



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

**Urban Transportation Commission**

Recommendation Number 20231003-004: Parking Minimums

WHEREAS, parking mandates induce car use, degrade the public realm, increase vehicle miles traveled (VMTs), result in greater greenhouse gas emissions, endangering the planet and the health of its inhabitants;

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Plan envisions the City of Austin as a city with “interconnected development patterns [that] support public transit and a variety of transportation choices while reducing sprawl, congestion, travel times, and negative impacts on existing neighborhoods;” and

WHEREAS, the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan sets a goal for a 50% non-single occupancy vehicle mode share by 2039; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of cities nationwide have eliminated the minimum parking requirements based on concerns over affordability and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the City Council approved Resolution No. 20230504-022, which initiated amendments to the Land Development Code to eliminate minimum off-street motor vehicle parking requirements in the City; and

WHEREAS, City Council Resolution No. 20230504-022 directed the City Manager “to return with an ordinance for Council consideration no later than December 31, 2023”; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of the City Council Public Hearing on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, City Staff presented the draft ordinance to the Urban Transportation Commission on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Urban Transportation Commission recommends that the City Council fully adopt the draft ordinance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Urban Transportation Commission recommends City staff make the following changes to the draft ordinance before the November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 City Council Meeting in regards to required bicycle parking:

- I. Remove references to minimum bicycle parking and the entirety of Part 2 of “APPENDIX A. - TABLES OF OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS”;
- II. Remove all references to Appendix A in Section 25-6-477 - BICYCLE PARKING;
- III. Simplify the minimum bike parking requirements to a ratio of planned motor vehicle parking, based on the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan 50/50 Mode Share Goal (which projects 50% of commuters driving alone and 5% of commuters biking), and add the following minimum requirements to Section 25-6-477:
  - A. Commercial Uses: A minimum of 2 spaces or 10% of the planned motor vehicle spaces, whichever is greater;
  - B. Multi-Family Residential Uses: A minimum of 5 spaces or 10% of the planned motor vehicle spaces, whichever is greater;
  - C. Single-Family or Two-Family Residential Uses: None;
  - D. All Other Uses: A minimum of one bicycle parking space or 10% of the planned motor vehicle spaces, whichever is greater.

Motioned by: Commissioner Spencer Schumacher

Seconded by: Commissioner Daniel Kavelman

Date of Approval: 10/3/2023

Record of the vote: 8-0

Attest: Isabelle Solis, Staff Liaison