CITY OF AUSTIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

PLACE-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Red River Cultural District



DECEMBER 9, 2019 TOURISM COMMISSION

City of Austin Economic Development Department

PROSPERITY FOR ALL **PEOPLE** · PROSPERITY FOR **BUSINESS** · PROSPERITY FOR **COMMUNITIES**







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Souly Austin is a place-based economic development Program focused on creating and retaining strong, vibrant, culturally rich and diverse neighborhood business districts throughout Austin.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dX3ciKtxIe8









Defining Place

- As broad as a community
- Contiguous geographic area within a community; trail, waterfront, or commercial area
- Specific sites such as a building(s), park, or plaza







Defining Place Based Economic Development Practice and approach of positioning public and private assets and strengths of a "place" to:

- Build Community, Capacity and Consensus
- Leverage and Produce Economic Benefits and Investment
- Identify Opportunities and Challenges
- Harness Improvements



District Terminology

Business, Merchant, Cultural, Arts, Theater, Technology, Innovation, Eco District, Entertainment, International, Historic, Parks, Parking, Waterfront, etc.

District Mechanisms

Regulatory Programmatic Financial

Defining Districts

A District is a contiguous area which may include a diversity of community, cultural, historical, economic, environmental, or residential assets. A District is anchored by an entity and rooted to inclusivity.

(Working definition)



Program Core Components





Community Organizing

- Merchant Association Formation
- Build consensus and capacity
- Training Resources
- Leadership Development
- Asset & strength identification
- District vision and mission
- Analysis, including market context



Enhancing Place

- Analysis
- Private investment
- Development/Redevelopment leveraging
- Public Space Right of Way Enhancements
- Preservation and retention



Economic Growth

- Jobs
- Increase patrons and revenue
- Diversity of business mix
- Partnership Development
- Events and Programming





Community Organizing

Merchants Associations

A merchants association is a group of businesses that collaborate around enhancing and stabilizing their neighborhood business district.



What is the definition of "business"?

All size business, creatives, creative spaces, musicians, live music venues, non-profits, universities, at home businesses, religious institutions, plus.





Enhancing Place

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Economic Growth Promote business diversity, resilience, job growth and partnerships

to support neighborhood

market data informed.

business district. Economic

Connectivity & Transportation

Enhance walkability, improve access to parking for employees and patrons and create more connections to diverse transit options.

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Music, Culture & Arts

Preserve and grow businesses and institutions that express the rich cultural heritage of the city through live music, creative space and public art.

Beautification & Aesthetics

Enhance the public realm through lean and capital enhancements that promote a safe and attractive cohesive environment.









Place Analysis and Economic Growth

- Economic Market Conditions
- Redevelopment Analysis
- Commercial and residential characteristics
- Asset Inventory (Historic, Cultural, Community/Local)
- Public Space evaluation
- Policy, plan and strategy alignment
- Partner identification
- History
- Infrastructure Projects
- Connectivity Network
- Human Capital











Economic Growth

- Business development opportunities
- Increase in sales
- Increase in mixed beverage tax
- Ticket sales
- Access, creation and retention of jobs
- Industry development including local entrepreneurism, tourism and creative sector including live music
- Lower vacancy rates
- Private investment
- Local business preservation
- Decrease in crime
- Increase in walk score
- Partnership development







Policy Alignments

- Imagine Austin
- City Council Strategic Direction 2023
- Cultural Tourism Plan
- Complete Streets
- Music and Creative Ecosystem Stabilization
- Thriving in Place / Cultural Asset Mapping







District Context Timeline

2013: City Council Designation of Red River as a Cultural District

2014: District began working with City's Souly Austin Program

2015: Red River Cultural District Merchants Association formed; resource provided by Souly Austin

Produced Red River Cultural District Economic Strategy

2016: Urban Land Institute Study completed; Red River Cultural District: Live Music Preservation

2017: City Council Resolution 2017008-033 (Red River Enhancements, no funding allocation)
 City Council Resolution 20170126-019 (Red River Sound Extension Pilot)
 Economic Development Department, Souly Austin Program funded land survey for Red River 700 Block
 Alley (\$13,000)
 Installation of public art projects in partnership with businesses and continuation of district banner
 installation

- **2018:** Economic Development Department secured \$200,000 for District Wayfinding Signage Red River Merchants Association appointment of Executive Director, Cody Cowan City Council Budget Rider allocation of funding for Red River Enhancements
- 2019: City Council allocation of funding for Red River Enhancements revisited; funding source
 City Council direction for installation of alley gate / fence
 Economic Development Department funding allocation for alley gate / fence project





Red River Cultural District (RRCD)

The RRCD is a cultural tourism destination for authentic live music, food and drink experiences in the heart of downtown Austin, Texas. With a membership of over forty local small businesses, the district's diverse programming regularly showcases both local and touring live music performances - seven days a week. The RRCD's twenty stages are not only home to the larger SXSW conference & festivals, ACL music festival after-shows, levitation fest and hot luck, but also to our annual district-grown music events - free week and hot summer nights. The district experience also provides excellent short-term & extended stay accommodations for all visiting guests and bands, culturally diverse dining experiences at restaurants + food trucks, as well as the promise of cold beers, excellent cocktails & good times for all.



United Through Music: Forty Members = Diverse Audience

SHAWARM

- 18 Bars/Beverage Hospitality Offers.
- 17 Restaurants/Food Service Offers.
- 10 Live Music Venues (25% Of Local Market).
- 6 Community, Culture & Arts Non-profits.
- 4 Hotels/Guest Accommodations.
- 3 Local/Regional + Events Companies.
- The Beverly Long/Short Term Stay Residences.
- True Blue Tattoo, Pat's Sheet Metal, Esther's Follies.





Italia

RRCD Presents

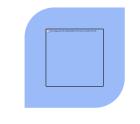




TWO ANNUAL SIGNATURE MUSIC EVENTS: FREE WEEK + HOT SUMMER NIGHTS.

\$180K + FUNDRAISING ANNUALLY PAYS LOCAL ARTISTS & COVERS ADMIN COSTS.





18M+ AUDIENCE IMPRESSIONS FOR HSN ALONE. * GIANT NOISE DATA

\$500K+ ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT.



RED RIVER CULTURAL DISTRICT

NUMAD * KINGO DEATHSTARK * SAILOR PUUN CHILD * SWELLS * MOVING PANORAMAS * SUN JUNE * NE PALO DURO * OTIS THE DESTROYER * THE WELL * NOT IN TA * HARVEST THIEVES * SHY BEAST * EAGLE CLAW * THE BISHOPS * DAPA. TUNES * BURNT SKULL * DEEP TIME * COMO LAS MOVIES * BIG BILL * NOLAN POTTER'S NIGHTMARE BAND * MODERN MEDICINE * BLACK BOOKS TINMARDSE * TEEMAGE CAVEGIR * BUJSHING * BORRISOKAME * TANCLUB * MEGAFAUMA * GLAZ * CROOKED BANGS * TEEMAGE CAVEGIR * BUJSHING * BORRISOKAME * TANCLUB * MEGAFAUMA * GLAZ * CROOKED BANGS * TEEMAGE CAVEGIR * BUJSHING * BORRISOKAME * TANCLUB * MEGAFAUMA * GLAZ * CROOKED BANGS * TEEMAGE CAVEGIR * BUJSHING * BORRISOKAME * TANCLUB * MEGAFAUMA * GLAZ * CROOKED BANGS * TEEMAGE CAVEGIR * BUJSHING * BORRISOKAME * TANCLUB * MEGAFAUMA * GLAZ * CROOKED BANGS * TEEMAGE CAVEGIR * BUJSHING * MODERN MEDICINE * LOCAL SHADOWS * CHERT ORANGE * * BUJSHE KEEL * DO YOUR NOR*WORW * LL * OET POOSS * GLASSING * GENOT • LUWYEE * DRES * RUMEES * LECHE * SUPER THEF * CHONOPHAGE * SPRAIN * MARROW MEAD * REHALANTS * BULLS * ST37 * HOADES * SINCLAR * BOORDER * GRUNG & GAMO CHILD * BINEYA SATT * CATERDILAR * MY GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT FEESH * GO FEYER * HE ÆBUJALONG * CUMISON DEVILS * DESTINGTING * MARDENSE * MONG MIGS * WHIT * LOOPD BUTFA * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT FEESH * GO FEYER * HE ÆBUJALING * CUMISON DEVILS * DESTINGTING * MARDENSE BUDGE FARMESK * ANDHILE * LOUP BUTFA * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT FEESH * GO FEYER * HE ÆBUJALING * CUMISON DEVILS * DESTINGTING * MARDENS BUDGE FARMESK * ANDHILE * LOUP BUTFA * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT * LONG BUTFA * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT * HEMBAD * MIGHT * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT * LONG BUTFA * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT * HEMBAD * MIGHT * V GOLDON CALL * HOUSSENAMINE * PATAPRYSISK * MIGHT * HEMBAD * MIGHT * V GOLDON CALL * HEMBAD * HE SWIGHBUCKERES * WORN * MIGHT * HEMB



City Council Resolution 2017008-033 Enhancements

- Alleyway Gate and Fence; Pending Inspection
- Trash and Recycling Receptacles; 10 installed, pending maintenance agreement
- Creative Installations; Completed installation of four projects in the district
- Sidewalks, right of way enhancements; Cost estimates, design and engineering underway
- Lighting Study; Underway
- Landscaping and Planters; Design and engineering underway
- Signage and Wayfinding; \$200,000 secured for implementation, project in motion, design, engineering and fabrication underway



THANK YOU.



