COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 14th, 2026

The COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR MEETING on APRIL 14th, 2026, at CITY HALL, BOARDS AND COMMISSION ROOM, in Austin, Texas. Some members of the commission participated by video conference.

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:
Jose Noe Elias (Chair)
Cynthia Jaso
Jenny Achilles
Lyric Wardlow
Tiffany Moore
Raul Longoria

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:
Nyeka Arnold (Vice Chair)
Cassandra Medrano
Ebonie Oliver
JoAnne Ortiz
Sonia Martinez
Taniquewa Brewster
Valerie Menard

Board Members/Commissioners Absent:
Tisha-Vonique Hood

Staff Members in Attendance:
Angel Zambrano
Lorena Lopez Chavarin (Remotely)
Miguel Lopez
Nefertitti Jackmon

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Elias called the meeting to order at 6:41 PM

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

Susana Almanza provided public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the CDC Regular meeting on March 10th, 2026.

Postponement for the next meeting.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

2. Staff briefing regarding Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) activities and outcomes. Presentation by Angel Zambrano, Program Manager III, Austin Public Health.

The presentation was made by Angel Zambrano, Program Manager III, Austin Public Health.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Presentation on the Public Hearing on Needs Assessment for Annual Action Plan. Presentation by Veronica Samo, Public Information and Marketing Program Manager, and Julie Smith, Community Engagement Specialist, Austin Housing.

The presentation was made by Miguel Lopez, Planner I, Austin Housing.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

4. Discussion and possible action on the Neighborhood Services Unit's mission statement. Presentation by Angel Zambrano, Program Manager III, Austin Public Health.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice by calling 512-974-1606 at least 2 days prior to the meeting date. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Community Development Commission, please contact Edward Blake at 512-974-3108. CDC Commissioners may contact CTM for email/technology assistance: 512-974-4357.

DRAFT

The following amendment was made by Vice Chair Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Jaso. The amendment was to revise the section to state:
"The Neighborhood Services Unit aims to improve the lives and health of people experiencing poverty by providing public health and social services in and connecting residents of Austin and Travis County to community resources."
The amendment was approved on an 11-0 vote. Commissioner Medrano was off the dais.

The motion to approve the Neighborhood Services Unit's mission statement was approved on Commissioner Menard's motion, Commissioner Martinez's second, on an 11-0 vote. Commissioner Medrano was off the dais.

5. Discussion and possible action concerning the Acquisition of Montopolis/Fairway property by the city of Austin for the future construction of deeply affordable housing. Presentation by Susana Almanza, Executive Director, People Organized in Defense of Earth and its Resources (PODER).

The motion to approve the recommendation to Council regarding Acquisition of Montopolis/Fairway property by the City of Austin for the future construction of deeply affordable housing was approved on Commissioner Ortiz's motion, Vice Chair Arnold's second, on an 11-0 vote. Commissioner Medrano and Oliver were off the dais.

6. Discussion and possible action concerning CDC recommendations for the City of Austin Rental Assistance program. Discussion led by Chair Noe Elias and Vice Chair Nyeka Arnold.

The motion to approve the recommendation to Council regarding the City of Austin Rental Assistance program was approved on Commissioner Brewster's motion.
Commissioner Menard seconded on a 12-0 vote. Commissioner Medrano was off the dais.

7. Discussion and possible action concerning the creation of an Infrastructure Working Group. This working group will focus on access to, and accessibility of, current and future infrastructure. Discussion led by Chair Noe Elias and Commissioner Tiffany Moore.

The motion to approve the formation of an Infrastructure Working Group to include Vice Chair Arnold, and Commissioners Brewster, Longoria, and Moore. The purpose of the working group is to focus on access to and accessibility of current and future infrastructure, as approved on Commissioner Achilles' motion, Commissioner Longoria second, on an 11 -0 vote. Commissioner Medrano was off the dais.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice by calling 512-974-1606 at least 2 days prior to the meeting date. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Community Development Commission, please contact Edward Blake at 512-974-3108. CDC Commissioners may contact CTM for email/technology assistance: 512-974-4357.

DRAFT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

-Presentation regarding the overview of bond development and the proposals included in the bond package.

- Presentation on the proposal to rename Cesar Chavez Street.

- Presentation from Austin Housing providing information on rental assistance and prevention services, specifically focusing on the number of people being served and available funding.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Elias adjourned the meeting at 8:48 PM

On Commissioner Tisha's motion, Commissioner Achilles seconded, the April 14th, 2026, Community Development Commission meeting minutes were approved at the May 12th, 2026, CDC meeting, with a 8-0 vote. Chair Elias and Commissioners Brewster, Medrano Menard, Ortiz, and Oliver were absent.

DRAFT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice by calling 512-974-1606 at least 2 days prior to the meeting date. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Community Development Commission, please contact Edward Blake at 512-974-3108. CDC Commissioners may contact CTM for email/technology assistance: 512-974-4357.