ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE AUSTIN TOMORROW COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY ADOPTING THE OAK HILL COMBINED NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. FINDINGS.

(A) In 1979, the City Council adopted the "Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan."

(B) Article X, Section 5 of the City Charter authorizes the City Council to adopt by ordinance additional elements of a comprehensive plan that are necessary or desirable to establish and implement policies for growth, development, and beautification, including neighborhood, community, or area-wide plans.

(C) In the fall of 2005, an initial survey was distributed to residents in the neighborhood planning area, and subsequent meetings were held with the City of Austin Neighborhood planning staff and homeowners, renters, business owners, non-profit organizations and non-resident property owners to prepare a neighborhood plan. The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan followed a process first outlined by the Citizens' Planning Committee in 1995, and refined by the Ad Hoc Neighborhood Planning Committee in 1996. The City Council endorsed this approach for neighborhood planning in a 1997 resolution. This process mandated representation of all of the stakeholders in the neighborhood and required active public outreach. The City Council directed the Planning Commission to consider the plan in a 2005 resolution. During the planning process, the Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan planning team gathered information and solicited public input through the following means:

(1) neighborhood planning team meetings;

(2) collection of existing data;

(3) neighborhood inventory;

(4) neighborhood survey;

(5) neighborhood workshops; and

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(6) community-wide meetings.

(D) The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan recommends action by the neighborhood planning team, the City, and by other agencies to preserve and improve the neighborhood. The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan has 28 major goals:

(1) Preserve and enhance environmental resources including watersheds, air quality, and wildlife corridors.

(2) Provide opportunities for high-quality new development and redevelopment.

(3) Balance development and environmental protection by maintaining a vibrant residential and commercial community that demonstrates caring stewardship of the environment.

(4) Create a mix of uses in existing corridors of commercial development that will provide a diversity of local services convenient to neighborhoods and establish commercial "nodes" (concentrated activity areas) at strategic locations.

(5) Create a Town Center with cultural, educational, arts, and community gathering opportunities.

(6) Encourage locally-owned businesses to locate in the Oak Hill area and find ways for local businesses and employers to prosper.

(7) Coordinate with appropriate entities to provide safe access across major thoroughfares and alleviate cut-through traffic on already overburdened neighborhood streets.

(8) Provide inter-connectivity among parks, public services, and destinations in and beyond Oak Hill.

(9) Ensure and create safe pedestrian and bike corridors across major highways and throughout the neighborhood that connect to commercial centers and public parks and resources.

(10) Provide managed connectivity between various neighborhoods while maintaining the quiet enjoyment of neighborhoods.

(11) Provide safe, convenient, comfortable and timely public transportation.

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(12) Balance development and environmental protection by maintaining a vibrant residential and commercial community.

(13) Preserve neighborhood identity, character, affordability, and diversity.

(14) Require landscaping along roadways, sidewalks, bike paths, and around bus stops to provide shade in order to encourage pedestrian, bicycling, and mass transportation.

(15) Enhance the Hill Country look of Oak Hill by preserving trees and addressing aesthetic improvements in the planning area.

(16) Balance development and environmental protection by maintaining a vibrant residential and commercial community that demonstrates caring stewardship of the environment.

(17) Preserve neighborhood identity, character, affordability, and diversity.

(18) Provide managed connectivity between various neighborhoods while maintaining the quiet enjoyment of neighborhoods.

(19) Expand and develop park-like recreational options, especially in underserved neighborhoods.

(20) Establish a network of greenspaces and trails connecting neighborhoods.

(21) Preserve and restore natural beauty of open spaces in order to maintain Oak Hill's Hill Country character.

(22) Preserve and enhance environmental resources including watersheds, air quality, and wildlife corridors.

(23) Integrate neighborhoods, green spaces, and major destinations to increase connectivity.

(24) Create safe and secure greenbelts and nature trails along Williamson Creek and other area creeks.

(25) Preserve valued historic sites.

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(26) Ensure the safety of persons and property.

(27) All Oak Hill residents should have readily accessible, quality community and public services.

(28) Promote camaraderie, community spirit, and communication among neighborhoods.

(E) The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan goals are further described in the Plan Summary section of the Plan.

(F) On July 8, 2008, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan, and recommended adoption of the plan by the City Council.

(G) The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan is appropriate for adoption as an element of the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan furthers the City Council's goal of achieving appropriate, compatible development within the area. The Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan is necessary and desirable to establish and implement policies for growth, development, and beautification in the area.

PART 2. ADOPTION AND DIRECTION.

(A) Chapter 5 of the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan is amended to add the Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan as Section 5-25 of the Comprehensive Plan, as set forth in Exhibit A to this ordinance, which is incorporated as part of this ordinance.

(B) The city manager shall prepare zoning cases consistent with the land use recommendations in the Plan.

(C) The city manager shall provide periodic updates to the City Council on the status of the implementation of the Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan.

(D) The specific provisions of the Oak Hill Combined Neighborhood Plan take precedence over any conflicting general provision in the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan.

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PART 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2008.

PASSED AND APPROVED

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§
_____, 2008 § _____
Will Wynn
Mayor

APPROVED: _____ **ATTEST:** _____
David Allan Smith
City Attorney

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk

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