security fencing, wall and GIS building
3. Building Systems Commissioning	Req'd					
4. Building Energy Performance	Req'd	YES				CDA for security fencing, wall and GIS building
5. Outdoor Water Use Reduction	Req'd	YES				GDI
6. Indoor Water Use Reduction	Req'd					
7. Low-Emitting Materials - Interior Paints & Coatings	Req'd	YES				CDA for security fencing, wall and GIS building
8. Storage & Collection of Recyclables	Req'd					
9. Construction Waste Management	Req'd	YES				CDA for security fencing, wall and GIS building
10. Tenant Requirements	Req'd					
INTEGRATED DESIGN						
1. Integrated Project Design	2	2				
INTEGRATED DESIGN SUBTOTALS		2	0	0		
SITE						
1. Environmental Sensitivity	2	2				
2. Desired Development	2	2				

MEASURE	POINTS AVAILABLE	YES	MAYBE	NO	NOTES	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
3. Density	2			0		
4. Diverse & Walkable Communities	1		1			
5. Brownfield Redevelopment	1		1			
6. Site Specific Design	1	1				
7. Public Transportation	1-3			0		
8. Bicycle Use	1		1			
9. Parking Capacity	1	1				
10. Electric Vehicle Charging Station	1	1				
11. Protect & Restore Habitat	1	1				
12. Beneficial Open Space	1		1			
13. Access to Local & Regional Produce	1			0		
14. Heat Island Reduction	1		1			
15. Light Pollution Reduction	1		1			
16. Integrated Pest Management	1		1			
SITE SUBTOTALS		8	7	0		
ENERGY						
1. Building Energy Performance	1-16	8			By nature the building should not use much energy. The building envelope will be designed to provide the optimal performance	CDA / SCI
2. Renewables	1-4	2			The security wall face that provides for the best solar exposure is hampered by the required easement. The building roof could provide for westerly panels. South is hampered by heritage trees.	CDA / SCI / AE
3. Additional Commissioning	1-3			0		
4. Advanced Energy Metering	1			0		
5. Demand Response	2			0		
6. Green Energy	2		2			
7. District Cooling	1			0		

MEASURE	POINTS AVAILABLE	YES	MAYBE	NO	NOTES	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
ENERGY SUBTOTALS		10	2	0		
WATER						
1. Outdoor Water Use Reduction	1-3	3				
2. Building Water Use Reduction	1-6				No domestic water use is anticipated	
3. Process Water Use Reduction	1-2					
4. Stormwater Management	1-2	2				
WATER SUBTOTALS		5	0	0		
INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (IEQ)						
1. Indoor Chemical & Pollutant Source Control	1					CDA / SCI
2. Green Housekeeping	1	1				AE
3. Daylighting - Design	1	1				
4. Daylighting - Controls	1	1				
5. Views to the Outside	1				The building is not occupied	
6. Individual Controllability	1					
7. Low-Emitting Materials						
Interior Sealants & Adhesives	1-5	1				CDA / SCI
Flooring Systems		1				CDA / SCI
Composite Wood & Agrifiber Products						
Insulation		1				CDA / SCI
Ceiling & Wall Systems		1				CDA
Furniture						
Exterior Applied Products		1				CDA
8. Moisture Protection	1					

MEASURE	POINTS AVAILABLE	YES	MAYBE	NO	NOTES	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
9. Acoustic Quality	1					
10. Outdoor Pollutant Control	1	1				
11. Construction Indoor Air Quality	1	1				CDA / SCI
IEQ SUBTOTALS		10	0	0		
MATERIALS & RESOURCES						
1. Additional Construction Waste Management	1					
2. Building Materials Use Reduction	1-3	2				CDA
3. Sustainably Sourced Material	1-6	2				CDA
4. Certified Wood	1					
5. PVC & Phthalate Free Material	1					
MATERIALS & RESOURCES SUBTOTALS		4	0	0		
EDUCATION & EQUITY						
1. Educational Outreach	2	2				AE
2. Construction Worker Equity	1	1				AE
EDUCATION & EQUITY SUBTOTALS		3	0	0		
INNOVATION						
1. Innovation #1	1					
2. Innovation #2	1					
3. Innovation #3	1					
4. Innovation #4	1					
5. Innovation #5	1					
INNOVATION SUBTOTALS		0	0	0		
GRAND TOTAL POINTS		100	42	9	0	



# REPOWERING DOWNTOWN



## DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT





# Table of Contents

The Downtown Substation Community Engagement Report documents outreach and community input for all phases of the community engagement process. This report will continue to be updated throughout the course of the project.

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# REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

## DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

### Community Engagement Report

Austin Energy is committed to active and engaging communication with residents, individuals, community leaders, businesses, and organizations to ensure that their preferences and opinions are heard and considered for inclusion in the substation design. A Community Engagement Plan was developed for the Downtown Substation that outlined goals of the engagement effort:

- Create public awareness about the substation and public engagement process through a deliberative outreach effort
- Provide an open and transparent process throughout the entire planning process
- Provide a variety of accessible opportunities and options for all those interested to conveniently be involved and share input
- Engage a diverse set of participants
- Provide engaging interactions that facilitate collecting valuable input
- Collect input on considerations and certain aspects of design

A variety of tools will be used to reach these goals, including meetings with stakeholders, presence at community events, holding public meetings, conducting local business and civic group outreach, and providing opportunities to participate online such as an updated webpage and surveys.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PHASES & TIMELINE

Community engagement will occur throughout this process in three phases. Each phase will encompass the entire effort to share information, collect input, and involve stakeholders and members of the community in the process.



## **PHASE 1: OUTREACH**

The purpose of the first outreach phase was to introduce the project and process, continue to build awareness in the community, and collect input on concerns, desires, and preferences.

To engage the community during the first phase of outreach, several methods of engagement were employed.

### **Outreach**

An initial contact list was developed representing interested citizens, neighborhood groups, local businesses, community and civic groups, and news media services.

The project team proactively reached out to the list to share information about the opportunities to participate by sending email notifications and scheduling meetings with representatives from various groups, including the Rainey Neighbors Association, the Rainey Business Coalition, the Mexican American Cultural Center, and Towers of Town Lake HOA.

### **Notification**

Promotional materials were prepared in English and Spanish and several methods were used to notify the public of the meeting, including:

- A postcard was mailed to approximately 1,000 property owners within a ¼ mile radius of the substation site
- 2 email notifications were sent to the Repowering Downtown database (5/24/18 sent to 171 email addresses; 6/12/18 sent to 197 email addresses)
- A press release was distributed to media sources, other City Departments, and to elected officials
- Attending key stakeholder meetings with the Mexican American Cultural Center, The Rainey Neighborhood Association, The Town Lake Neighbors Association, and the Towers of Town Lake HOA
- A Univision segment recorded the week before the meeting
- Key members of the Rainey Street Neighborhood emailed their groups and posted flyers in residential elevators
- City Council and State legislators received personalized email invitations
- Social media messages were posted on Facebook (reached 397 followers with 19 responses), Twitter, and NextDoor (reached 1,400 subscribers)
- 24 signs were placed in the area around the substation location

Following the meeting, notification materials were prepared in English and Spanish to notify the public of the survey and provide opportunities to participate, including:

- 2 email notifications reminding recipients of the survey were sent to the Repowering Downtown database (6/14/18 sent to 209 email addresses; 7/5/18 sent to 239 email addresses)
- An embedded survey link was included on a Towers.net article on the substation, pulling in 127 survey respondents

- Social media messages were posted on Facebook (reached 5,620 followers with 53 responses) and NextDoor (reached 1,400 subscribers)

### Public Meeting

June 12, 2018 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center

600 River Street, Austin, TX 78701

31 Attendees signed in

### Meeting Summary

Attendees were invited to learn about the project and the public engagement process, visit with Austin Energy staff and project team members, and share input.

Exhibit boards containing information about the project and process were displayed at the public meeting and made available online. The information shared on the boards included background information on power delivery, the downtown Austin electrical network, and the location site. They also outlined the project goals, timeline, and potential aesthetic themes. Attendees were encouraged to visit with team members and share their input by taking a survey or submitting general comments.



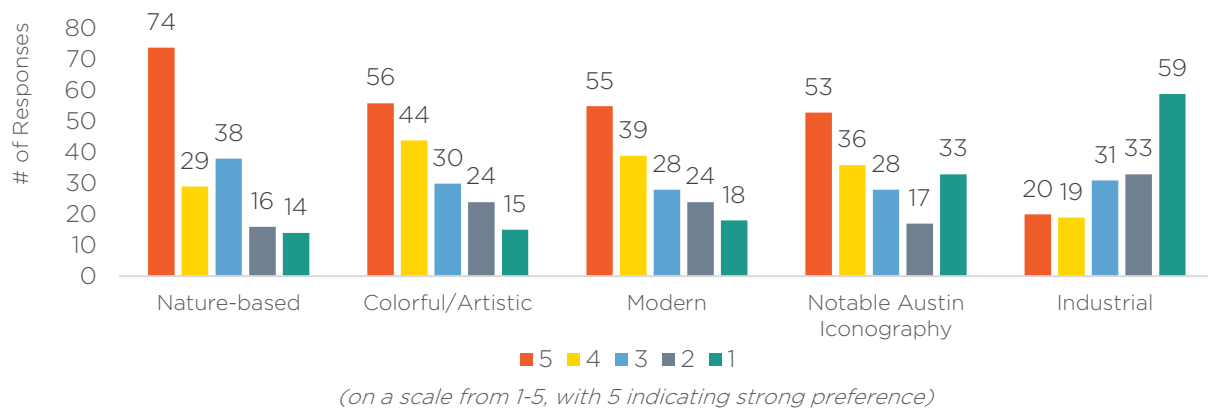
## PUBLIC INPUT

While public input is encouraged at any time, the comment period for Phase 1 lasted from June 12, 2018 through July 8, 2018. During this time, comments could be submitted in writing or through a survey developed in English or Spanish.

178 survey responses and 1 comment were received.

Key themes from the first phase of community outreach include:

1. **Aesthetics:** A strong point of community interest was aesthetics. The most popular themes for the enclosure in order of weighted average preference were Colorful/Artistic, Nature-based, and Modern. Providing renderings of potential appearances of the substation and enclosure may help contextualize the design for the public and assuage concerns about final aesthetics.



### 2. Input on Site:

- Approximately 27 comments focused on concerns about and suggestions for general aesthetics, with approximately 6 of those noting a desire to preserve the trees and incorporate landscaping into the site plans.

*“Adding lots of trees to this area and making it look like a park would attract locals and give back to the city.”*

- Approximately 19 comments noted concern for the impact the facility would have on the neighborhood and residents.

*“My primary concern is you are trying to pack too much into an already overcrowded area. How much more parking are we going to lose because of this project? It’s tough enough on the businesses in the area as it is.”*

- Approximately 9 comments supported additional possible uses for the site, such as a dog park or music venue.

*"Please add more sidewalks to the area and have something the community can use instead of making it a dead block."*

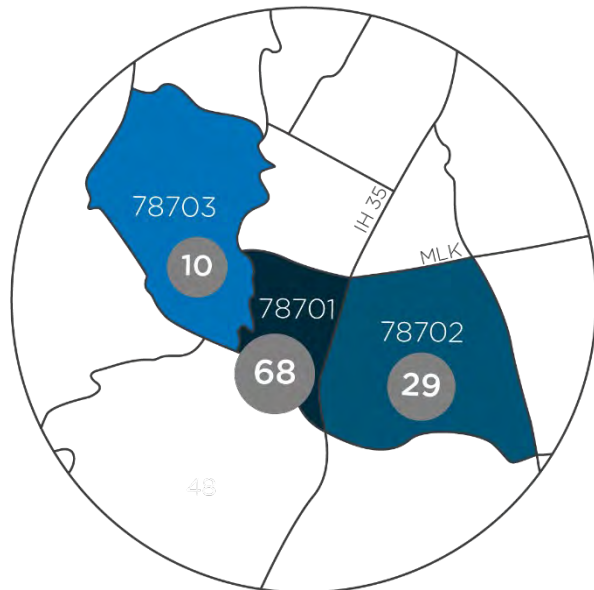
3. **Support for Project Goals:** Input received indicates strong support for the goals of the project. The goal to ensure that energy downtown is reliable and resilient received the highest level of support with a weighted average of 3.9 and 95 respondents labeling it their highest level of support.

*"All of the goals identified for the new substation are vital."*

There were also comments received that expressed concern over health and safety and requested additional clarifying information on the impact the substation would have on nearby residents.

*"I'd like to see more information about safety concerns, how we plan to minimize electrical fields and noise of operating the substation that has direct impact to the health and safe being of the residents."*

4. **Local Interest:** Although there was a diverse set of zip codes reported, most (58%) survey respondents lived in zip code 78701 or 78702, and 55% claimed to live near the project location. This suggests that most interest in the project is from the community that will be living directly near the project site.



5. **Positive Response to Engagement:** 67% of respondents are satisfied with the opportunities to provide input and report a better understanding of the importance of adding a new substation to the downtown network after reviewing the materials provided.

## SURVEY RESULTS

175 English, 3 Spanish

Graphs representing the collected survey data are included below. Comments for questions that provided an option for additional commentary for the first phase of public engagement are included in Appendix A.

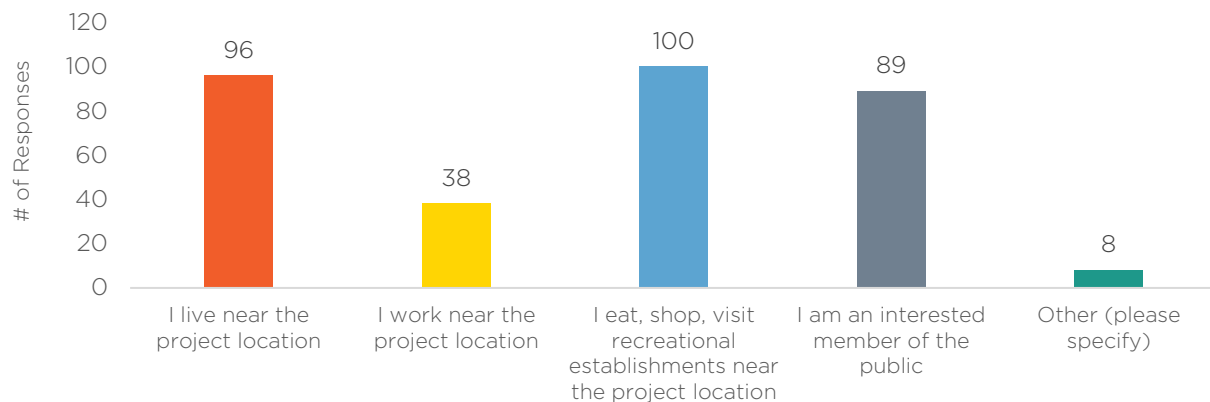
275 respondents answered question 1. After question 1, the number of responses dropped to 178.

### 1. Do you prefer to respond to this survey in English or Spanish?

270 respondents preferred to answer in English, 5 preferred to answer in Spanish.

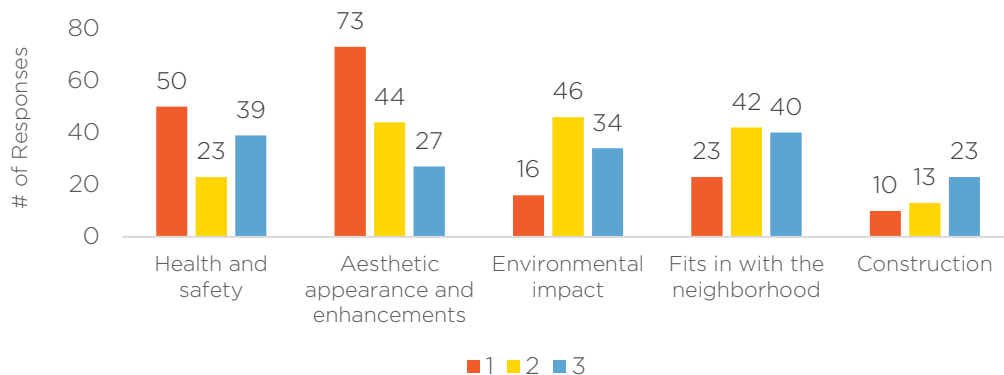
### 2. Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply)

Answered: 177



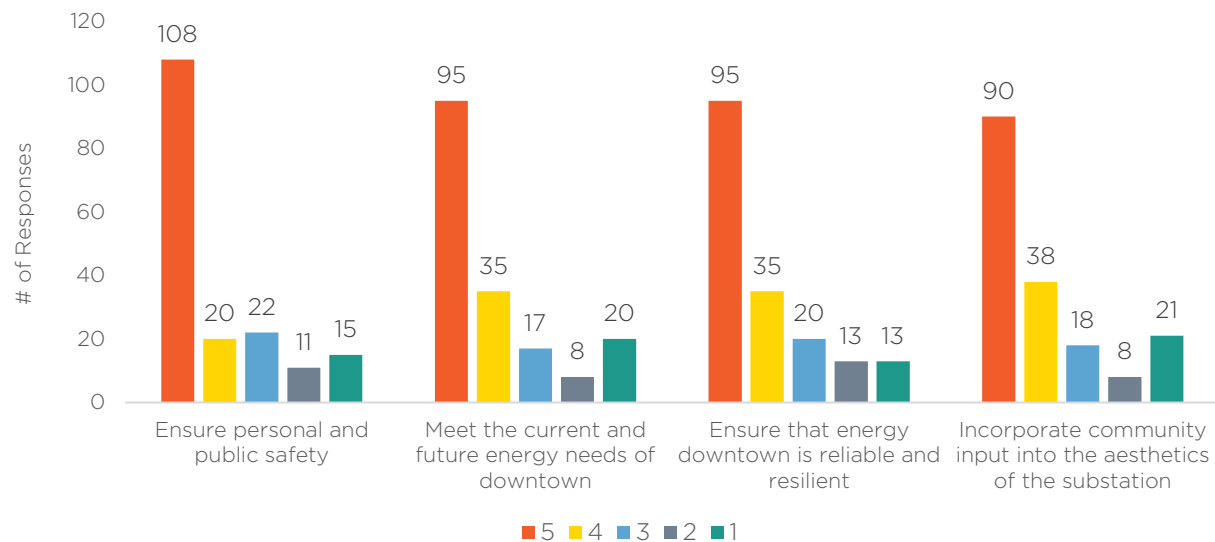
### 3. Please share your top 3 areas of interest for the project, with 1 being your top interest.

Answered: 176



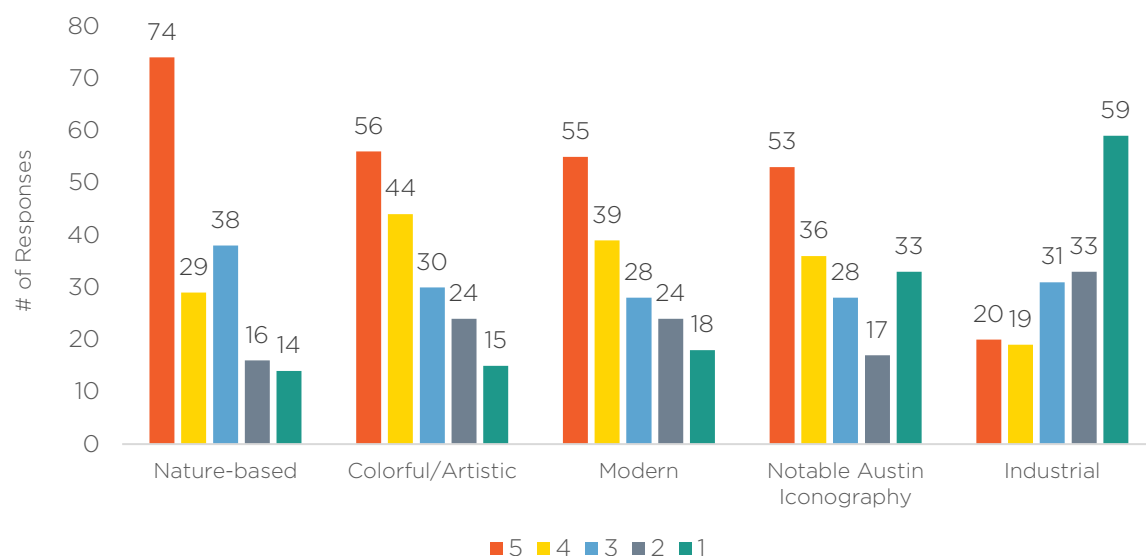
4. We have identified the following goals for the design and construction of the substation. Please indicate your level of understanding and support for these goals on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating strong preference (multiple answers can have the same rating). If you would like to suggest any additional goals, please do so below.

Answered: 178



5. Below are possible themes for the substation's outward aesthetics. Rate these on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating strong preference (multiple answers can have the same rating).

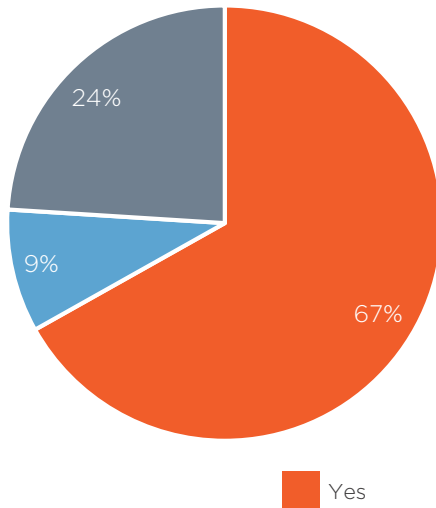
Answered: 177





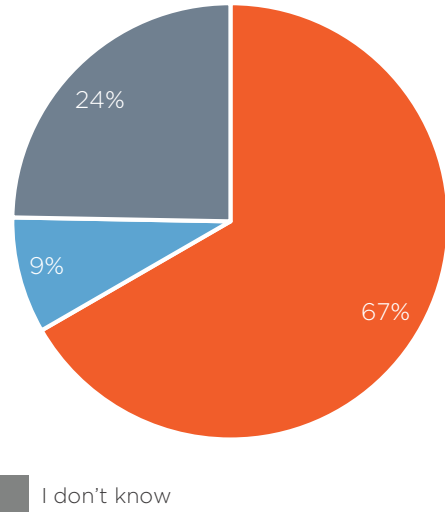
6. After viewing the materials provided, I have a better understanding of the importance of adding a new substation to the downtown network.

Answered: 175



7. I am satisfied with the opportunities that are available to provide input on the downtown substation.

Answered: 174



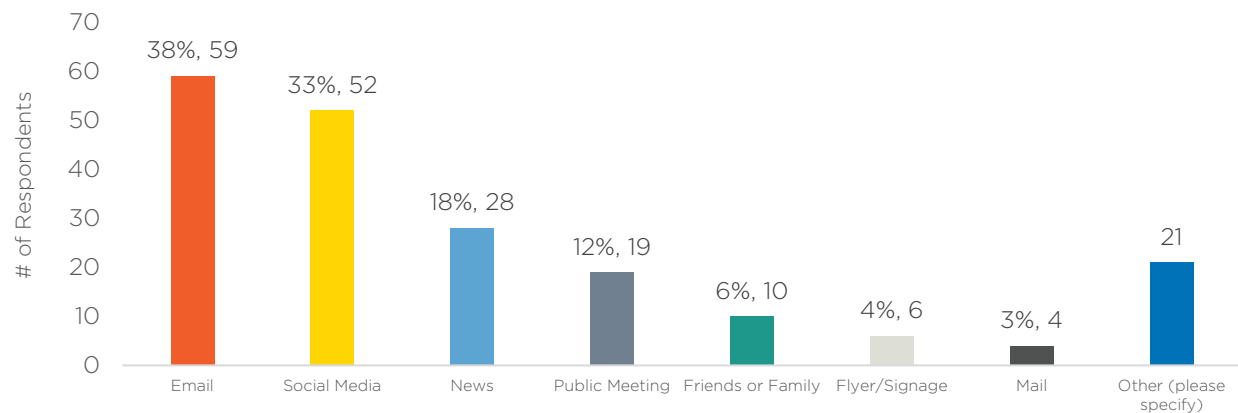
8. Please share any additional comments here.

Answered: 25

25 respondents shared their comments. Full comments for the first phase of community engagement are included in Appendix A.

9. How did you learn about this survey?

Answered: 157

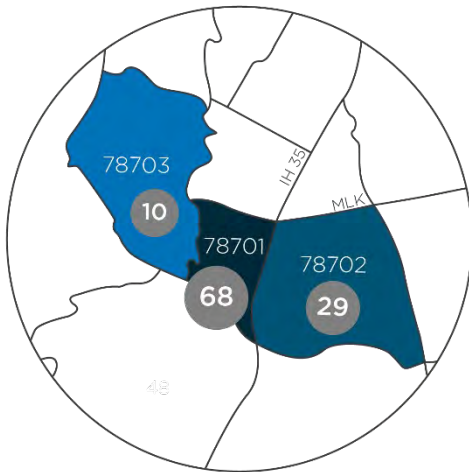


10. If you would like project updates, please share your email address.

60 respondents shared their email address.

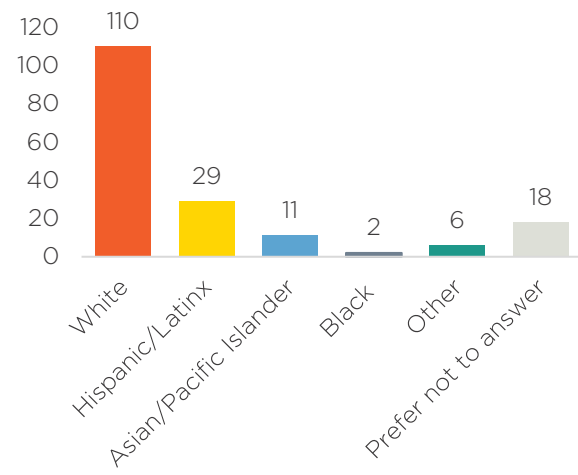
### 11. What is your zip code?

Answered: 165



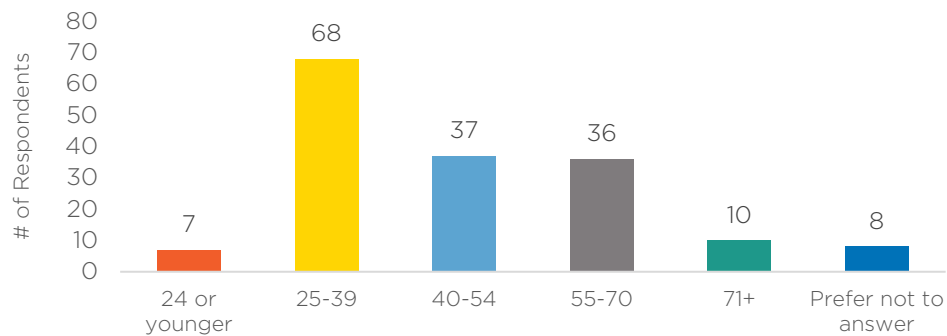
### 12. What is your race/ethnicity?

Answered: 162



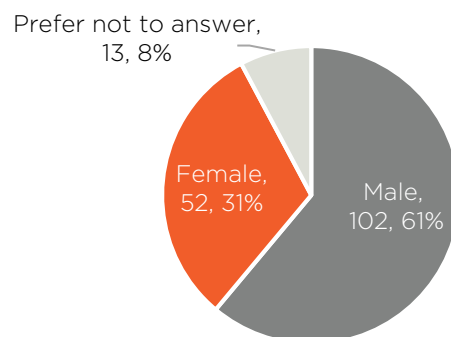
### 13. What is your age?

Answered: 166



### 14. What is your gender?

Answered: 167



## **PHASE 2: OUTREACH**

The purpose of the second outreach phase was to present aesthetic and layout concepts for the substation for public input.

### **Outreach**

The project team continued to add interested stakeholders and contacts to the original database.

### **Notification**

Promotional materials were prepared in English and Spanish. Methods used to notify the public of the meeting included:

- A postcard was mailed to over 1,200 properties within a ¼ mile radius of the project site
- 3 email notifications were sent to the Repowering Downtown database (12/24/18 sent to 252 email addresses; 2/19/19 sent to 244 email addresses; 2/25/19 sent to 237 email addresses)
- Presentations given at stakeholder meetings with the Rainey Neighborhood Association on 10/17/2019 and the Mexican American Cultural Center on 12/5/2019
- Contacted key members of the Rainey Street Neighborhood to distribute flyers and post them in residential elevators
- Social media messages were posted on Facebook (posts reached 966 followers with 25 responses and event page reached 1,658 followers with 35 interested responses), Twitter (reached 12,806 followers with 20 link clicks), and NextDoor (reached 1,052 subscribers)
- 24 signs were placed in the area around the substation location

Following the meeting, additional notifications were made to share details and the survey.

- 2 email notifications reminding recipients of the survey were sent to the Repowering Downtown database (3/1/19 sent to 274 email addresses; 3/18/19 sent to 325 email addresses)
- An embedded survey link was included on a Towers.net article on the substation, resulting in 78 survey respondents
- Social media messages were posted on Facebook (post reached 417 followers with 8 responses), Twitter (reached 2,661 followers with 10 link clicks) and NextDoor (reached 3,390 subscribers)
- A presentation was given at a stakeholder meeting with the Towers of Town Lake on 3/25/2019 and additional surveys were distributed

## Public Meeting

February 28, 2019 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center

600 River Street, Austin, TX 78701

45 attendees signed in

## Meeting Summary

Background information from the first public meeting was available for attendees who were unfamiliar with the project.

Exhibit boards were shared, including:

- General project information
- Process updates
- Next steps
- Results from the previous round of community engagement
- Site information
- Name, landscape, and enclosure considerations, parameters, and options

Attendees were invited to view aesthetic and layout concepts for the substation, visit with Austin Energy staff and project team members, and share feedback.



## PUBLIC INPUT

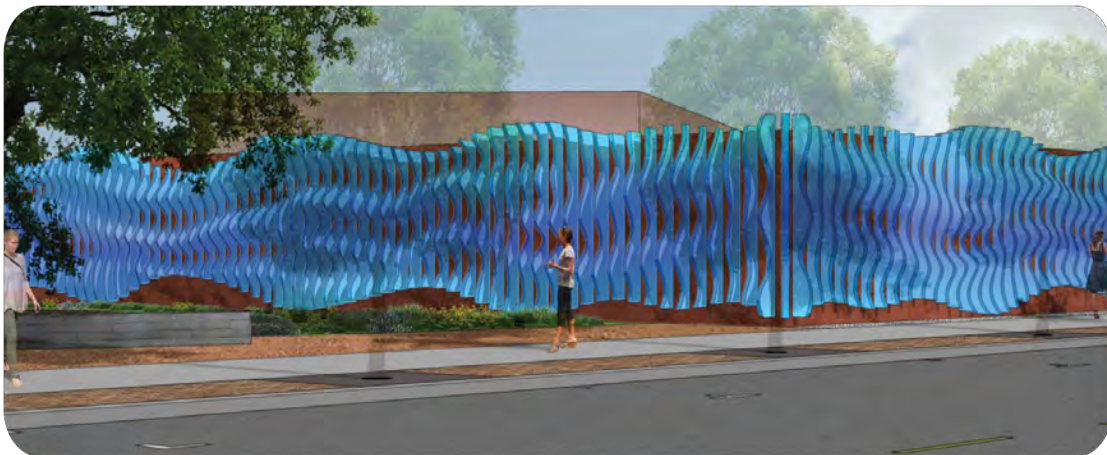
The survey and comment period for Phase 2 lasted from February 28 through March 31, 2019. Input was collected in a survey available online and in paper form, and through general comments that could be submitted in writing via mail or email in English & Spanish.

**440** Surveys Received

Most Preferred Name

**Rainey Street Substation**

Most Preferred Design Theme: Modern



Most Preferred Landscaping



**Native Grasses  
& Wildflowers**



**Natural Boulders**

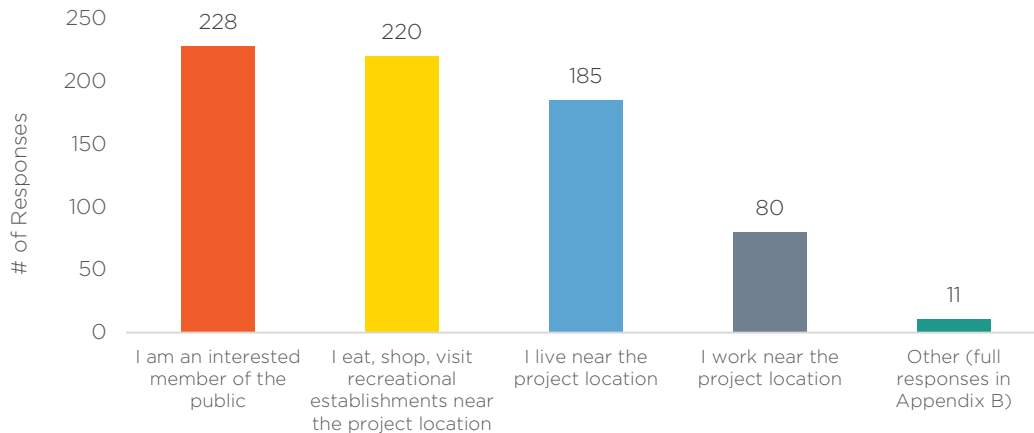
**98%** reported that they were satisfied with the opportunities to provide public input



## SURVEY RESULTS

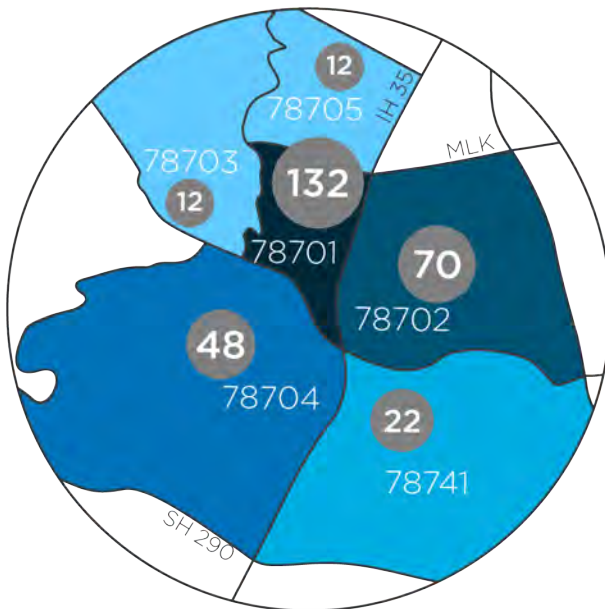
### 1. Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply)

Answered: 437



### 2. What is your zip code?

Answered: 434



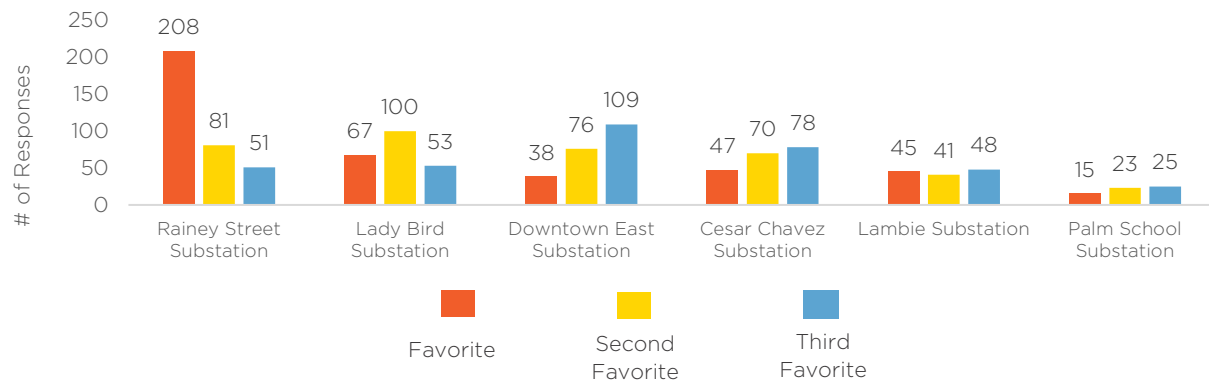
All zip codes	# of respondents for each zip code
78701	132
78702	70
78704	48
78741	22
78751	14
78745	13
78703; 78705	12
78723	9
78721; 78722; 78731; 78749	7
78744; 78758	6
78759	5
78746; 78752	4
78729; 78753; 78756	3
78613; 78660; 78732; 78735; 78737; 78739; 78747	2
11226; 33305; 76574; 78212; 78641; 78645; 78653; 78681; 78724; 78725; 78727; 78728; 78733; 78738; 78742; 78748; 78750; 78754; 79741; 80127	1

### 3. To receive project updates, share your email address.

130 respondents shared their email address.

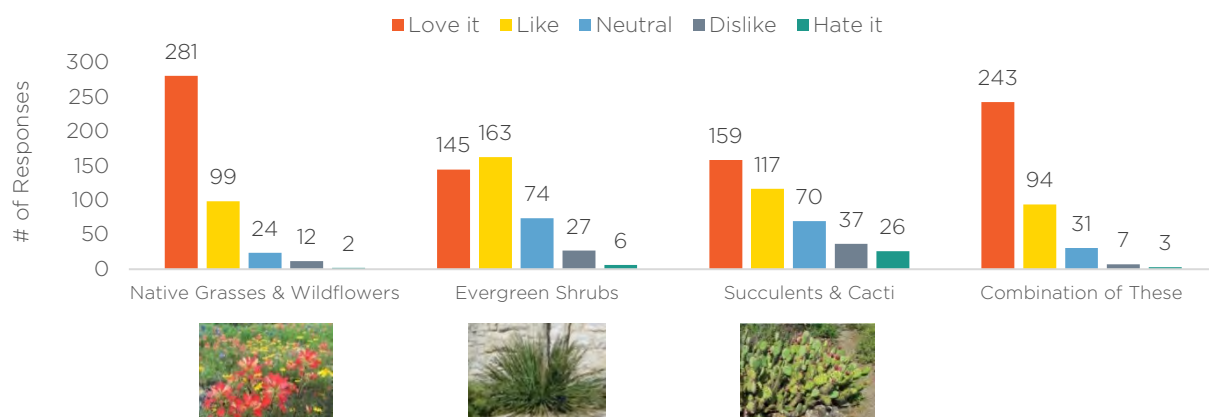
### 4. Please share your top three choices for a name for the substation site. (NOTE: select only one name for each category, or your answers cannot be counted!)

Answered: 423



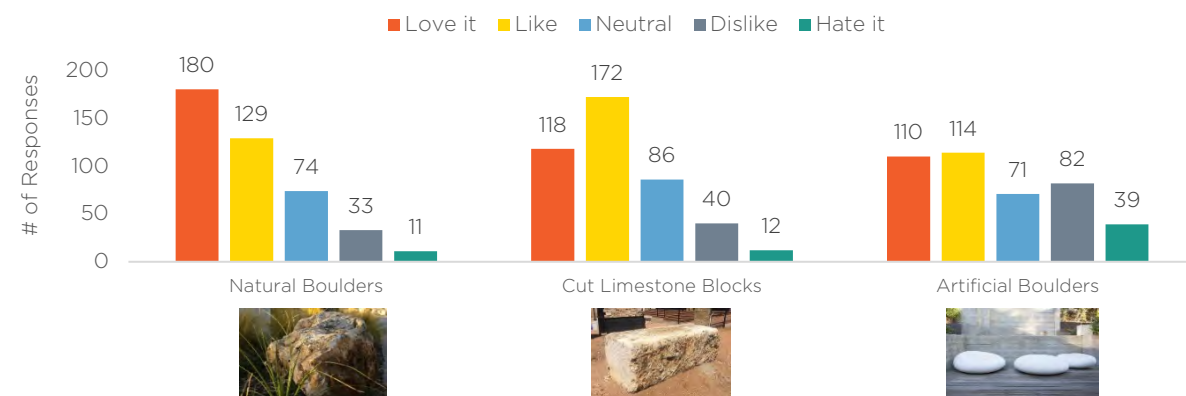
### 5. Plant Options Along I-35 Frontage Road

Answered: 436



### 6. Boulder Options for Decoration & Seating

Answered: 436

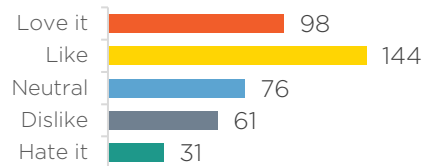




7. In a previous survey, community members identified three preferred design themes: Colorful/Artistic, Nature-Based, and Modern. Share your preferences on each overall theme and its different style options.

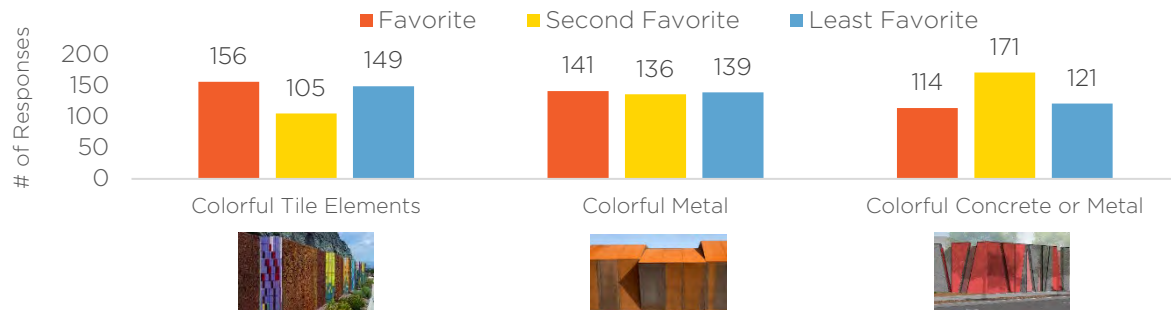
## Colorful/Artistic

Answered: 410



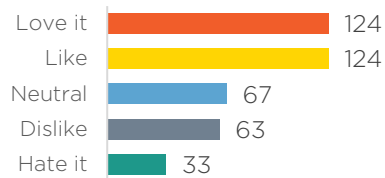
Rank the options from your favorite to least favorite.

Answered: 416



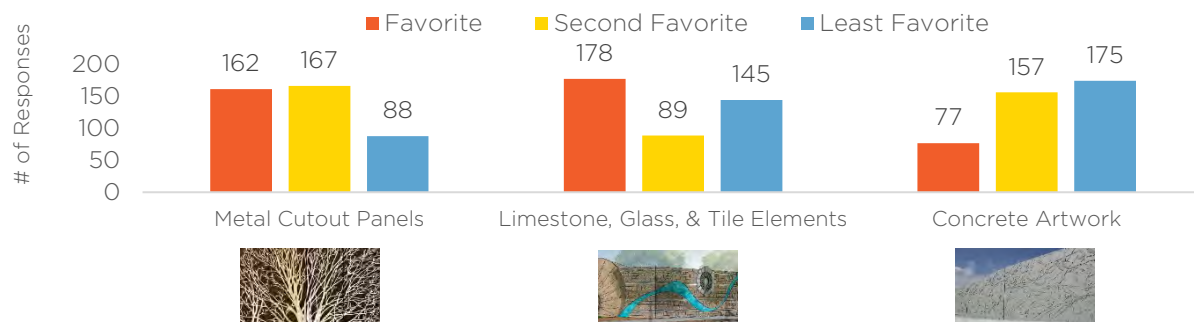
## Nature-Based

Answered: 411



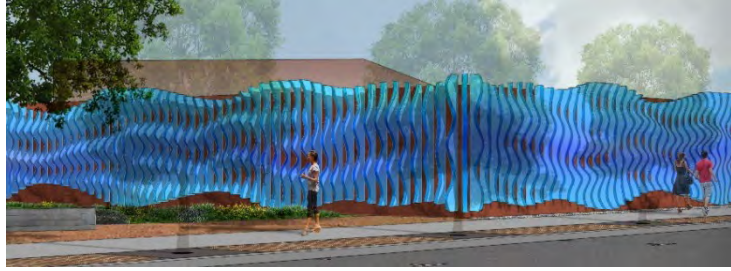
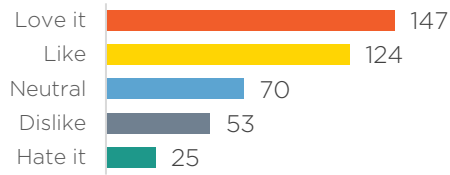
Rank the options from your favorite to least favorite.

Answered: 417



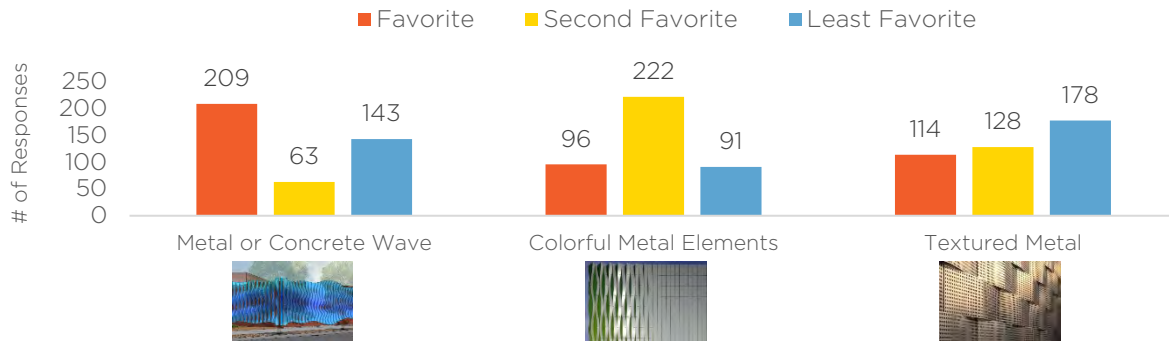
## Modern

Answered: 419



Rank the options from your favorite to least favorite.

Answered: 420

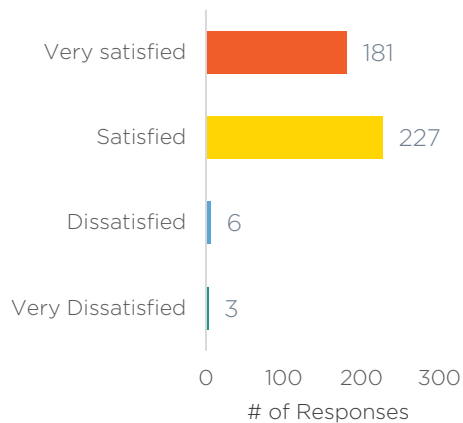


8. Share any additional comments on the substation aesthetics or site here.

88 respondents shared their comments. Full comments for the second phase of community engagement are included in Appendix B.

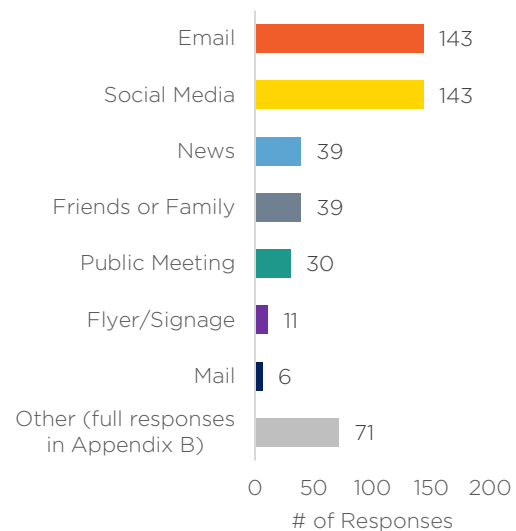
9. Are you satisfied with the opportunities to provide input and community engagement?

Answered: 414



10. How did you learn about this survey?

Answered: 375



# Appendices

## Appendix A: Phase 1

### Promotion and Figures

Meeting Flyer .....	19
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## Appendix B: Phase 2

### Promotion and Figures

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Comment Card .....	54

### Comments

Survey Comments .....	56
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## REPOWERING DOWNTOWN | REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

### Public Meeting | Reunión pública

#### Downtown Substation | Subestación del centro

Austin Energy is Repowering Downtown to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city. This initiative includes building a new substation near 55 East Avenue in the Rainey Street District.

Please join us to learn about the substation project, visit with the team, and share your input. This meeting will be in an open house format, please visit at your convenience.

Austin Energy está repotenciando el centro para incrementar la capacidad, resiliencia y fiabilidad para satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra creciente ciudad. Esta iniciativa incluye la construcción de una nueva subestación cercana a 55 East Avenue en el distrito de Rainey Street.

Por favor, únase a nosotros para aprender sobre el proyecto de la subestación, pase tiempo con el equipo, y comparta sus contribuciones. Esta reunión será en el formato de “casa abierta”, por favor visite a su conveniencia.

**Tuesday, June 12th, 2018 | Martes, 12 de junio de 2018**



**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos  
Mexican American  
Cultural Center  
Auditorium**

600 River Street  
Austin, TX 78701

📞 (512) 505-7919  
✉ [communications@austinenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenergy.com)  
💻 [austinenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenergy.com/go/repowering)  
f /austinenergy  
t @austinenergy

#### Can't attend the meeting? | ¿No puede asistir a la reunión?

Materials will be available online.  
Los materiales estarán disponibles en línea.

The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities please call (512) 974-7225.

La Ciudad de Austin se enorgullece en cumplir con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Si necesitas asistencia especial para participar en nuestros programas o para utilizar nuestras instalaciones por favor llama al (512)



## MEETING POSTCARD

### REPOWERING DOWNTOWN | REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

#### Public Meeting

##### Downtown Substation

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Please join us to learn about the substation project, visit with the team, and share your input. This meeting will be in an open house format, please visit at your convenience.

#### Reunión pública

##### Subestación del centro

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Por favor, únase a nosotros para aprender sobre el proyecto de la subestación, pase tiempo con el equipo, y comparta sus contribuciones. Esta reunión será en el formato de "casa abierta", por favor visite a su conveniencia.

**Tuesday, June 12th, 2018 | Martes, 12 de junio de 2018**

**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos**

**Mexican American Cultural Center Auditorium**

600 River Street, Austin, TX 78701



Meeting | Reunión

**Emma S. Barrientos**  
**Mexican American**  
**Cultural Center**  
**Auditorium**

600 River Street  
Austin, TX 78701



**Repowering Downtown**

721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704

(512) 505-7919

communications@austinenergy.com

austinenergy.com/go/repowering

/austinenergy

@austinenergy

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## CONTACT CARD

### REPOWERING DOWNTOWN REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

Please reach out to learn more  
and get involved.

Por favor contáctenos para aprender  
más e involucrarse.

 (512) 505-7919  
 [communications@austinenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenergy.com)  
 [austinenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenergy.com/go/repowering)  
 [/austinenergy](https://www.facebook.com/austinenergy)  
 [@austinenergy](https://twitter.com/austinenergy)



### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

Austin Energy is Repowering Downtown to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city. This initiative includes building a new substation near 55 East Avenue in the Rainey Street District.

### SUBESTACIÓN DEL CENTRO

Austin Energy está repotenciando el centro para incrementar la capacidad, resiliencia y fiabilidad para satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra creciente ciudad. Esta iniciativa incluye la construcción de una nueva subestación cercana a 55 East Avenue en el distrito de Rainey Street.



**Repowering Downtown**



**DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION**

# Public Meeting

**June 12th, 2018**

**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos  
Mexican American Cultural  
Center Auditorium**

**600 River Street  
Austin, TX 78701**

 (512) 505-7919

 [austinenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenergy.com/go/repowering)

 [communications@austinenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenergy.com)



**SUBESTACIÓN DEL CENTRO**

# Reunión pública

**12 de junio de 2018**

**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos  
Mexican American Cultural  
Center Auditorium**

**600 River Street  
Austin, TX 78701**

 (512) 505-7919

 [austinenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenergy.com/go/repowering)

 [communications@austinenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenergy.com)



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Austin Energy values community participation. We believe that by working together we can provide safe and reliable services that also reflect the values of the community.

Get involved. Share your input and stay updated by attending a public meeting, visiting with us at community events, or by participating online.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

(512) 505-7919  
communications@austinenenergy.com  
austinenenergy.com/go/repowering  
austinenenergy  
@austinenenergy

Austin Energy's mission is to safely deliver clean, affordable, reliable energy and excellent customer service.



Repowering Downtown

## REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

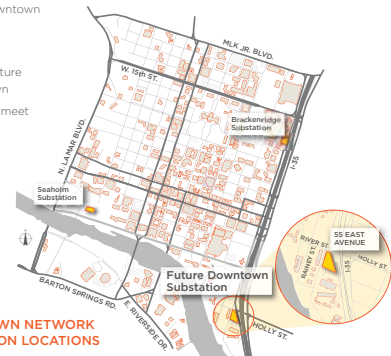
Austin Energy is Repowering Downtown to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city. This initiative includes upgrading transmission lines, improving the two existing downtown substations, and building a new substation near 55 East Avenue in the Rainey Street District. Design for the new substation is underway, and we will be working closely with the community throughout this process.

#### The new substation will:

- Provide increased electrical capacity to meet downtown growth
- Allow Austin Energy to continue to provide reliable power downtown

### LOCATION

- Selected in 1999 for the future electric needs of downtown
- Geographically located to meet electrical requirements
- Access to existing electrical transmission and distribution



DOWNTOWN NETWORK  
SUBSTATION LOCATIONS



## FACT SHEET (INSIDE)

### What is a substation?

Electricity is generated from power **generation** plants and renewable energy, such as wind and solar. It is then transmitted at high voltages across **transmission** lines.

**Substations** receive the high-voltage energy, and transformers reduce the energy down to a voltage level that can be safely delivered to customers. Energy is then delivered to homes and businesses through a network of above ground and underground **distribution** circuits.

Austin Energy is modernizing the grid beyond the traditional **power delivery model** by focusing on energy that can be generated here in our community. Advancements in rooftop solar and battery storage means some energy is generated and stored locally. Modern substations must be capable of distributing energy generated from anywhere.

The new downtown substation will be a modern substation built to serve a Smart City like Austin. It is being designed as a gas-insulated switchgear (GIS) substation. GIS reduces the footprint of a traditional substation by as much as 70% and is ideal for urban locations.

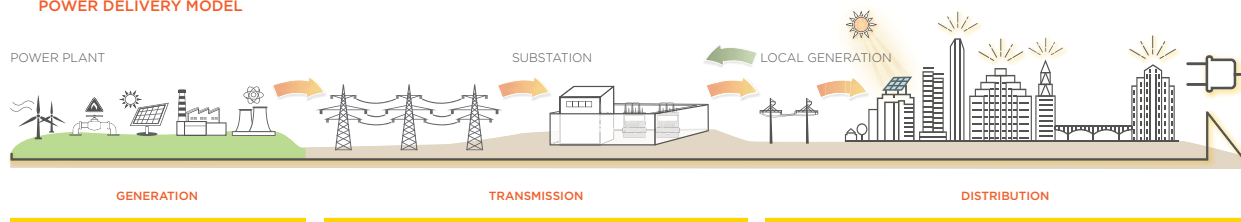
### Why is a new substation needed downtown?

Downtown Austin has experienced tremendous growth. The downtown electrical utilities system was built in the 1930's for a smaller population than it serves today. The new substation will strengthen the downtown network along with the entire Repowering Downtown initiative. Building the new substation will also enable upgrades to the other two existing downtown network substations.

### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION ANTICIPATED TIMELINE



### POWER DELIVERY MODEL



## DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

# Welcome



## Who is Austin Energy?

**Mission:** To safely deliver clean, affordable, reliable energy and excellent customer service.

### City-Owned Utility

- Provides safe, reliable energy to 486,000 customers
- 8th largest publicly-owned utility in the U.S.

### Nationally Recognized as a Leader in Energy Innovation

- 40% renewable energy today; 65% by 2027
- U.S. Dept. of Energy partner on SHINES battery storage program
- Customer choice for 100% solar or 100% wind energy

### Operates Under Strict Regulatory Requirements

- Austin City Council
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)
- Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
- North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



Repowering Downtown

## Power Delivery

- Electricity is generated from power *generation* plants and renewable energy, such as wind and solar.
- It is then transmitted at high voltages across *transmission* lines.
- *Substations* receive the high-voltage energy, and transformers reduce the energy down to a voltage level that can be safely delivered to customers.
- Energy is delivered to homes and businesses through a network of above ground and underground *distribution* circuits.

### Power Delivery Model



Austin Energy is modernizing the grid beyond the traditional *power delivery model* by focusing on energy that can be generated here in our community. Advancements in rooftop solar and battery storage means some energy is generated and stored locally. Modern substations must be capable of distributing energy generated from anywhere.

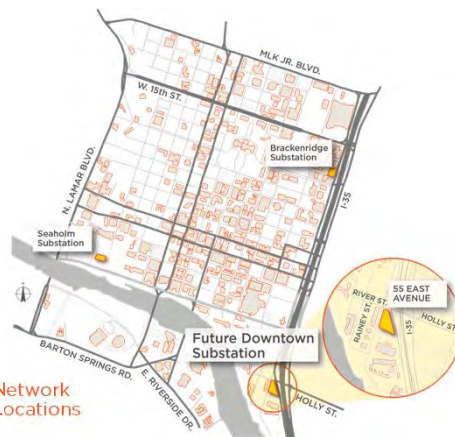


Repowering Downtown

## Repowering Downtown

\$60M initiative to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city.

- Increase Distribution Tie Circuits
- Add 70 MVA to Seaholm Substation
- Build New Downtown Substation
- Rebuild Brackenridge Substation
- Upgrade Network Distribution Feeder Circuits
- Convert 69kV Transmission Lines to 138kV



Downtown Network  
Substation Locations



Repowering Downtown

## Downtown Substation

Austin Energy operates 77 substations across 437 square miles of service area. The downtown substation is being designed as a gas-insulated switchgear substation, which is ideal for densely-populated urban locations.

Gas-Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Compared to Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS)	
Compact Design	Significant footprint reduction (approximately 70% smaller)
Capital Costs	Approximately 2x more
O&M	Lower maintenance costs
Aesthetics	GIS portion in a building and station surrounded by enclosure
Reliability	GIS is less susceptible to faults
Installation	Faster site assembly with pre-assembly and testing completed at manufacturer
Equipment	Standard power transformers and enclosed medium voltage utilized to reduce cost and increase maintainability



Repowering Downtown

## Equipment and Design

### Housed Equipment



138 kV GIS



3 Switchgear Units

### Open Air Equipment



3-70 MVA  
138/35 kV Power Transformers

### Design Considerations

- Safety
- Security
- Footprint
- Equipment needs
- Access for maintenance
- Clearance
- Maintainability
- Environmental impacts
- Existing trees, infrastructure, and utilities
- Aesthetics

All equipment enclosed by a decorative wall.



Repowering Downtown

## Location

- Selected in 1999 for the future electric needs of downtown
- Geographically located to meet electrical requirements
- Access to existing electrical transmission and distribution circuits



Repowering Downtown

## Preliminary Layout

- **Total site:** 1.46 acres
- **Usable space:** 1.18 acres  
(Accounting for potential TxDOT right of way)
- **Space available for substation:** 0.67 acres  
(Accounting for setbacks and trees)



Repowering Downtown

## Aesthetic Elements

Austin Energy wants to partner with the community on the aesthetic elements of the substation.

- Collect community input on desires and preferences.
- Share concepts for the enclosure and other aesthetic considerations and work with the public to refine them.
- Present a draft plan to the community and collect feedback.
- Incorporate features into final design.

Potential themes to incorporate are:



Nature-based



Modern



Industrial



Colorful/Artistic



Notable Austin Iconography



Repowering Downtown

## Schedule



Next Steps:

- Final zoning
- Collect community input - survey open through July 8, 2018
- Share report of community input
- Engineering and design
- Schedule next public meeting (fall 2018) to get input on potential design and aesthetic elements



Repowering Downtown



# REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

## DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

### Survey

Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply)

- ☐ I live near the project location
- ☐ I work near the project location
- ☐ I eat, shop, visit recreational establishments near the project location
- ☐ I am an interested member of the public
- ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Please share your top 3 areas of interest for the project, with 1 being your top interest.

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| _____ Health and safety    | _____ Aesthetic appearance and enhancements |
| _____ Environmental impact | _____ Fits in with the neighborhood         |
| _____ Construction         | _____ Other (please specify) _____          |

We have identified the following goals for the design and construction of the substation. Please indicate your level of understanding and support for these goals on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating strong preference (multiple answers can have the same rating). If you would like to suggest any additional goals, please do so below.

Ensure personal and public safety
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Meet the current and future energy needs of downtown
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Ensure that energy downtown is reliable and resilient
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Incorporate community input into the aesthetics of the substation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Other (please specify):

Below are possible themes for the substation's outward aesthetics. Rate these on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating strong preference (multiple answers can have the same rating).

Nature-based	Modern
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Industrial	Colorful/Artistic
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Notable Austin Iconography	Other (please specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	

After viewing the materials provided, I have a better understanding of the importance of adding a new substation to the downtown network.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes                      \_\_\_\_\_ No                      \_\_\_\_\_ I don't know

I am satisfied with the opportunities that are available to provide input on the downtown substation.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

Please share additional comments here: \_\_\_\_\_

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How did you learn about this survey?

☐ Mail ☐ Email ☐ Flyer/Signage  
☐ Social media ☐ News ☐ Public meeting  
☐ Friends or family ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to receive project updates, please share your email address:

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*The following questions are optional. We would like to know more about who is taking this survey to help us better reach a variety of participants.*

What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your race/ethnicity?

☐ White ☐ Black ☐ Native American  
☐ Asian/Pacific Islander ☐ Hispanic/Latinx ☐ Prefer not to answer  
☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

What is your age?

☐ 24 or younger ☐ 55-70  
☐ 25-39 ☐ 71+  
☐ 40-54 ☐ Prefer not to answer

What is your gender?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐ Prefer not to answer

While comments are always welcome, to be included in the public meeting summary for the June 12, 2018 meeting they must be received or postmarked by July 8, 2018.



Email: [communications@austinenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenergy.com)

Mail: Austin Energy Communications  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704



## REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

### SUBESTACION DEL CENTRO

#### Encuesta de comentarios públicos

¿Cuál de las siguientes le describe mejor? (por favor marque todas las que apliquen)

- ☐ Vivo cerca de la ubicación del proyecto  
☐ Trabajo cerca de la ubicación del proyecto  
☐ Como, compro, visito establecimientos recreativos cerca de la ubicación del proyecto  
☐ Soy un miembro interesado del público  
☐ Otro (por favor explique) \_\_\_\_\_

Por favor, comparta sus 3 áreas principales de interés para el proyecto, 1 siendo su interés principal.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Salud y seguridad                      \_\_\_\_\_ Apariencia estética y mejoras  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Impacto ambiental                      \_\_\_\_\_ Armoniza con el vecindario  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Construcción                      \_\_\_\_\_ Otro (por favor explique) \_\_\_\_\_

Hemos identificado los siguientes objetivos para el diseño y la construcción de la subestación. Indique su nivel de comprensión y apoyo para estos objetivos en una escala de 1 a 5, donde 5 indica una preferencia fuerte (las respuestas múltiples pueden tener la misma calificación). Si desea sugerir objetivos adicionales, hágalo a continuación.

Asegurar la seguridad personal y pública
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Satisfacer las necesidades energéticas actuales y futuras del centro de la ciudad
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Asegurar que la energía en el centro sea confiable y resistente
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Incorporar las aportaciones de la comunidad en la estética de la subestación
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Otro (por favor explique):

A continuación se muestran los posibles temas para la estética exterior de la subestación. Califíquelos en una escala de 1 a 5, donde 5 indica una preferencia fuerte (las respuestas múltiples pueden tener la misma calificación).

Basado en la naturaleza	Moderno
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Industrial	Colorido / artístico
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5
Iconografía notable de Austin	Otro (por favor explica):
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	

Después de ver los materiales proporcionados, tengo una mejor comprensión de la importancia de agregar una nueva subestación a la red del centro.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sí                      \_\_\_\_\_ No                      \_\_\_\_\_ No sé

Estoy satisfecho con las oportunidades que están disponibles para proporcionar aportes sobre la subestación del centro.

☐ Sí ☐ No ☐ No sé

Por favor comparta comentarios adicionales aquí: \_\_\_\_\_

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¿Cómo supo de esta encuesta?

☐ Correo ☐ Correo electrónico ☐ Volante  
☐ Medios de comunicación sociales ☐ Noticias ☐ Reunión pública  
☐ Amigos o familia ☐ Otro (por favor explique) \_\_\_\_\_

Si desea actualizaciones, por favor comparta su dirección de correo electrónico:

---

*Las siguientes preguntas son opcionales. Nos gustaría saber más sobre quién está tomando esta encuesta para ayudarnos a llegar mejor a una variedad de participantes.*

¿Cuál es su código postal? \_\_\_\_\_

¿Cuál es su origen étnico o racial?

☐ Blanco ☐ Afro Americano ☐ Nativo americano  
☐ Asiático ☐ Hispano/Latino ☐ Prefiero no responder  
☐ Otro (por favor explique) \_\_\_\_\_

¿Cuál es su edad?

☐ Menos de 25 ☐ 55-70  
☐ 25-39 ☐ 71+  
☐ 40-54 ☐ Prefiero no responder

¿Cuál es su sexo?

☐ Masculino ☐ Femenino ☐ Otro ☐ Prefiero no responder

Aunque los comentarios siempre son bienvenidos, deben ser recibidos o enviados por correo antes del 8 de julio de 2018 para ser incluidos en el resumen de la reunión pública del 12 de junio de 2018



**Correo electrónico:** [communications@austinenenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenenergy.com)

**Correo:** Austin Energy Communications  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704



## REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

## DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

Please share your comments here | Por favor comparte sus comentarios aquí:

[illegible]

While comments are always welcome, to be included in the public meeting summary for the June 12, 2018 meeting they must be received or postmarked by July 8, 2018.

Aunque los comentarios siempre son bienvenidos, deben recibidos o enviados por correo antes del 8 de julio de 2018 para ser incluidos en el resumen de la reunión pública del 12 de junio de 2018.

**Mail/Correo:** Austin Energy Communications, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX 78704

**Email/Correo electrónico:** [communications@austinenenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenenergy.com)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Austin Energy Communications  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704

## Survey Comments

175 English, 3 Spanish Respondents

Survey questions that included an option for additional comments are included below.

### 2. Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply)

Other Connections to the Project Location
Downtown Austin Alliance - Operations
Own property nearby
I am the Property Manager at SkyHouse Austin - neighbor to the project site
Live downtown, and have rental at Milago as well
Where is the new downtown location?
Own property adjacent
Engineer on local projects

### 3. Please share your top 3 areas of interest for the project, with 1 being your top interest.

Other Areas of Interest
No interest
Is this going to cost taxpayers any money?
Noise?
Location is a bit strange with the old Holly street plant site just a few blocks away and not in as much of a congested area.
Parking (1)
Whether or not private developers persuaded council members to add the topic of a new substation to City of Austin agenda.
Capacity
This neighborhood needs a dog park. Build the project as much underground and add a dog park with a water installation or pond and install lots of trees.
It is the entry to Rainey neighborhood and MACC and needs to be designed with least impact visually.
What about electromagnetic radiation
Involving young adults/opportunity youth in phases of construction and landscaping that make a difference in their lives while helping Austin Energy. American YouthWorks has teams of young people that can help with landscaping and trails around the facility. Young people would gain skills and experience, and a deeper connection to Austin's infrastructure.
Health and safety shouldn't even be up for debate. It should be a given.
I'm most interested in the energy distribution improvements and maintenance cost reductions that could impact AE and its customers.
Probably the impact on power generation and transmission. Not sure if that fits in one of the above categories.
Construction timing and synching neighboring work



4. We have identified the following goals for the design and construction of the substation. Please indicate your level of understanding and support for these goals on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating strong preference (multiple answers can have the same rating). If you would like to suggest any additional goals, please do so below.

Other Goals
Where is the location for this substation?
Represent a best and highest use of a city owned parcel in the specific location.
You're not going to appeal to everyone's personal tastes, especially people in the Rainey neighborhood.
This questions needs to be split apart into 2 in order to get an accurate reading. For example, I may fully support 5 the personal and public safety goal but have 0 information on how it is to be achieved 1. Also the 2nd and 3rd look like near duplicates of each other.
Other goals I would tie to the interest areas above: to ensure environmental safety and minimize impact; minimize construction impact on surrounding businesses and homes (i.e., traffic, congestion, noise).
Architecturally the building must create a focal point along i_35 and act as an important "gateway" structure for Austin - specifically downtown.
1. City of Austin should look more into meeting energy needs via utilizing renewable energy resources like Solar, by building a solar farm like in California.
2. City of Austin should encourage and impose on new buildings and architectures to utilize cheaper solar panels to be installed on their rooftops (if rooftops are not utilized) to cut down the demand.
that location will make downtown look terrible.
If we cannot continue to approve large projects/ high-rises into the city if a nice aesthetic is not possible all around.
noise
Have a build out that includes trail connectivity and native and drought tolerant plants and trees in the landscape. Engage Youth in the process.
Please don't make it an ugly eyesore like Seaholm substation.

5. Below are possible themes for the substation's outward aesthetics. Rate these on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating strong preference (multiple answers can have the same rating).

Other Possible Themes
Just build "it"
This facility is incompatible with the current land use. The only acceptable method to build is sub-grade, with zero impact at the surface. This is feasible and has been done in other cities.
Substation is yucky. No one wants it "in their backyard." However, if it's going to be here, putting an emphasis on Nature (surrounding plants, trees, greenery) will both be aesthetically pleasing and combat perception that living near such a monstrosity has detrimental impacts on health.
Mid century modern design
Most be iconic and represent a gateway for the city.
Adding lots of trees to this area and making it look like a park would attract locals and gives back to the city.
Consider indoor substation option for Lambie Street and Seaholm substation.

### Other Possible Themes

Personally I don't think aesthetics are that important, I would rather that we spend more time into educating us about the different engineering and technical challenges that can influence the environment (health and safety) and the cost.

I think it can be industrial if you add some interesting lighting like the SteelStacks Arts & Cultural Campus in Pennsylvania. Just don't cover it with a big box, we don't need more ugly, boring buildings in Austin! Make it unique, please.

Seattle Denny Substation is a great example in an urban dense environment

### 8. Please share any additional comments here.

#### Additional Comments

I don't think this is such a great survey. It would have helped to have a picture or drawing of proposed use. With this survey we have no idea what the plant will comprise of

Due to the growth of Austin this is a must, Should have already been started.

Seems like they could locate it at the old power plant site just a few blocks further down Holly Street ...rather than near Rainey street and the residential areas.

high voltage transmission lines may cause health issues to ppl near it. how deeply has this been looked at?

Burying it should be an option, and is the forward thinking choice given the quickly-rising value of the land.

It does not appear that the entire project scope is shared with the community. In addition, representatives continue to say they have no money for this project - they are not like the state of Washington. I find this difficult to understand - that limitations on this project are already in place, given the rapid planned growth in Austin for the next 10+ years.

I don't want this facility in my neighborhood. It is incompatible with the current land use, and will negatively impact the aesthetics of the neighborhood.

My primary concern is you are trying to pack too much into an already overcrowded area. How much more parking are we going to lose because of this project? It's tough enough on the businesses in the area as it is.

No location options were offered. It's always the most important stuff that the public doesn't have input on.

6. No materials were shared directly with me.

7. Just found the RNA Facebook page so no time yet to fully digest what opportunities there are to provide input.

Make it walkable, attractive and integrative with the neighborhood. Let food trucks come in, perhaps an event space for SWSX.

austin need to be fun to drive through make something that makes people say wow.

More slugs

The new substation has the potential to become a new Austin landmark - it would be great to see something beautiful, innovative and uniquely Austin. It would also be fantastic if design coordinates with the MACC, either structurally or thematically.

Consider indoor substation option for Lambie Street and Seaholm substation.

Want to be able to vote on the top finalist design aesthetics

Any chance of taking the existing high wires underground along the Lake trail from Congress to Rainey?

The substation plan was done prior to Rainey becoming a super populated area. I'd like to see more information about safety concerns, how we plan to minimize electrical fields and noise of operating the substation that has direct impact to the health and safe being of the residents.

Additional Comments
Please add more sidewalks to the area and have something the community can use instead of making it a dead block.
First I've heard of this
While I realize one of the heritage trees is in TxDOT land, I really want to save the large trees.
All of the goals identified for the new substation are vital. If an additional electric substation is required to keep downtown energy reliable and resilient and meet downtown energy needs, then it must be built. If it must be built, you MUST ensure the safety of those in its proximity (especially intoxicated people). And you must make it palatable to the surrounding community because the location is not isolated from people.
This area is very visible, please use this as an opportunity to make something great for the community.
Please don't build an ugly substation. Think Central Library, not Fiesta Mart on I35.
Make it look like a building not an eyesore.

## 9. How did you learn about this survey?

Other Sources	
NextDoor Neighbor	Building manager emailed me.
Towers.net	blog
towers.net	RNA
RNA Facebook page	Email from Building General Manager
Austin.towers	Building manager emailed this to us
Downtown Austin Association	Austin Tower's newsletter
towers.net	Towers.net blog
austin.towers.net	Towers article
Blog	Towers Blog
austin.towers.net	client

## 10. If you would like project updates, please share your email address.

60 respondents shared their email address.

## 11. What is your zip code?

Other Zip Codes (not mapped)	Number of Respondents
78704	9
78741	7
78748	6
78757	5
78739, 78723, 78745, 78751	3
78724, 78749, 78754	2
78212, 78660, 78676, 78710, 78721, 78727, 78733, 78746, 78747, 78750, 78752, 78958, 78758	1

12. What is your race/ethnicity?

Other
humn
Persian
Why would the city ask this?
Swede = Norwegian second generation
I'm Hispanic but not sure about the Latin x?!

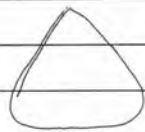
## Written Comment Card

### REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

#### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

Please share your comments here | Por favor comparte sus comentarios aquí:

Recommend that the perimeter of the wall be a triangular shape with rounded points for good visibility -



so as to repeat the shape of the triangle area being built on.

Town of Tom Lake

Monte Franzetti

512-773-7093

40 N. IH-35

11-D-2

A TX 78701



## Appendix B: Phase 2

### Promotion & Figures

#### MEETING FLYER

## REPOWERING DOWNTOWN | REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

### Public Meeting | Reunión pública

#### Downtown Substation | Subestación del centro

Austin Energy is Repowering Downtown to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city. This initiative includes building a new substation near 55 East Avenue in the Rainey Street District.

Please join us at our second public meeting to view aesthetic and layout concepts for the substation, visit with the team, and share your feedback. This meeting will be in an open house format, please visit at your convenience.

Austin Energy está repotenciando el centro para incrementar la capacidad, resiliencia y fiabilidad para satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra creciente ciudad. Esta iniciativa incluye la construcción de una nueva subestación cercana a 55 East Avenue en el distrito de Rainey Street.

Por favor asístenos a nuestra segunda reunión pública para ver conceptos para la estética y el trazado para la subestación, hablar con el equipo del proyecto, y compartir sus comentarios. Esta reunión será en el formato de “casa abierta”, por favor visite a su conveniencia.

**Thursday, February 28th, 2019 | Jueves, 28 de febrero de 2019**



**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos  
Mexican American  
Cultural Center  
Auditorium**

600 River Street  
Austin, TX 78701

📞 (512) 505-7919

✉ [communications@austinenenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenenergy.com)

🌐 [austinenenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenenergy.com/go/repowering)

📘 [/austinenenergy](https://www.facebook.com/austinenenergy)

🐦 [@austinenenergy](https://twitter.com/austinenenergy)

#### Can't attend the meeting? | ¿No puede asistir a la reunión?

Materials will be available online.

Los materiales estarán disponibles en línea.

The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities please call (512) 974-7225.

La Ciudad de Austin se enorgullece en cumplir con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Si necesitas asistencia especial para participar en nuestros programas o para utilizar nuestras instalaciones por favor llama al (512) 974-7225.





## MEETING POSTCARD (FRONT)

### REPOWERING DOWNTOWN | REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

#### Public Meeting

##### Downtown Substation

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**Thursday, February 28th, 2019 | Jueves, 28 de febrero de 2019**

**4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos**  
**Mexican American Cultural Center Auditorium**  
600 River Street, Austin, TX 78701



#### Reunión pública

##### Subestación del centro

Austin Energy está repotenciando el centro para incrementar la capacidad, resiliencia y fiabilidad para satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra creciente ciudad. Esta iniciativa incluye la construcción de una nueva subestación cercana a 55 East Avenue en el distrito de Rainey Street.

Por favor asístenos a nuestra segunda reunión pública para ver conceptos para la estética y el trazado para la subestación, hablar con el equipo del proyecto, y compartir sus comentarios. Esta reunión será en el formato de "casa abierta", por favor visite a su conveniencia.

## MEETING POSTCARD (BACK)



Meeting | Reunión

**Emma S. Barrientos**  
**Mexican American Cultural Center Auditorium**

600 River Street  
Austin, TX 78701



**Repowering Downtown**

721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704

(512) 505-7919

communications@austinenergy.com

austinenergy.com/go/repowering

/austinenergy

@austinenergy

#### Can't attend the meeting?

Materials will be available online.

#### ¿No puede asistir a la reunión?

Los materiales estarán disponibles en línea.

The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities please call (512) 974-7225.

La Ciudad de Austin se enorgullece en cumplir con la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Si necesitas asistencia especial para participar en nuestros programas o para utilizar nuestras instalaciones por favor llama al (512) 974-7225.



 DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

## Public Meeting

**Feb. 28th, 2019**

**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos  
Mexican American Cultural  
Center Auditorium**

600 River Street, Austin, TX 78701

 [austinenenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenenergy.com/go/repowering)



 SUBESTACIÓN DEL CENTRO

## Reunión pública

**28 de febrero de 2019**

**4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Emma S. Barrientos  
Mexican American Cultural  
Center Auditorium**

600 River Street, Austin, TX 78701

 [austinenenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenenergy.com/go/repowering)



## ENGLISH FACT SHEET (OUTSIDE)

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Austin Energy values community participation. We believe that by working together we can provide safe and reliable services that also reflect the values of the community.

Get involved. Share your input and stay updated by attending a public meeting, visiting with us at community events, or by participating online.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

(512) 505-7919  
[communications@austinenenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenenergy.com)  
[austinenenergy.com/go/repowering](http://austinenenergy.com/go/repowering)  
[austinenenergy](https://www.facebook.com/austinenenergy)  
[@austinenenergy](https://twitter.com/austinenenergy)

Austin Energy's mission is to safely deliver clean, affordable, reliable energy and excellent customer service.

### REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

#### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION

Austin Energy is Repowering Downtown to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city. This initiative includes upgrading transmission lines, improving the two existing downtown substations, and building a new substation near 55 East Avenue in the Rainey Street District. Design for the new substation is underway, and we will be working closely with the community throughout this process.

**The new substation will:**

- Provide increased electrical capacity to meet downtown growth
- Allow Austin Energy to continue to provide reliable power downtown

#### LOCATION

- Selected in 1999 for the future electric needs of downtown
- Geographically located to meet electrical requirements
- Access to existing electrical transmission and distribution

#### DOWNTOWN NETWORK SUBSTATION LOCATIONS

## ENGLISH FACT SHEET (INSIDE)

### What is a substation?

Electricity is generated from power **generation** plants and renewable energy, such as wind and solar. It is then transmitted at high voltages across **transmission** lines.

**Substations** receive the high-voltage energy, and transformers reduce the energy down to a voltage level that can be safely delivered to customers. Energy is then delivered to homes and businesses through a network of above ground and underground **distribution** circuits.

Austin Energy is modernizing the grid beyond the traditional **power delivery model** by focusing on energy that can be generated here in our community. Advancements in rooftop solar and battery storage means some energy is generated and stored locally. Modern substations must be capable of distributing energy generated from anywhere.

The new downtown substation will be a modern substation built to serve a Smart City like Austin. It is being designed as a gas-insulated switchgear (GIS) substation. GIS reduces the footprint of a traditional substation by as much as 70% and is ideal for urban locations.

### Why is a new substation needed downtown?

Downtown Austin has experienced tremendous growth. The downtown electrical utilities system was built in the 1930's for a smaller population than it serves today. The new substation will strengthen the downtown network along with the entire Repowering Downtown initiative. Building the new substation will also enable upgrades to the other two existing downtown network substations.

### POWER DELIVERY MODEL

**GENERATION**

**TRANSMISSION**

**DISTRIBUTION**

### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

Phase	Timeline	Community Engagement
Preliminary engineering and design begins	SPRING 2018	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Collect community input on concerns, desires, and preferences
Begin construction to move water and wastewater line	EARLY 2019	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Share aesthetic design concepts for enclosure and work with the public to refine them
Substation construction	SPRING/SUMMER 2019	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Present draft plan, collect feedback, and incorporate into design
Substation energization	SUMMER/FALL 2020	
	SUMMER 2021	

## SPANISH FACT SHEET (OUTSIDE)

### INVOLUCRAMIENTO DE LA COMUNIDAD

Austin Energy valora la participación de la comunidad, y creemos que al trabajar juntos podemos brindar los servicios confiables que también reflejan en las consideraciones y aportes de la comunidad.

¡Involúcrese! Comparta su aporte y manténgase actualizado al asistir a una de nuestras reuniones públicas, visitando junto a nosotros eventos públicos, o participando en línea.

### INFORMACIÓN DE CONTACTO

(512) 505-7919  
communications@austinenenergy.com  
austinenenergy.com/go/repowering  
austinenenergy  
@austinenenergy

La misión de Austin Energy es entregar de forma segura productos limpios, asequibles, energía confiable y excelente servicio al cliente.



Repowering Downtown

## REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

### SUBESTACIÓN DEL CENTRO

Austin Energy está repotenciando el centro de la ciudad para incrementar la capacidad, resiliencia y fiabilidad para satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra creciente ciudad.

Esta iniciativa incluye la modernización de las líneas de transmisión, la mejora de ambas existentes subestaciones del centro y la construcción una nueva subestación cercana a 55 East Avenue en el distrito Rainey Street. El diseño para una nueva subestación está en camino y queremos trabajar.

#### La nueva subestación:

- Proveerá la capacidad eléctrica incrementada para satisfacer el crecimiento del centro
- Le permitirá a Austin Energy continuar brindando su energía fiable en el centro

### LOCALIDAD

- Seleccionada en 1999 para las necesidades eléctricas a futuro del centro
- Geográficamente localizada para satisfacer los requerimientos eléctricos
- Acceso a transmisiones y distribuciones eléctricas existentes



LOCALIDADES DE LAS REDES DE SUBESTACIONES DE DOWNTOWN



## SPANISH FACT SHEET (INSIDE)

### ¿Qué es una subestación?

La electricidad es generada en las plantas de **generación** de electricidad y por energía renovable, como la eólica y la solar. Luego es transmitida en altos voltajes a través de las líneas de **transmisión**.

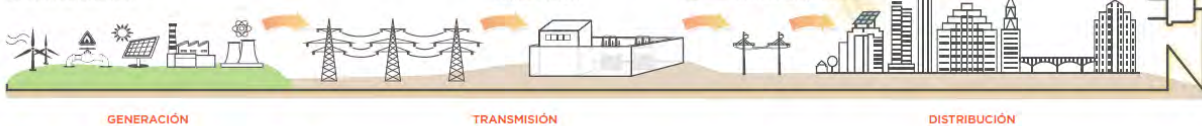
Una **subestación** recibe la energía de alto voltaje de las líneas de transmisión y utilizan transformadores para cumplir con la disminución del voltaje que puede ser entregada a los clientes. La energía se envía luego a los hogares y empresas mediante un sistema de líneas de **distribución** sobre tierra y subterráneos.

Austin Energy está modernizando la red más allá del **modelo de entrega de energía** tradicional por centrarse en la energía que puede ser generado aquí en nuestra comunidad. Avances en generación de energía solar y en el almacenamiento de la batería significa que cierta energía se genera y se almacena localmente. Las subestaciones locales y modernas deben ser capaces de distribuir energía generada en cualquier lugar.

La nueva subestación del centro será una subestación moderna construida para servir a una "Smart City" como Austin. La subestación será una estación con conmutadores con aislamiento de gas (gas-insulated switchgear, GIS). Los GIS reducen el tamaño de una subestación tradicional por más del 70% y son ideales para localidades urbanas.

### MODELO DE ENTREGA DE ENERGÍA

PLANTA DE ENERGÍA



### ¿Por qué se necesita una nueva subestación en el centro?

El centro de la ciudad de Austin ha crecido tremendamente. El sistema de las utilidades eléctricas del centro fue construido en los años 1930 para una población menor a la cual sirve hoy en día. La nueva subestación junto con la iniciativa de repotenciando el centro fortalecerá la red del centro. Construir la nueva subestación también permitirá que las subestación más viejas también se puedan mejorar.

### LÍNEA DE TIEMPO





## Who is Austin Energy?

**Mission:** To safely deliver clean, affordable, reliable energy and excellent customer service.

### City-Owned Utility

- Provides safe, reliable energy to 486,000 customers
- 8th largest publicly-owned utility in the U.S.
- Winner of *2018 Mayor's Climate Protection Awards* in recognition of Community Solar Program

### Nationally Recognized as a Leader in Energy Innovation

- 40% renewable energy today; 65% by 2027
- U.S. Dept. of Energy partner on SHINES battery storage program
- Programs to reduce energy consumption and shift peak demand saved 110 million kilowatt-hours
- Award-winning demand response, energy efficiency, and electric vehicle programs
- Awarded 2018 Public Power Utility of the Year by Smart Electric Power Alliance

### Operates Under Strict Regulatory Requirements

- Austin City Council
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)
- Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
- North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



Repowering Downtown

## Power Delivery

- Electricity is generated from power *generation* plants and renewable energy, such as wind and solar.
- It is then transmitted at high voltages across *transmission* lines.
- *Substations* receive the high-voltage energy, and transformers reduce the energy down to a voltage level that can be safely delivered to customers.
- Energy is delivered to homes and businesses through a network of above ground and underground *distribution* circuits.

### Power Delivery Model



Austin Energy is modernizing the grid beyond the traditional *power delivery model* by focusing on energy that can be generated here in our community. Advancements in rooftop solar and battery storage means some energy is generated and stored locally. Modern substations must be capable of distributing energy generated from anywhere.



Repowering Downtown

## Schedule



### Next Steps:

- Collect community feedback on design and aesthetic options – survey open through March 31, 2019
- Share report of community input
- Final engineering and design
- Schedule next public meeting (later in 2019) to share design and renderings



Repowering Downtown

## Community Engagement

- Public meeting held in June 2018
- 178 surveys received during comment period

### Top Preferences for Outward Aesthetics



Colorful/Artistic



Nature-Based



Modern

### Input on the Site

- Priority placed on an attractive enclosure
- Desire to preserve trees and incorporate landscaping
- Concern for impact the facility would have on neighborhood



Repowering Downtown

## The Site

- Selected in 1999 for the future electric needs of downtown
- Austin Energy is coordinating with other involved agencies, including:
  - TxDOT
  - Watershed Protection for storm drain
  - City of Austin to incorporate Great Streets
- **Total Site:** 1.46 acres
- **Substation Footprint:** 0.81 acres
- **Site Updates:**
  - 3 transmission poles (currently 2) to allow clearance over heritage trees
  - Two driveways



Repowering Downtown

## Help Us Name the Site

### Parameters

- Must be approved by Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
- Respectfully reflect the character and history of the neighborhood
- Consider public preference

### Options

- Cesar Chavez Substation
- Downtown East Substation
- Lady Bird Substation
- Lambie Substation
- Palm School Substation
- Rainey Street Substation



Repowering Downtown







## Enclosure Considerations

### Parameters

- GIS building height approximately 22 to 24 feet tall
- Enclosure height must be at least 10 to 12 feet tall
- Enclosure will include removable panels for future maintenance and cannot be climbable
- Entrance gates will be integrated into design of the wall
- Equipment located outside of the GIS building is required to remain open and uncovered for safety, accessibility, and operational reasons



Repowering Downtown

## Enclosure - Colorful/Artistic

### Rendering Example



### Style Palette



Colorful  
Concrete or  
Metal



Colorful Tile  
Elements



Colorful Metal



Repowering Downtown

## Enclosure - Nature-Based

### Rendering Example



Rendering is for illustrative purposes only, and does not necessarily depict all sides of the enclosure



Repowering Downtown

### Style Palette



Limestone,  
Glass, & Tile  
Elements



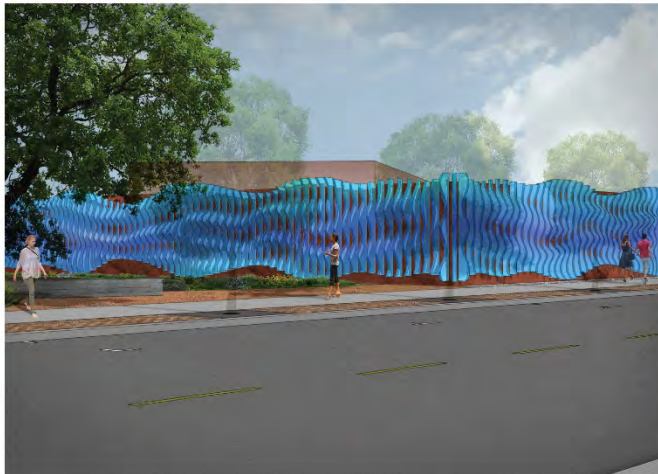
Concrete  
Artwork



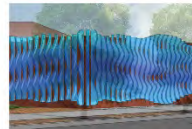
Metal Cutout  
Panels

## Enclosure - Modern

### Rendering Example



### Style Palette



Metal or  
Concrete Wave



Colorful Metal  
Elements



Textured Metal



Repowering Downtown

# ENGLISH SURVEY

## REPOWERING DOWNTOWN

### DOWNTOWN SUBSTATION Aesthetic Concepts Survey Questions

Austin Energy's Repowering Downtown to increase capacity, resiliency, and reliability to meet the needs of our growing city. This includes building a new substation in the Rainey Street District near 55 East Avenue. Please let us know what you think about name, landscape, and design options for the site!

Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply)

- ☐ I live near the project location
- ☐ I work near the project location
- ☐ I eat, shop, and visit recreational establishments near the project location
- ☐ I am an interested member of the public
- ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

To receive project updates, share your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Help Us Name the Site

Please share your top three choices to name the substation site. (NOTE: select **only three choices** or one name for each column, or your answers cannot be counted)

	Favorite	Second Favorite	Third Favorite
Cesar Chavez Substation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Downtown East Substation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lady Bird Substation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lamie Substation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palm School Substation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rainey Street Substation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (subject to Electric Reliability Council of Texas, or ERCOT, approval): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Landscaping Options

This site will consider Great Streets guidelines and include sidewalks and native plants that are drought-tolerant.



Lamie Street Looking West: Great Streets Rendering

Share your preferences on additional landscaping options (NOTE: answer only **once per option**. Multiple answers can have the same preference).

##### Plant Options Along I-35 Frontage Road

	Love it	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Hate it
Native Grasses & Wildflowers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evergreen Shrubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Succulents & Cacti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combination of These	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

##### Boulder Options for Decoration & Seating

	Love it	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Hate it
Artificial Boulders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut Limestone Blocks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural Boulders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Enclosure Wall Options

In a previous survey, community members identified three preferred design themes: Colorful/Artistic, Nature-Based, and Modern. Share your preferences on each overall theme and its different style options.

##### Colorful/Artistic

- Love it ☐
- Like ☐
- Neutral ☐
- Dislike ☐
- Hate it ☐



Colorful Concrete or Metal    Colorful Tile Elements    Colorful Metal

Rank the options from your favorite (1) to least favorite (3).



##### Nature-Based

- Love it ☐
- Like ☐
- Neutral ☐
- Dislike ☐
- Hate it ☐



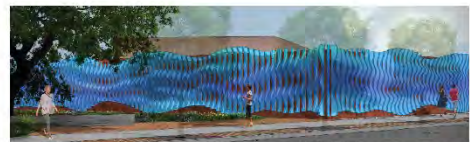
Limestone, Glass, & Tile Elements    Concrete Artwork    Metal Clad Panels

Rank the options from your favorite (1) to least favorite (3).



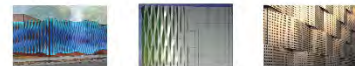
#### Modern

- Love it ☐
- Like ☐
- Neutral ☐
- Dislike ☐
- Hate it ☐



Metal or Concrete Wave    Colorful Metal Elements    Textured Metal

Rank the options from your favorite (1) to least favorite (3).



Share any additional comments on the substation aesthetics or site here:

Are you satisfied with the opportunities to provide input and community engagement?

☐ Very Satisfied    ☐ Satisfied    ☐ Dissatisfied    ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments or suggestions for community engagement:

How did you learn about this survey?

☐ Me    ☐ Email    ☐ Flyer  
☐ Social media    ☐ News    ☐ Public meeting  
☐ Friends or family    ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments and surveys must be received or postmarked by March 31, 2019 to be included in the official public meeting documentation.



Email: [communications@austinenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenergy.com)

Mail: Austin Energy Communications  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704



## SPANISH SURVEY

### REPOTENCIACIÓN DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD

#### SUBESTACIÓN DEL CENTRO

##### Preguntas de la encuesta de conceptos estéticos

Austin Energy está reconfigurando El Centro para aumentar la capacidad, resiliencia y confiabilidad para satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra creciente ciudad. Esto incluye la construcción de una nueva subestación en el Distrito de Rainey Street cerca de la 55 East Avenue. ¡Por favor eligamos lo que piensa sobre nombres, paisaje y opciones de diseño para el sitio!

¿Cuál de las siguientes le describe mejor? (Seleccione todas las que apliquen)

- ☐ Yo vivo cerca de la ubicación del proyecto
- ☐ Yo trabajo cerca de la ubicación del proyecto
- ☐ Yo como, hago compras y visito establecimientos recreativos cerca de la ubicación del proyecto
- ☐ Soy un miembro de público interesado
- ☐ Otros (especificar): \_\_\_\_\_

¿Cuál es su código postal? \_\_\_\_\_

Para recibir actualizaciones de proyectos, comparta su dirección de correo electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

##### Ayúdenos a nombrar el sitio

Por favor comparta sus mejores tres opciones para un nombre para la subestación (Nota: seleccione solo tres nombres o un único nombre para cada columna, o sus respuestas no se contarán).

	Favorito	Segundo favorito	Tercer favorito
Cesar Chavez Substation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Downtown East Substation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lady Bird Substation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lambie Substation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Palm School Substation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rainey Street Substation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Otros (sujeto a aprobación de Consejo de distribución eléctrica de Texas o ERCOT): \_\_\_\_\_

1

##### Opciones de paisajismo

Este sitio tendrá en cuenta las directrices de Great Streets e incluirá aceras y plantas nativas que son resistentes a la sequía.



Lambie Street mirando hacia el oeste

Comparta sus preferencias sobre opciones adicionales de paisajismo (NOTA: Conteste solo una vez por cada opción. Varias respuestas pueden tener la misma preferencia).

##### Follaje a lo largo del frente de la I-35

	Me encanta	Me gusta	Neutral	No me agrada	La odio
Flores silvestres o pastos nativos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Araucario de hoja perenne	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Suculentas y cactus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combinación de estos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

##### Piedras para la decoración y asientos

	Me encanta	Me gusta	Neutral	No me agrada	La odio
Rocas artificiales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bloques de piedra caliza	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rocas naturales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2

##### Opciones para las paredes del cerramiento

En una encuesta anterior, miembros de la comunidad identificaron tres temas de diseño preferidos: Colorado/artístico, basado en la naturaleza y moderno. Comparten sus preferencias en cada tema general y sus diferentes opciones.

##### Colorado/artístico

- Me encanta ☐
- Me gusta ☐
- Neutral ☐
- No me agrada ☐
- La odio ☐



Califique las opciones de su favorito (1) al menos favorito (3).



##### Basado en la naturaleza

- Me encanta ☐
- Me gusta ☐
- Neutral ☐
- No me agrada ☐
- La odio ☐



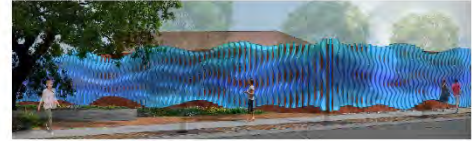
Califique las opciones de su favorito (1) al menos favorito (3).



3

##### Moderno

- Me encanta ☐
- Me gusta ☐
- Neutral ☐
- No me agrada ☐
- La odio ☐



Califique las opciones de su favorito (1) al menos favorito (3).



Comparta cualquier comentario adicional sobre la estética de la subestación o sitio aquí:

¿Está satisfecho con las oportunidades para proporcionar sus opiniones y participar en este proyecto?

- ☐ Muy satisfecho
- ☐ Satisfecho
- ☐ Insatisfecho
- ☐ Muy insatisfecho

Comentarios o sugerencias para la participación de la comunidad:

¿Cómo se enteró de esta encuesta?

- ☐ Correo
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Voarío
- ☐ Redes sociales
- ☐ Noticias
- ☐ Reunión pública
- ☐ Familia o amigos
- ☐ Otros (especificar): \_\_\_\_\_

Los comentarios y encuestas deben recibirse o ser recibidos antes del 31 de marzo de 2019 para ser incluidos en la documentación oficial de reunión pública.



Correo electrónico:  
communications@austinerenergy.com

Correo: Austin Energy Communications  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704

4

## This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



COMMENT CARD (BACK)

While comments are always welcome, to be included in the public meeting summary for the February 28, 2018 meeting they must be received or postmarked by March 31, 2019.

Aunque los comentarios siempre son bienvenidos, deben ser recibidos o enviados por correo antes del 28 de febrero de 2019 para ser incluidos en el resumen de la reunión pública del 31 de marzo de 2019.

**Mail | Correo:** Austin Energy Communications, 721 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX 78704

**Email | Correo electronico:** [communications@austinenenergy.com](mailto:communications@austinenenergy.com)

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Austin Energy Communications  
721 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704

## Survey Comments

### 440 Respondents

Survey questions that included an option for additional comments are included below.

#### 1. Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply)

Other Connections to the Project Location
Downtown Austin Alliance - Operations
78701
I am the Director of Operations for Downtown Austin Alliance
I am a professional in the art and design community responsible making sure individuals and companies look legitimate and worth every penny they wish to charge for whatever it is they do.
I live downtown, and I'm often in the area around the station.
I work for Austin Energy
I bike commute past this location daily.
Former resident of Austin, but still care about the city.
Urban studies student at UT
I have a professional design background and interested in the aesthetics of public design.
I also work downtown but not real near the site.
N/A

#### 4. Please share your top three choices to name the substation.

Other Names (subject to Electric Reliability Council of Texas, or ERCOT, approval)
Ali Khan Substation
Ali Khan Substation
Ali Khan Substation
Austin Public Library Substation
Austin Weird Substation
Bat City Substation
Downtown Substation
East Ave Substation
East Ave. Substation
East Avenue Art wall
East Avenue Substation
East Avenue Substation
East Avenue Substation
East Avenue Substation
East Avenue Substation
Elm Grove Substation
"Go back to California", "Don't Dallas My Austin", "Make Austin Small Again", "Fire Steve Adler"
Holly West
MACC Substation



Other Names (subject to Electric Reliability Council of Texas, or ERCOT, approval)
MACC Substation
MACC Substation
Macc Substation
Make Austin Great Again Substation
Make Rainey Street Powered Again
Robert Cullick Memorial Substation
Side Tracks Substation
Sparky McSparkface
Subby McSubstation
The Ohm Depot
The Thing Substation
Urban stupid location substation
Volty McVoltface
Waterloo Substation
Waterloo Substation
Willie Nelson Substation

#### 8. Share any additional comments on the substation aesthetics or site here.

Additional Comments
Will be one of the most visible signs in Austin - once planned for welcome center
I would like to see another survey on the final choices.
Prefer a natural Gaudi like aesthetic if creative but otherwise if skewing modern it should be more timeless minimal and relaxing to the eye not wavy metal.
We do not need more concrete downtown. We need to preserve green space. There is no way to make a substation pretty. It's just lipstick on a pig.
Please hire artists not just builders
Murals are always a big hit, and we can incorporate local artists
I truly hate the Limestone, Glass, & Tile Elements rendering but overall like the idea of something nature based.
Bright colors should be avoided in keeping with the outstanding natural beauty of Lady Bird Lake.
Please add as much street/sidewalk lighting on East & Lambie as possible for pedestrian safety and discouraging car break-ins. I'm concerned that metal wall elements could cause a lot of glare in direct sunlight. I live in Towers of Town Lake in a north-facing unit that will overlook this site. Please consider modeling of reflectivity of the materials throughout the year (different sunlight angles) in selecting final choices. (You probably already are!)
Widen East Ave & Lambie St. by taking ~15ft of substation property along these streets. This is in addition to eliminating back-in parking. Keep trees
The Rainey Street crowd will throw bottles, etc over wall!?
Need lots of street lights for security
It is a very expensive project that appears to not provide enough positive for the future. \$30M put in another location that is large enough for future growth makes more sense. The City of Austin can come up with a better location!
No ugly tile please!

Additional Comments
1. Consider wall height greater than 12'. Substation so close to Rainey Street night life, need to consider prevention of items thrown over the wall
2. Please place East Street - street lighting, as safety prevention
3. Please place safety lighting on exterior of wall throughout
4. Please light the heritage trees to prevent shadows from occurring - safety issue, and to prevent tent cities under each heritage tree
5. Discuss with APD the amount of tent cities under I35 around this new substation - and begin NOW, to repeatedly take down the tent cities. There were significant problems at the vacant Villas on the Lake, foresee more problems for all at this site.
6. Use a product that is most resilient to graffiti and that when graffiti has to be removed that the wall still looks good.
Please keep it traditional, easiest to clean graffiti
Could Austin Energy release estimates for the cost of each aesthetic option?
All of the walls look like a canvas for graffiti tagging. Will any of these surfaces have a protective coating so that graffiti can be removed easily?
Metal gets very hot and feels less inviting
I'm interested in getting information about the EMF impact this will have in the neighborhood...like testing results of how much and how far they travel
All materials should be eco and recycled, local
This substation is going to be a tremendous eyes sore and a public safety risk. The site selection is not compatible with the surrounding setting. If it is to be built, it should be constructed sub-grade to minimize aesthetic impacts on the adjacent community.
If you end up using the native plants for this area, please email me at [redacted] for free native plants from one of our sites in Pflugerville. I have an informal list of a native plant survey that we did.
The boulders are a terrible idea.
Since it's an electrical station I'm more interested in durability and electrical shielding from the enclosure. I'd like it to not stand out too much so that we do not need to refresh it too often based on design trends.
Rusted metal would look good. Avoid color- why attract attention to a substation?
Below ground would have been preferred.
The only thing I couldn't live with here is the artificial boulders. Native boulders are easy to come by and cheaper as well. Artificial boulders wont age well.
Would love smooth and colorful concrete, with a mix of stone and a blue ribbon wave as in the nature-based rendering. The nature-based rendering looks as if Waller Creek has designed it and does not have a neighborhood feel at all. I'd don't see it here but would also love a modern wall with straight lines, edges, angles in a mix of smooth shiny concrete, limestone, and straight line metal wave instead of curvy on top and bottom.
Don't add expense. Keep it natural looking and not something that will get outdated, need cleaning or too distracting. Don't make it comfortable for camping.
Make it nice!
It would be ideal if the wall could interact with the landscape a bit more - for example, a slight vertical garden (using succulents that don't need water), or at a minimum, vines on the wall, perhaps with seating (on the boulders?). Right now seems like a barrier rather than an activated space in the middle of an area that is soon to have many more people.
Should the wall have any windows, or, opportunities to view the infrastructure beyond? Like an open kitchen in a restaurant, ex.
Top choice combo: The black metal trees panel with smooth, white artificial boulders and native grasses and flowers!
Awesome!

Additional Comments
Thanks for taking so much time & effort to get community input!!
Landscaping options: I would like edible herbs for foraging and cooking Enclosure wall options: I would like kids and graffiti artist to decorate the outside as a community art project
Build something that are easy to maintain in long term! Fancy design looks good initially. But they are costly and they look terrible after they get tagged or damaged. Build something that can be easy to clean, repair, replace and maintainable!!!!!!
Just do your best to pick a timeless design. Several of these options seem like they'll look quite dated in 20 years.
Will the chosen aesthetics look outdated in 20 years? Something to think about.
I like the Nature Based wall option best because it is representative of the naturalness of the area. It looks nice. Too bad a dog park (dog run) can not be incorporated into the remaining open park area I like all of these elements *most favorite (Comment written on Enclosure Walls section. Respondent ranked all Nature-Based options as 1, and starred Limestone, Glass, & Tile.
Would be better to provide "green" buffer between East Ave & Fence. ALSO...the most attention should be placed on the walkable sidewalks, which are Cesar Chavez & East Avenue...that might be let to an "Arts in Public Places" competition.
I'm worried about tagging. What are plans to keep clean? Written in landscaping section: Skateboarders will abuse [cut limestone blocks].
Please no rain garden unless maintenance is included. Rain garden at East Ave. near the Holiday Inn looks messy most of the year.
Please don't make rain garden as the one at Holiday Inn
Honestly, I don't feel a strong dislike toward any of the 3 designs—more just feel a preference toward the Nature-based Design. Also, trying to consider how it will wear (materials and aesthetics) over time.
You should definitely pick the Modern blue wave one.
Make it look rich and modern like the Domain.
Would love to see something colorful, fun, and -- importantly -- well lighted. (Good lighting would help make this area feel safer when walking from Rainey under the overpass to the Eastside.)
Create mind-bending wall sculptures that play with perspective to create unbelievable optical illusions.
consider sound absorption - always helpful wherever we can get it in city
I'd love a modern art look
The blue modern is not only visually appealing, it brings to mind the river flowing through town. Water is also calming, as is the color blue, which is great for people in a rush. It's a great fit.
It should match current and new development going up, which is modern or artistic. Don't pretend it is a nature park.
wall w/great streets rendering is the best and could be enhanced w/ the landscaping. Wall would be more discrete. Select something that is durable & will continue to look good over the long term w/easy maintenance.
Please be unique to Austin/Texas and not something you could find in any city. Safe lightning and other elements as this could be a spot for predators after bar hours. Maybe Uber/taxi line up area. Photo back drop worthy for tourism.

Additional Comments
I like color, but I like the prefabricated tiles of concrete artwork on the nature based design. Could you add shard of colored glass into the mixture?
Must be blue please
Do something subtle that just works and has a nice texture to it, whether concrete or metal. Do not try too hard, it's not meant to be 'capital A' architecture.
It will get tagged, so material should be easy to clean - remove graffiti.
The modern design will look great against the backdrop of the high rise buildings going in (which are all glass / exposed concrete). This should help meld it into the look of the area.
It should be left open to expose the eyesore. Everyone should see how they have ruined Austin
I'm typically on a bike when I'm in this area. The East Avenue cross-section shows car parking on both sides of the street, two wide car travel lanes, an 18'-wide Pedestrian Zone, and not 1 inch for bikes. Why is our utility's design so car-dominant? The 2014 Austin Bike Master Plan calls for a bike lane here.
I wish "nature-based" meant a wall meant to look like it was formed by nature, not a wall with cartoon nature stuck on it for decoration.
Please don't put any black or off white painted surfaces - those colors will not age well.
Rain garden?? Not like Holiday Inn
native and adapted vine collection growing up and around wall panels
Rendering of a cattle drive. Something Texas!
I wish you put this much effort into Seaholm.
Can you combine the landscape and walls and have green screen walls with native plants and vines?
The "Natural" concept will be the most visually appealing and will seamlessly blend in to the neighborhood. Trying to made the substation visually interesting with the more highly visual and bright elements does not seem like the right move here.
Bright colors just draw attention & doesn't fit in with Rainey. Metal that rusts is my preferred choice - as an example - the new building just north of Saltillo on the east side of 35.
I think you should have rotating art murals. The walls will more than likely get graffiti'd so why not get in front of that? It will make the area a tourist attraction! You can hold a contest for best designs!
consider space for murals/street artist.
What can be done to prevent this area from becoming a area for homeless to sleep and defecate?
Would there be any wood + metal enclosure wall options?
Can the textured tiles be colored?
Please just make sure it is an accessible, pedestrian friendly environment!
I have no objections to calling something "nature-based", but that design is ugly.
Be thinking about how it will become a part of the urban fabric and character of the Rainey Street district. Keep in mind the new towers that will be across the street 44 East and 48 East.
The walls should have different intensities on each side - the east ave and 35 frontage are highest priority.
There needs to be a greater separation between the wall and the sidewalk. At least 10' - the scale of the wall is imposing and foreboding for the neighborhood.
This is right by I-35 in an expanding area, I think it should look as interesting as humanly possible. Why not make it an attraction? This should be the Walt Disney Concert Hall of substations.

Additional Comments
While I admire Lady Bird very much she never wanted Town Lake named for her. Her daughter did. Let's respect her.
The nature-based one offers a lot of fantastic opportunities.
Red colorful/artful is by far the best
Make it WEIRD please. Could HOPE outdoor gallery have a presence here?
I love the metal and concrete wave with the bold ombré colors. A substation is not ideal so this should be treated as a bold art project. Being downtown, it would look dull having a nature theme to it. It's not located in a green belt environment.
like the idea of seating for people. Highly concerned about the vagrants right under i35, that they will migrate over to this area. Please place some sort of grated air flow cover over the open air station area - something to cover the open air station

## 9. Are you satisfied with the opportunities to provide input and community engagement?

Additional Comments on Community Engagement
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Protect all trees</li> <li>2. More lighting on both East Ave &amp; Lambie</li> <li>3. Widen Lambie - we use the street to go south on 35 (to go north - we use East Ave to River St.</li> <li>4. Graffiti-proof fencing</li> </ol>
Cost estimates, otherwise great.
Very dissatisfied because when Dan Smith came to our TLNA meeting a year ago he assured us that it would not look like Seaholm because of new equipment that could have a roof over it...I came to the MACC a few weeks ago and there was no mention of a roof...I continue to feel that I am wasting my time to come to these meetings because no one listens or cares what the community has to put up with on a daily basis.
There should be more food and drink at events.
Would like an open air cover to be addressed; as well as how the prevention of homeless / vagrants can be discouraged from coming to this new location - given the current homeless tent city that continually reappears at Cesar Chavez IH35 underpass.
A roof with adequate ventilation would improve the appearance of the substation.
I am not yet satisfied but will continue to create opportunities until residents feel they have been heard. I am disappointed that we did not hear from Austin Energy for a few months and in this time renderings were created and with some collaboration with Waller Creek. There should have been an invitation to at least the neighborhood association to look at materials, colors, etc. The residents live near the substation, not Waller Creek and as far as I know they will not be paying for the substation.
Would have preferred to be involved at an earlier stage, feels like this "engagement" is pretty cosmetic, since that is really all you are asking about.
Definitely take input from the community, but also put some thoughts to long term integrity/maintenance/operation of the substation!
How tall is this substation? It looks like this wall is not tall enough and most of the substation will still be visible.
On site is always helpful description of the need to replace an aging station.
Most I speak to say it is not worth their time because you are doing what you want to with little regard to input.
I love community involvement and the opportunity to participate in selective voting from my smartphone. Thank you for offering this as an opportunity to participate instead of

Additional Comments on Community Engagement
having to attend a boring council meeting or TX Dot meeting at a middle school in some random part of town on a night that you already have plans or work obligations so you end up missing the meeting or get stuck in legendary traffic on Lamar or in the 35 parking lot. I would love to vote more like this on multiple occasions and projects. Thank you!
Provide a buffer of vegetation between pedestrian sidewalk and street - make walkers feel safe rather than exposed to high traffic.
Provide some kind of concrete assurance that the "opportunities to provide input and community engagement" is legitimate and use some kind of 3rd party to handle and publicize the data collected, that way we know whether or not the engagement is actually engaging something.
I do not like the overall location of this plant.
CD&P rocks!!
I don't think that attention should be drawn to the station. Rusty metal is interesting, aesthetically, and doesn't draw attention. Homewood Suites is an example of a colorful design on East that does not work.
Thanks for staying committed to public engagement :)
wish there was more effort to make public aware of these efforts.
Trees should have superior soil volumes (1000cu yd of soil per tree) Extreme care should be taken while working around the massive heritage tree in the AE easement - consult with Keith Mars for boring techniques.
please have more communication, be more active with the city in getting rid of the tent cities continually popping up.

## 10. How did you learn about this survey?

Other Sources	
A neighbor in my building (Austonian) posted it on our internal intranet.	Nextdoor
As a Board member of the RNA.	NextDoor
Austin energy website	Nextdoor
Austin Towers	NextDoor
Austin Towers (Website)	nextdoor
Austin Towers blog	Nextdoor
Austin towers blog	Nextdoor
Austin Towers blog	Nextdoor
austin.towers.com	Nextdoor
Austin.Towers.net	NextDoor
Austin.Towers.net	Nextdoor posting
austin.towers.net	Online article on website austin.towers.net
austin.towers.net	RNA
Austintowers.net	Sign
Blog (Austin Towers)	Sign on Rainey St.
Building link	Signs
building management	tower.net
Condo bldg newsletter	TOWERS
Condo new - Towers of Townlake	Towers blog

Other Sources	
co-worker sent me an email	Towers blog
Downtown Austin Alliance	Towers Blog
Facebook	Towers blog
Facebook	Towers email
Facebook towers	Towers of Town Lake Board
From building lobby (The Shore)	Towers Website
<a href="https://austin.towers.net">https://austin.towers.net</a>	Towers.com
<a href="https://austin.towers.net/">https://austin.towers.net/</a>	Towers.net
internet	towers.net
Neighborhood newsletter. Nextdoor.com	Towers.net
Next door	towers.net
Nextdoor	Towers.net
Nextdoor	Towers.net
NextDoor	Towers.net
NextDoor	Towers.net email. Following the process because of Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association.
Nextdoor	website
	Website: Austin Towers