

AGENDA



Thursday, June 7, 2007

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**Item No. 65**

Subject: Set a public hearing to amend Chapter 25-2, Subchapter E, of the City Code (Design Standards and Mixed Use) regarding Vertical Mixed Use and the Opt-In/Opt-Out process. (Suggested date and time: June 21, 2007 at 6:00 p.m., Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX)

For More Information: George Adams, 974-2146; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Prior Council Action: 8/31/06 - The City Council adopted Subchapter E: Design Standards and Mixed Use.

5/17/07 - the City Council directed the City Manager to initiate this amendment to Subchapter E.

The Design Standards ordinance defined a new Vertical Mixed Use (VMU) building type and specific standards for VMU buildings, established locations where VMU buildings may be built, defined development standards that may be relaxed to encourage construction of VMU buildings and established a process whereby neighborhoods may provide recommendations on the standards for VMU buildings (the "Opt-In/Opt-Out Process").

The Design Standards ordinance established a 90-day period in which neighborhoods must submit opt-in/opt-out applications and a 45-day period in which the Planning Commission should provide recommendations and the City Council should make final determinations regarding the applications.

On May 17, 2007, the City Council directed the City Manager to initiate an amendment to the Vertical Mixed Use provisions of the Design Standards Ordinance (Chapter 25-2, Subchapter E, Section 4.3.5). The amendment would allow a neighborhood that files an opt-in/opt-out application on or before June 4, 2007 to file an amended application on or before July 19, 2007. The amendment will also delete the 45-day period for Planning Commission and City Council action on opt-in/opt-out applications.

In order to qualify for the additional 45 days, all neighborhoods must file an opt-in/opt-out application by June 4, 2007. Submittal of an opt-in/opt-out application by June 4, 2007 will allow neighborhoods additional time to evaluate VMU and to file an amended application on or before July 19, 2007.

The amendment will be considered by the Planning Commission on June 12, 2007.