



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

THROUGH: Robert Goode, Interim Assistant City Manager
Veronica Briseño, Assistant City Manager

From: Jim Smith, Interim Director, Department of Aviation
José Roig, Director, Development Services Department
Jorge Morales, Director, Watershed Protection Department

DATE: June 26, 2023

SUBJECT: **Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Master Development Plan Ordinance Update**

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform City Council that the Departments of Aviation, Development Services (DSD), and Watershed Protection (WPD) will soon be bringing forward proposed updates to the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) Master Development Plan (MDP) Ordinance, which is subject to review and City Council approval every ten years. The timing for this action is critical in order to keep the airport expansion program on schedule.

Background

In 1994, when the City was transforming the recently closed Bergstrom Air Force Base into the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, City Council passed Ordinance 94-1117-L, which served as a blueprint for development at the new airport, including a Master Plan of public improvements. The goal was to deliver the City of Austin's largest capital project to date as efficiently as possible by treating the airport as a singular development program. More recently, in 2012, City Council approved an updated MDP ordinance ([Ord. 20120628-014](#)) that aligned with future development needs and addressed drainage planning requirements created since the original 1994 ordinance.

The MDP establishes the regulatory framework for development projects within the AUS campus and helps ensure AUS upholds its environmental stewardship responsibilities. Both the 1994 and 2012 MDP ordinances included specific variances to City Code.

Proposed Update

Over the past 18 months, WPD, DSD and Aviation staff have worked closely to develop a proposed updated MDP ordinance for Council consideration. The three departments have also developed a set of variances to guide the airport's future expansion efforts while abiding by the City's environmental and

sustainability principles. In the weeks ahead, the departments plan to co-present the updated MDP and proposed variances to multiple boards and commissions for review. Staff will then bring the updated MDP Ordinance for City Council approval in mid-September. The tentative meeting schedule shown below. Maintaining this schedule will keep the expansion program on track.

- Environmental Commission: July 5
- Airport Advisory Commission: August 9
- Planning Commission: August 22
- City Council: September 14

The staff teams are proud to bring this matter forward and to provide more detail in the coming weeks.

Should you have any questions, please contact Somer Shindler, AUS Chief Development Officer, at Somer.Shindler@FlyAustin.com.

cc: Jesús Garza, Interim City Manager
Kevin Ramberg, Chair, Environmental Commission
Wendy Price Todd, Chair, Airport Advisory Commission
Todd Shaw, Chair, Planning Commission