

Thursday, August 27, 2009

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION Item No. 61

Subject: Set a Public Hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 25-1 of the City Code, relating to neighborhood plan amendments. Suggested date and time: September 24, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

For More Information: Melissa Laursen, 974-7226; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Prior Council Action: March 20, 2003 - The City Council approved an ordinance to establish procedures for amending a neighborhood plan element of the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. This ordinance established the application and review process for neighborhood plan amendments and defined a neighborhood plan contact team.

June 5, 2003 - The City Council approved an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 030320-23. This ordinance amended sections related to when an application may be accepted and added a section regarding conflict of interest for neighborhood plan contact teams.

March 6, 2008 - The City Council approved an ordinance to amend Chapter 25-1 of the City Code to add Article 16 relating to neighborhood plan amendments, and to repeal Ordinance No. 030320-23 and Ordinance No. 030605-53. This ordinance also made changes to public notification requirements and added a requirement for pre-application meetings.

The ordinance to establish a procedure for neighborhood plan amendments was adopted in March 2003. Since then, there have been two revisions to the ordinance, including the addition of Article 16, Neighborhood Plan Amendments to Chapter 25-1 of the City Code. Staff is recommending additional changes to Article 16 to improve the neighborhood plan amendment procedures, and incorporate additional requirements for neighborhood plan contact teams.

The proposed amendments are summarized in the attached document.