

City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2009

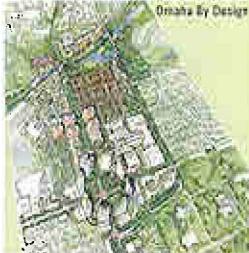
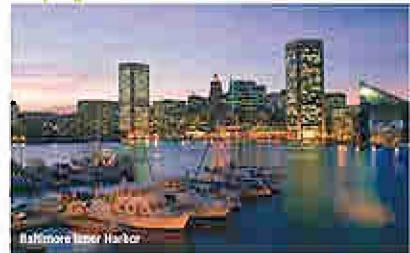
## Who We Are

<p><b>Record-Winning Firm</b></p> 	<p><b>Integrated Planning &amp; Design</b></p> 
<p><b>Sustainability Leaders</b></p> 	<p><b>Growth Management, Community and Environmental Planning</b></p> 
<p><b>National Leaders in Comprehensive Planning</b></p> 	<p><b>Landscape Architecture</b></p> 
<p><b>Proponents of Value-Driven Planning</b></p> 	<p><b>Urban Design</b></p> 

**WRT** Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC  
Planning, Urban Design, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Sustainability Integration

## Experience Overview: Vibrant Urban Communities

### Shaping Urban Form



## Experience Overview: Planning for Exceptional Communities

### Unique Character / Quality of Life



Flower Mound, TX



The Woodlands, TX

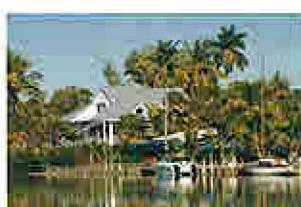
### University Communities



Annapolis, MD



Georgetown, TX



Sanibel, FL



Chapel Hill, NC

City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2009

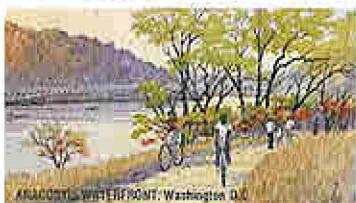
## Experience Overview: Effective Growth Management



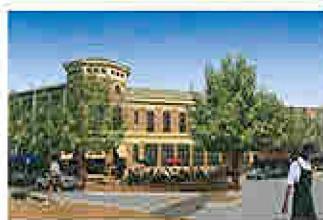
## Experience Overview: Sustainable Development / Green Infrastructure



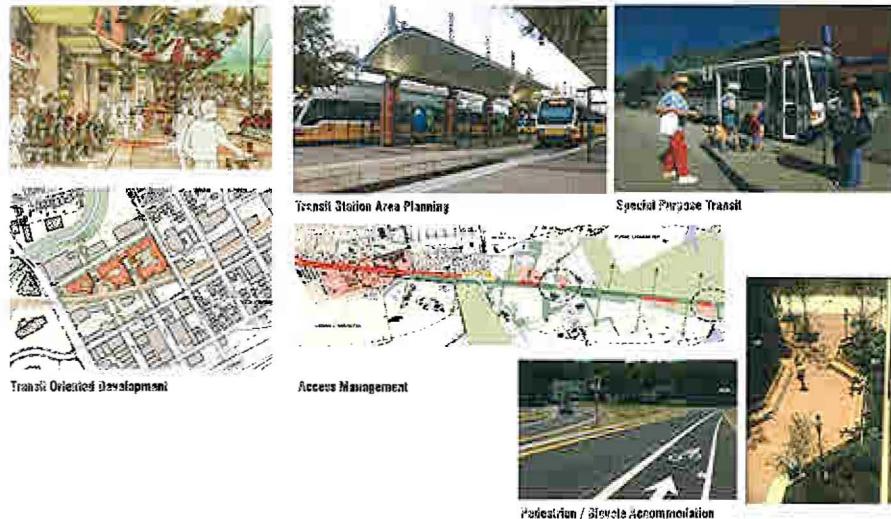
## Experience Overview: Open Space/ Greenways



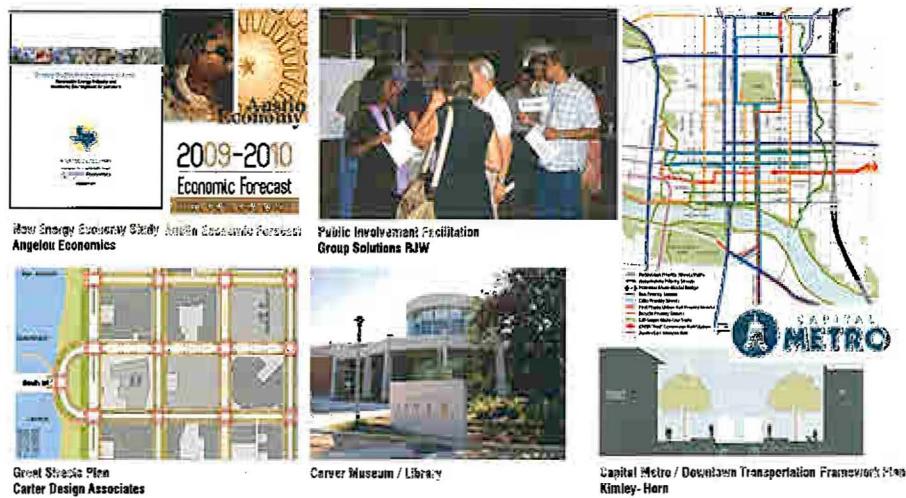
## Experience Overview: Town/Gown Partnerships



## Experience Overview: Mobility



## Experience Overview: Austin Track Record



## The Planning Challenge in Austin

*What will it take to get it right?*

### 1. Community Engagement

### 2. Defining a Sustainable Future

### 3. Capacity – Building for Implementation

## Approach: community Engagement

Traditional public involvement techniques:

- Community Meetings
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Community Survey
- Steering Committee / Task Force / Focus Groups



City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2008

## Approach: Community Engagement

### Innovative techniques – Reaching Out to ALL Constituencies

- Interactive website
- Community Events / Open Houses
- Media Relations
- Youth Engagement
- Difficult to Reach Constituencies
  - University Community
  - Business / Corporate / Developer Interests
  - Disenfranchised



City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2008

## Approach: Community Engagement

### Innovative techniques – Reaching Out to ALL Constituencies

- Interactive website
- **Community Events / Open Houses**
- Media Relations
- Youth Engagement
- Difficult to Reach Constituencies
  - University Community
  - Business / Corporate / Developer Interests
  - Disenfranchised



City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2009

## Approach: Community Engagement

### Innovative techniques -- Reaching Out to ALL Constituencies

- Interactive website
- Community Events / Open Houses
- **Media Relations**
- Youth Engagement
- Difficult to Reach Constituencies
  - University Community
  - Business / Corporate / Developer Interests
  - Disenfranchised



City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2009

## Approach: Community Engagement

### Innovative techniques -- Reaching Out to ALL Constituencies

- Interactive website
- Community Events / Open Houses
- Media Relations
- **Youth Engagement**
- Difficult to Reach Constituencies
  - University Community
  - Business / Corporate / Developer Interests
  - Disenfranchised



## Approach: community Engagement

### Innovative techniques – Reaching Out to ALL Constituencies

- Interactive website
- Community Events / Open Houses
- Media Relations
- Youth Engagement
- **Difficult to Reach Constituencies**
  - University Community
  - Business / Corporate / Developer Interests
  - Disenfranchised



## The Planning Challenge in Austin

### *What will it take to get it right?*

1. Community Engagement
2. Defining a Sustainable Future
3. Capacity – Building for Implementation

City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2000

## Approach: Defining a Sustainable Future

**Human Capital / Equity / Economy**

**Energy and Natural Resource Stewardship**

**Land Use / Activity Patterns**

**Mobility**

City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2000

## Approach: Defining a Sustainable Future

### Good News: Positive Trends Underway

**Demographic Shifts / Lifestyle Choices**

**Development Patterns**

**Modal Choices** → **Mobility Patterns** → **Resource Consumption** → **Carbon Emissions**

## Approach: Defining a Sustainable Future

Good News: Compact Urban Center / Liveable Neighborhoods / Protected Natural Areas



## Approach: Defining a Sustainable Future

Good News: Bold Sustainability Initiatives



City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2000

## Approach: Defining a Sustainable Future

**Promoting Sustainable Development**

Commercial Strips

Commercial Redevelopment – Portsmouth, VA

Fringe Sprawl

Compact Conservation Development

City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2000

## Approach: Defining a Sustainable Future

**Curbing Sprawl / Guiding Growth Consistent with Carrying Capacity**

Draft CAMPO REGIONAL GROWTH CONCEPT, May 2007

Legend:

- Activity Centers
- Large
- Medium
- Small
- Medium & Small
- Small & Medium
- Medium & Large
- Large & Medium
- Large, Medium & Small

Revised Draft-CAMPO 2035 Regional Growth Concept  
Austin Metropolitan Planning Council, 2007

## The Planning Challenge in Austin

*What will it take to get it right?*

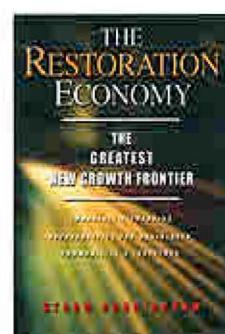
1. Community Engagement
2. Defining a Sustainable Future
3. Capacity – Building for Implementation

## Approach: Capacity - Building for Implementation

### Anticipate Shifts to a Restoration Economy

### Build on Assets to Strengthen the Economy

- UT / R&D / Technology transfer
- Educated, Young, Motivated Workforce
- Thriving Entrepreneurial Network
- Leadership in Renewable Energy
- Strong Foundation of Neighborhoods / Plans



## Approach: capacity - Building for implementation

### Focus on Practicalities

- Bold / Clear / Decisive Strategic Directions
- Return on Investment
- Leveraging Funding Opportunities
- Flexibility to "Slop" a Course Over Time



"A Plan from 30,000 feet"

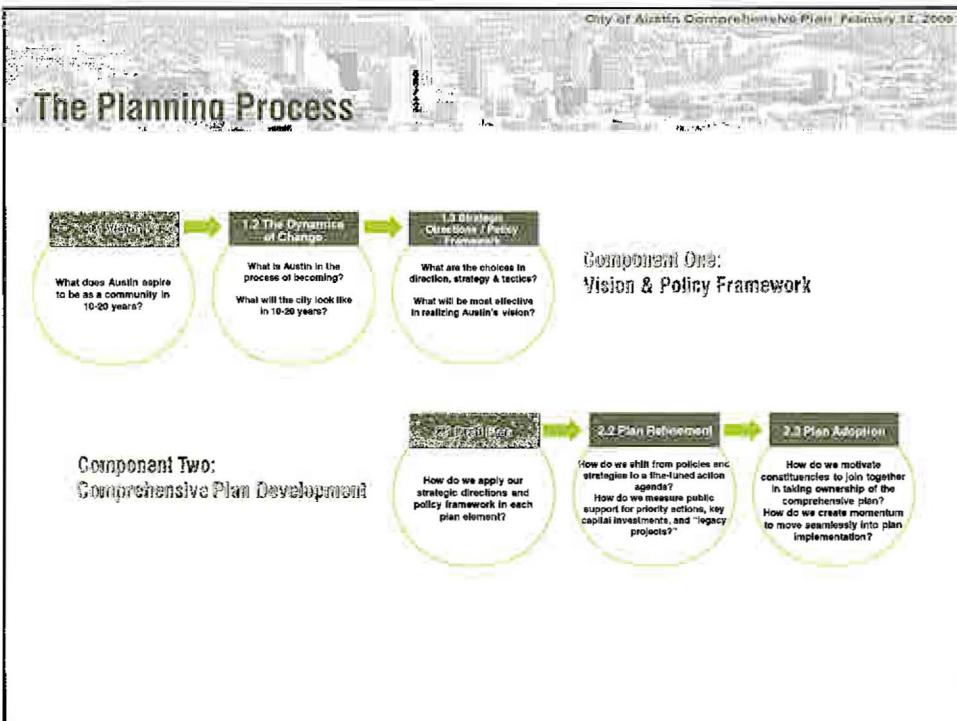
## Approach: capacity - Building for implementation

### Partnership - Building

- Local / State / Federal
- University – Town-Gown
- Corporate / Non-profits



City of Austin Comprehensive Plan, February 12, 2008				
Approach: Capacity - Building for Implementation				
Action Agenda: Well-Defined Roles / Responsibilities = Accountability				
High Priority/Short-Term Actions	Type	Intermediate Actions	Type	Ongoing/Controlling Actions
(0-5 years)		(2-5 years)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1A.1: Within one (1) year of Element adoption, adjust zoning provisions to provide greater flexibility for mixed-use, multiple housing types and compact urban/dense development.</li> </ul>	Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1B.3: Coordinate infrastructure investment policies to ensure that they are consistent with the City's long-range transportation plan. (Coordinate this action with preparation of Infrastructure Element and/or update of infrastructure master plan.)</li> </ul>	Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1C.2: Continue to promote and apply conservation development principles to the design of residential subdivisions in specifically designated areas.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1A.2: Within one (1) year of Element adoption, review and refine land use rules for long-term commercial and employment uses to prevent its use in residential areas.</li> </ul>	Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1D.3: Identify keyway corridors for the purpose of identifying standards for corridor design and access management standards.</li> </ul>	Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1E.2: Promote incentives, performance-based land use policies, including Community Activity Centers.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1A.3: Establish guidelines and incentives for all housing, including:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Incentives for mixed-use where appropriate.</li> <li>✓ Density bonuses for transit-oriented developments.</li> <li>✓ Guidelines for edge-to-edge buffer; connected, walkable.</li> <li>✓ Flexible dimension criteria, sympathetic coverage and parking requirements that encourage local contexts.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Regulation/Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1E.1: Establish standards to and actively promote new forms of compact development to include Transit-Oriented Development, as well as TND, Mixed-Use, and Planned Suburb Development.</li> </ul>	Regulation/Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2B.2: Through the City's Capital Improvement Program, prioritize short and long-range capital investments in designated urban areas, including but not limited to utility improvements, street improvements, wastewater storm water systems, street improvements, etc. Coordinate this action with preparation of Infrastructure Element and/or update of infrastructure master plan.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1A.4: Work to provide density and intensity bonuses for the provision of housing and commercial components of mixed-use developments, including office, retail, restaurants, park, school, and transit hub reservations, landscaping, street design and wastewater connectivity, and accommodation of passenger rail and bus rapid transit, while providing greater flexibility for the provision and integration of multiple housing types and densities.</li> </ul>	Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2A.2: Review zoning/development codes, the permitting process and other applicable city policies to identify and remove impediments to infill, adaptive re-use, historic preservation, and mixed-use development:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Application of infill code provisions to remove impediment to reusing older buildings while retaining their unique character.</li> <li>o Creation of overlay districts.</li> <li>o Coordinate City departmental policies regarding infill.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2C.3: Take direct action to mitigate and support private investment, including land assembly (via voluntary sale and purchase) and distance developer selection and selection and coordination of capital improvements.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1C.1: Adjust development standards to address minimum requirements for open space, parks, trails, transit hubs, schools, parks, park, school, and transit hub reservations, landscaping, street design and wastewater connectivity, and accommodation of passenger rail and bus rapid transit, while providing greater flexibility for the provision and integration of multiple housing types and densities.</li> </ul>	Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2A.3: Adjust the City's schedule of development fees to better reward business investment in designated urban areas and more accurately reflect the different costs of providing services in developed areas, suburban areas, and fringe areas. (Coordinate this action with preparation of Infrastructure Element and/or update of infrastructure master plan.)</li> </ul>	Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2C.4: Encourage use of financial incentives for reinvestment in historic and downtown properties.</li> </ul>



## The Planning Process: Component One Vision and Policy Framework

### 1.1 Vision:

What does Austin aspire to be as a community in 10-20 years?



What is Austin in the process of becoming?  
What will the city look like in 10-20 years?

What are the choices in direction, strategy & tactics?  
What will be most effective in realizing Austin's vision?



## The Planning Process: Component One Vision and Policy Framework

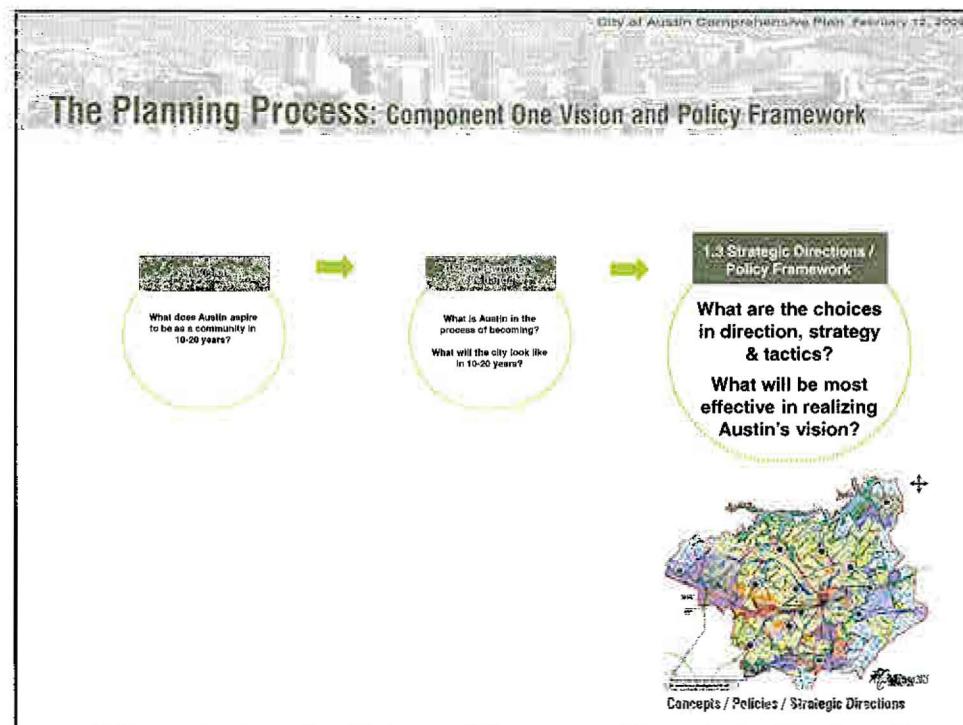
### 1.2 The Dynamics of Change:

What is Austin in the process of becoming?  
What will the city look like in 10-20 years?

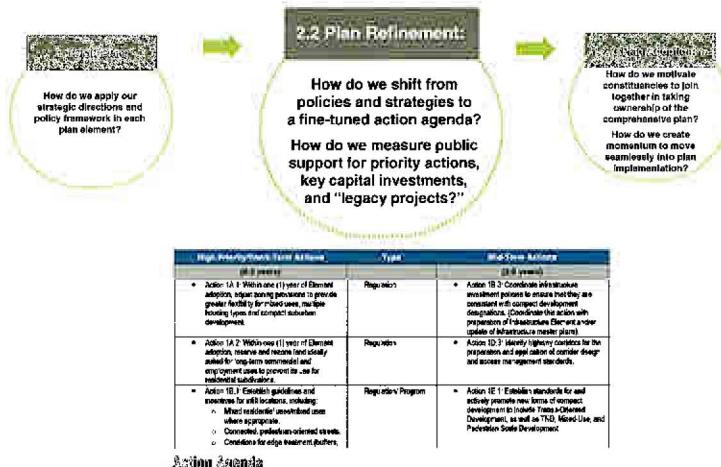


What are the choices in direction, strategy & tactics?  
What will be most effective in realizing Austin's vision?





## The Planning Process: Comprehensive Plan Development



## The Planning Process: Comprehensive Plan Development

