Thursday, August 30, 2007

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 76

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan by adopting the North Burnet/Gateway 2035 Master Plan. The Master Plan will serve as the Combined Neighborhood Plan for the area bounded by Metric Boulevard on the east, US 183 on the south and west, and Braker Lane, MoPac, and Walnut Creek on the north and northwest. (Suggested date and time: October 18, 2007 at 4:00 p.m., Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin).

For More Information: Molly Scarbrough, 974-3515; Sonya Lopez, 974-7694; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448

Boards and Commission Action: To be reviewed by Planning Commission on September 25, 2007.

Prior Council Action: 1/17/02- Council approved a resolution directing the Planning Commission to consider neighborhood plans for four combined planning areas in Austin, including the Upper Boggy Creek/Bouldin Creek/North Loop neighborhood planning areas (NPAs), the MLK/MLK183/Pecan Springs-Springdale/Franklin Park/McKinney/Southeast NPAs, the North Burnet/Gateway NPAs, and the Govalle/Johnson Terrace NPAs.

11/6/03 – Council approved Ordinance No. 031106-34 Amending the FY 2003-2004 Transportation, Planning, and Sustainability Department Capital Budget to appropriate funding from the Capital Metro Transit Authority, including 1) Increase appropriation to Regional Mobility Projects by amount of \$500,000 for the North Burnet/Gateway Neighborhood Transportation Plan.

1/13/05 – Council authorized the negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Carter & Burgess, Inc. for the North Burnet/Gateway Transportation and Urban Design Study.

This action will set a public hearing for the North Burnet/Gateway 2035 Master Plan. This combined planning area includes the North Burnet and Gateway Neighborhood Planning Areas.

The North Burnet/Gateway Combined Neighborhood Plan was officially selected by the City Council to undergo neighborhood planning in 2002. Soon after the neighborhood planning process began in the North Burnet/Gateway area, it became evident to planning staff that this area was changing and that the industrial trend of past years might not be the dominant form of development in the future, and therefore recommended that a focused land use and transportation study be conducted. The City Council responded by allocating \$500,000 of quarter-cent Capital Metro funds to this study.

The consulting firm Carter & Burgess, along with a number of sub-consultants, were selected to develop a Master Plan for the North Burnet/Gateway area and include transportation, land use, zoning, and urban design recommendations. The Master Plan will serve as the neighborhood plan for the area.

The consultants and staff have been meeting with neighborhood stakeholders, including property owners, renters, business owners, developers, residents from surrounding neighborhoods, City staff, and local, regional, and state agency staff with jurisdiction in the area since April of 2006 to develop the Master Plan. Public involvement was achieved through stakeholder interviews, a "community image survey," a week-long design charrette (public workshop) held July 6-12, 2006, public advisory group meetings and a public meeting held March 24, 2006 to present the Draft Plan concepts, answer questions, and receive

comments on the Plan. In addition, two surveys were conducted to collect feedback from stakeholders on the Draft Plan concepts.

Attached is a boundary map of the North Burnet/Gateway planning area.