



## **EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, January 8, 2020**

The Early Childhood Council (ECC) convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at City Hall.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Alvarez; Vice Chair McHorse; Members Burson, Conlin, Cortés-Castillo, Huston, Paver

Staff in attendance: Rachel Farley, Estella Kirscht, Donna Sundstrom

Chair Alvarez called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

1. **INTRODUCTIONS** - ECC members and guests introduced themselves
2. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**- None
3. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

Paola Ferate-Soto with Austin Public Library had questions for Annick Beaudet about the Land Development Code (LDC) rewrite regarding green space and Dove Springs

Laura Olsen with Go Austin! Vamos Austin! (GAVA) is concerned about limited opportunities for community input on the LDC rewrite, is asking for opportunities to have community engagement, requested impact analysis for displacement

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Member Huston moved to approve the November 13, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes with no changes and Member Conlin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0
5. **PRESENTATION**

Annick Beaudet Assistant Director for Long Range Planning and Traffic Management with the Austin Transportation Department presented on the LDC; Donna Galati, Program Manager from Development Services Department called in to help present – Ms. Beaudet is the co-lead of the LDC Revision, along with Brent Lloyd, working within the City Manager’s Office and the office of Assistant City Manager Rodney Gonzalez, with multi-disciplinary and multi-departmental team, staff/team members from various departments who have specific expertise. There is a focus on historically underrepresented communities. Revision is guided by UT Austin’s Uprooted report on gentrification and displacement and LDC team is considering how zoning can be a tool to slow these processes.

October 2019 - released a new draft text and map as a new growth concept; after the first reading in December 2019, Council approved a third concept, transition areas, mixed use corridors with multi-unit housing to absorb most of the growth as transitions into single family neighborhoods, requested significant map changes; map will be out in 12 days and will reflect Council Member Garza’s motions to make owning and operating child care easier in more parts of the City:

- Increase number of children allowed in “childcare large use” from 24 to 36
- Allow “large childcare” as a permitted use by right in R3 and R4 zones (two types of residential zones)
- Allow minor use permit for “childcare commercial use” under residential RM1 zones

With these changes, where was not permitted, is permitted as a conditional use; where it was conditional use, is now a minor use; where it was a minor use, it may be a permitted use.

City has limited tools to promote development of affordable housing, such as affordable housing bonus program. Current draft seeks to locate 3 and 4 bedroom units close to childcare, transportation. Taking a complete Communities approach to locate housing near grocery stores, public transport, parks, open space.

**6. NEW BUSINESS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS:**

- a. Consider action on recommendations related to the Land Development Code- Members Action on recommendations related to the Land Development Code- Members unanimously approved a recommendation, by a vote of 7-0, to Council supporting the provisions for child care facilities as adopted by Council at first ordinance reading, and recommending Council add or strengthen provisions for “family-friendly housing” units with three or more bedrooms, a minimum of 1000 square feet, proximity to child care and transportation that serves families from a range of incomes.
- b. Chair and Vice Chair Updates- none given
- c. Policy work group update
  - i. Consider action on FY 2021 budget recommendation requesting the City fund an additional full-time Early Childhood position at Austin Public Health
  - ii. 1. Consider action on recommendations requesting the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission support recommendation from item 6ci  
2. Consider action on recommendations requesting the African American Resource Advisory Commission support recommendation from item 6ci

Member Conlin moved to approve three recommendations- 6ci, 6cii1, and 6cii2. Member Huston seconded the motion. All recommendations were approved by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and Vice Chair McHorse abstaining.

**7. STAFF BRIEFING**

- a. Rachel Farley, Austin Public Health
  - i. ECC meeting locations – 2 evenings in community locations in north and south, April and September; need to find locations; Feb 12, Aug 12 and Nov 18 meetings will be at United Way for Greater Austin
  - ii. Dove Springs Health Center and Child Care Center– ECC member’s email addresses added to list to receive communications about the center; proposals are being reviewed and will make a staff recommendation for approval to Council in early Spring; next community meeting will be in late spring after a contract is executed as the design phase begins; email updates will continue and item will stay on the ECC agenda for continuing updates

**8. RELATED GROUPS-** no updates provided

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Next Meeting- 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 12, 2020, Location is TBD (not at City Hall)
- b. February 12- Success By 6 Leadership Team presentation on early childhood policy agenda
- c. Possible presentations to schedule:
  - Family Connects
  - Head Start/Early Head Start
  - Austin ISD teen parent program and child care centers

**ADJOURNMENT-** Acting Chair Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 9:56 without objection.