



AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

November 9, 2006 - November 10, 2006

Meeting Notes Transcribed from Facilitators/Staff

Council Vision and Goals

City Vision Statement Unchanged

We want Austin to be the most livable city in the country

Council's Four New Proposed Citywide Strategic Goals

- 1 Rich Social and Cultural Community
- 2 Vibrant Urban Fabric
- 3 Healthy, Safe City
- 4 Sustainable Economic Development and Financial Health



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Council Vision and Current Council Priorities

City Vision Statement

We want Austin to be the most livable city in the country

Council's Current Proposed Strategic Goals

- 1 Youth, Family and Neighborhood Vitality
- 2 Public Safety
- 3 Sustainable Community
- 4 Affordability



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Council Priorities – Proposed Council Guidelines

Proposed Council Guidelines

Premise

Because Council must act as a body to establish policy directives for the City these guidelines will help individual Council Members work together more effectively

Proposed Guidelines

- ✓ Post short (5 minute) updates/briefings on Council Subcommittee work on the full Council Agenda
- 2 At each Council Meeting, Mayor will ask for preview of future/upcoming items from individual Council Members to allow a week's notice on proposed upcoming items
- ✓ Items from Council should always be posted with a draft resolution as agenda back up to provide detail on the proposal
- 4 Items from Council will be posted with a fiscal note to include staff resources (low, medium, high) required, as well as dollars
- 5 Council Members will focus on using their 1-on-1 meetings with one another to avoid surprises and give each other a heads-up on items, seeking input and feedback from one another

The Mayor has requested consideration of a 6th Guideline

- 6 No council action on an agenda item after a time certain in the evening. As you know there have been numerous citizen complaints about late night action on items of public importance. The city code currently recognizes that late meetings are not preferable. City Code 2-5-24(F) says "The presiding officer should adjourn a council meeting at 10 00 p m, unless there is a majority vote of the council to continue the meeting." Since consideration of any item past 10 00 p m requires a vote of the council, the Council could adopt a rule that eliminates the 10 00 p m adjournment deadline, but limits council's ability to cast a vote on an item after a time certain, midnight, for example. If Council decides to adopt such a rule, it would require a Code amendment.



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Council Priorities - Projects Requiring HIGH Resources

HIGH RESOURCES

Rich Social and Cultural Community

- Start Waller Creek Project **(Underway)**
- Lighting for Entire Hike/Bike Trail & Complete Connectivity
- ~~Continue Implementation of~~ African-American Quality of Life Initiative
(Underway) *Complete*
- Create Live Music Venue Rescue Plan - Support Health Alliance for Austin Musicians (HAAM) – Enhance Musician Recognition
- Complete Walk-for-a-Day Connections **(Underway)**
- Finalize Barton Springs Pool Master Plan **(Underway)**
- Expand Blackland Community Center and Enhance Mobile Health Van Access
- Create Playground in Town Lake Park
- Move to Single Member Districts combined with At-Large Representation
- (0) Begin Work on Country Club Creek Hike/Bike Trail

Vibrant Urban Fabric

- Pull Trigger on Green Water Treatment Plant Redevelopment **(Underway)**
- ~~Complete Commuter Rail Project & Begin Circulator System~~
- Increase & Maintain Performance Measure of Maintaining Lane Miles to 10%
- Emphasize Cleanliness in Downtown Urban Areas **(Underway)**
- Increase Walking Beat Police Officers Downtown
- Expand/Refine UNO Model to Other Targeted Areas **(Underway)**
- Secure Financing for Moving Union Pacific freight off MoPac/ and Line from Round Rock to Austin
- Build Pedestrian Bridges/Walkways Over 1-35
- Complete the Mexican American Cultural Center & Explore Mixed Use Option on Site
- Prioritize Infrastructure for Envision Central Texas Patterns
- Plan for New Homes to Be Zero Energy **(Underway)**
- ~~Use Rail as Catalyst to Redevelop Government Land & Put Land Back on Tax Roles~~
- Preserve and Create Downtown Child Care – Change Building Codes to Make Child Care Spaces Easier



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Healthy, Safe City

- Approve Structural Water Conservation Policy **Underway**
- Develop Longterm Landfill Plans Including Economic Development and Recycling
- Adopt Mitigation/Retro-Fit/Redevelopment Policy for Barton Springs Zone
- Start Conversation on a Homeless Shelter Away From Downtown with Multiple Agencies Present
- Adopt Regional Water Quality Plan and Include Transfer of Development Rights Policy **Portions are Underway**
- Convert Intake Structures into "Fit City" Facilities (Seaholm/Green)
- Create After School Spaces & Other Facilities in TODS & Other High Density Areas
- Continue Implementation of Mental Health Taskforce Recommendations **Underway**
- Movement On Water Treatment Plant #4 **Underway**

Sustainable Economic Development

- Permit/Encourage Affordable Housing Bond Use In TOD's Approve Housing Guidelines & Establish Housing Oversight Committee for Bond Dollars **Underway**
- Affordable Housing Density Bonuses to Create Affordable Units for Moderate & Low Income **Underway**
- Move ARA Development & Tank Farm Site Redevelopment **Underway**
- Focus on Tourist Destinations & Historic Buildings through Bond Program with Emphasis around the Convention Center
- Consider Moving Historic Structures next to the Convention Center (to Palm Park?) & Redeveloping the Land
- Support Oak Hill TOD and Town Center Redevelopment **Underway**
- Professional Exchange Program for Austin Technology Incubator with A Focus on Asia
- Expand Partnership with Austin Technology Incubator, Especially Wireless & Clean Energy **Underway**
- Increase Minority Business Opportunities with Private Business, Meet MBE Goals
- Establish a Sematech-Type Center for Clean Energy R&D
- (0) Support the Education Alliance to Realign With Workforce Needs & Future Economic Development Needs **Underway**

Key

Underway – item is already or partially underway

Yellow Highlight – considered a top Council priority from the November Retreat

Incubator
Co-Investments
Incentives

Creative class
1st market

Clean energy

February 27 Work Session Follow-Up Council Priorities

1 Rich Social and Cultural Community

Downtown Quality of Life

Promote more diverse economic events

Example National Urban League Conference (now held in Washington or Chicago)

Asian American Resource Center open by 2010

Have 10,000 more families with children households in Austin by 2010 (From 76,500 in 2007 to 86,500 in 2010)

Live music venues

Rescue plan

- Support Health Alliance for Austin musicians
- Enhance musician recognition

~~Start Waller Creek Project~~

Finalize Barton Springs Pool Master Plan

implementation

2 Vibrant Urban Fabric

~~Transportation Oriented Development (TOD) to include parks affordable housing, public spaces, etc~~

Revitalize downtown (Waller Creek tunnel etc falls within this)

Urban Parks

More affordable homeownership opportunities including funding through density bonuses

→ Expedite Green Water Treatment Plant Conversion – Supports health fitness, and supports vibrant downtown

~~Completing commuter rail and circular system~~

→ Pull trigger on Green Water Treatment Plant Redevelopment

Emphasize cleanliness in downtown urban areas

3 Healthy, Safe City

Audit of Police—Intent is to manage sustainable increases in cost over time

Mobile vans for health care

Seaholm - Converts structure into 'Fit City' facility

Approve Structural Water Conservation Policy

Develop long-term landfill plans including economic development and recycling

4 Sustainable Economic Development and Financial Health

① Staying on the cutting edge of emerging technologies
Identify the barriers we may have to attracting and holding companies -
Factors to attract and hold (Do they come to us before they leave for another City?)

Support for women and minority business enterprises (MWBE)

Long term financial health of the City (Issues with TIF/multiple TIFs Tax Increment Financing) Policies that sustain long term financial health

Create a small business set aside procurement program in 2007

Secure full funding for Austin San Antonio Rail Corridor by 2008

Create a regional process for transferable development rights (TDRs) in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing Zones

Live music venues (Is the canary in the coal mine indicator of economic health and needs to be watched and fostered)

Clean energy – Climate protection plan

Permit/encourage Affordable Housing Bond use in TOD's Approve Housing Guidelines and establish Housing Oversight Committee for bond dollars