A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L

AGENDA



Thursday, February 12, 2009

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) **Item No. 32**
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider amendments to the Land Development Code, Chapter 25-10, to allow sidewalk signs in commercial areas of the City. (Suggested date and time: February 26, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Kathy Haught, 974-2724; Clara Hilling, 974-2686

Boards and Commission Action: To be reviewed by the Planning Commission on February 24, 2009.

On December 11, 2008, Council passed a resolution directing the City Manager to initiate a code amendment to allow sidewalk signs in the South Congress Corridor. On December 18, 2008, Council passed an additional resolution expanding that direction to allow sidewalk signs in any appropriate commercial area of the City. The resolution further directed the City Manager to review and make recommendations for amendment of existing code provisions regarding limitations on placement and location of the sign to assure that public safety.

Under City Code Chapter 25-10 (Sign Regulations), sidewalk signs are currently permitted in the downtown sign district or on property in the university neighborhood overlay (UNO) zoning district. The proposed amendments would extend these regulations to core commercial areas of the City, and impose the following minimum requirements:

o A minimum of 10 feet of clearance shall be maintained at all times, for pedestrian mobility.

o Signs shall not be placed in a manner that prevents line of sight issues for traffic.

o Shall not be placed within twenty (20) feet of a driveway or pedestrian crosswalk.

o Signage shall be coordinated with other right of way activities in the area.